

Business Meeting
Bolton Board of Education
May 10, 2012

The Bolton Board of Education held its regularly scheduled business meeting on May 10, 2012. Karen Bergin called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the following board members in attendance: Matthew Giuffre, John Hamrook, Rich Hayes, Trace Maulucci, Joe Muro and Ron Rousseau. Superintendent Paul K. Smith and BHