

The Bolton Board of Education held its regularly scheduled business meeting on April 5, 2012. Karen Bergin called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the following board members in attendance: Matthew Giuffre, John Hambrook, Rich Hayes, Trace Maulucci, John Muro and Ron Rousseau. Superintendent Paul K. Smith and BHS Student Representatives Jenna Luck WilliamWhedon was also present

B. Celebration of Excellence: The following staff and students were recognized: April Employees of the Month –Jennifer Carvalho, Kelly Goldsnider and Abbey Sacco; BCS April Student Achievers, Grade 2 - Daniel Bokshan and Madelyn Szatkowski; Connecticut Governor's Scholar recipient Samantha Rosicke, and History Day students Molly Belekewicz, Caitlin Eaton-Robb, Amanda Frame, Spencer Glenn, Marissa Gudauskas, Jonathan Maulucci, Victoria Sansevero, Madelyn Teller and Megan Zelesky.

BOE Chair Karen Bergin and member Trace Maulucci left the meeting at approximately 6:45 to attend the Board of Finance meeting. Vice Chair John Hambrook continued the meeting.

C. Comments from the Audience – PBC Chair Scott Bosco requested the March 8, 2012 BOE minutes be amended to remove any reference to arbitration (section E.3.d). After discussion, it was determined the minutes will remain as noted. Laura Oliver requested follow up to an incident involving her son. Superintendent Smith will contact her after discussion with Mr. Maselli and Mr. Verner.

D. Additions to the Agenda – Items G.1 (Football) and E.5 (Report from BHS Student Representatives) were moved up for discussion at this time.

E. Routine Business Items

1. Communications to Board Members – The board received an email from PBC Chair Scott Bosco and this was addressed in section C, above. Matthew Giuffre was asked about our policy on student athletes transporting themselves to practices and what the liability exposure is. Mr. Smith replied he will check on any additional liability exposure and that the golf and hockey athletes do transport themselves to local practice locations but travel with the team for games/matches. This also would apply to football athletes.
2. Approval of Minutes – March 8, 2012 – Rich Hayes requested section E.3.a (Personnel) be amended to reflect those who attended the committee meeting and not to imply they met with members of the Board of Selectman. Motion to approve the minutes as corrected from Matthew Giuffre, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Muro; motion passed 4-0. Ron Rousseau abstained.
3. Board of Education Committee Reports
  - a. Personnel – John Hambrook reported they met and discussed negotiations with the P/T IA and Custodial bargaining units.
  - b. Policy – John Hambrook reported they met to discuss the revised policy on Instruction Tests and Student Work for another first read; BOE Bylaws was placed on the committee's agenda for future discussion.
  - c. Curriculum – John Hambrook reported they met to discuss the final version of Course Specific Learning Goals and that these will be reviewed along with rubrics for evaluating smart board teacher proficiency. Mrs. Danna provided information on Charlotte Danielson's book on concrete way to look at teacher evaluations.
  - d. Building and Grounds – no report

- e. Finance – Joe Muro reported there was a meeting and that member Trace Maulucci will provide an email update to the BOE.
  - f. Transportation – no report
  - g. Pupil Services – no report
  - h. Community Information/Development – Joe Muro reported there has been some early discussions for an Open House at BHS in the fall.
4. Community Meeting Reports/ Board of Education – John Hambrook reported that CREC will meet next week and they are waiting for information from the town on shared services update. The BOE was well represented at the BOF meeting.
  5. Report from BHS Student Representatives – Jenna Luck reported that the China trip is leaving Tuesday, April 10 and the Band Disney trip is leaving Wednesday, April 11. Bolton's Got Talent is scheduled for May 25 and sign-up sheets are in the office, senior students are completing their senior demo projects for presentation on May 24, the Bigs and Littles program will be coordinated by Catherine Allegretti next year, and the college choice board is filling up quickly. Bill Whedon reported that our spring sporting events have begun. 17 BHS students participated in the State FBLA competition with 8 of them placing in the top 4 in various categories. Three students, Amanda Burkhardt, Leah Seften and Bill Whedon, qualified to compete at the next level in San Antonio, TX.
  6. Administrators Reports – There were no comments on the reports.
  7. Superintendent of Schools Report
    - a. Course Specific Learning Goals – Mrs. Danna and her curriculum leaders were commended for their hard work in compiling this information over the past year. It includes input from every teacher and is a first attempt to identify every goal in every course taught in the Bolton Public Schools. It is a “living” project and will be updated as course offerings change. Teacher summative assessments will be available to the BOE prior to the May meeting.
    - b. Insurance Update – the Columbia BOE has approved the self-insured merger and has presented it to the town for their vote. If approved, our budget will drop to 3.32%.
    - c. Bulldog Nursery Program – Superintendent Smith stated we are moving forward with the Bulldog Nursery School Program which can accommodate 8-10 full-time students at a family cost of \$200 per week. Teacher Wendy Scott is preparing information for a Perkins grant submission. Regardless of that grant approval, and or the actual number of students in the program, there are funds available to cover all associated costs at no cost to tax payers.
    - d. Section 125 Flexible Spending Program – The Horace Mann company was selected to administer this program for the BEA bargaining unit. Mr. Smith provided information on the plan particulars and stated that this program could also be made available to other bargaining unit/staff members. It will follow a 9/1 through 8/31 schedule for each year.
    - e. Columbia Student Enrollment – In response to a question on Columbia student enrollment limitations and potential impact on the project's grant, Mr. Smith received an email from the State which verified as long as the district submitted an acceptable enrollment projection, which was required at the time of grant application, actual enrollment has no impact on the project's grant.

#### F. Unfinished and On-Going Business

1. First Read Policy – there will not be a Policy Subcommittee meeting prior to the May BOE meeting, and Mr. Smith requested that comments on the revised Tests and Students Work policy be emailed to him prior to the May BOE meeting so they may be incorporated for the second read.
2. Second Read Policy – Acceptable Use 6141.23(c) - Matt Giuffre presented a motion to accept the policy; 2<sup>nd</sup> by John Hambrook; motion passed 5-0.

#### G. New Business

1. Football - A proposal for Bolton to join a Football Co-op with Windham Tech and Coventry was presented by Superintendent Smith. Athletic Director David Humiston and Superintendent Smith provided information including Coventry would serve as the host school, there would be no cost to the BOE (Bolton Booster Club and/or student families will pay these expenses), approximately 12-15 BHS students are currently interested, there would be a 2 year renewable commitment, no additional liability exposure, students would be responsible for their own transportation to Coventry High School for practices and will transport from there to games with the team. Mr. Smith will provide a breakdown of the number of Bolton vs. Columbia students interested in joining the program to the BOE. A motion to approve the football merger with the Windham Tech/Coventry Co-op was presented by Matthew Giuffre; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Muro, motion passed 5-0.
  2. BPS Technology Plan 2012-2015 - The plan has been submitted and approved by the State. Bolton Public Schools received two commendations for being the first school district to submit it and for the diversity of it. A motion to approve the plan was presented by Matthew Giuffre; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ron Rousseau; motion passed 5-0.
  3. 2012-2013 Budget Update – If accepted as presented, the current budget stands at 3.92%. The BOF will meet on April 12 and 26. There was discussion which included enrollment limits concerns, full day Kindergarten, communication with the BOF on significant cost changes (+/-), communication with BOE on staff additions (certified and non-certified) and predicting and communicating special needs expenditures (+/-).
  4. Retirements/Resignations – A letter of retirement from BCS Library Media Specialist Luci Leone and a letter of resignation from Speech Pathologist Joanne McDermott-Foreschner were presented by Superintendent Smith for acceptance. Matthew Giuffre presented a motion to accept the letters of retirement and resignation; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Muro; motion passed 5-0.
  5. BHS Class of 2012 Graduation Date – Superintendent Smith presented June 22, 2012 as the proposed graduation date for the BHS Class of 2012. A motion to accept the date was presented by Mathew Giuffre; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Muro; motion passed 5-0. Joe Muro noted that the Project Grad celebration will be held at BHS this year after graduation.
- H. Future Business – Mathew Giuffre requested that administration take a look at what the impact on CAPT results might be if Science 9 was replaced with more advanced Science courses. A response to the request will be forthcoming as soon as the information can be made available. Matt Giuffre also requested if this year's feedback on the use of tablets could include information from BOE members. Superintendent Smith welcomes the idea. After discussion on several queries on the flow of proposed new agenda items, posting and timing of minutes distribution and what is/should be included in the BOE packet materials, it was agreed that these will be included as agenda items for the upcoming BOE Retreat.
- #### I. Meeting Review

J. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn at 8:30 PM was presented by Matthew Giuffre, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ron Rousseau, motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Boyd  
Board Clerk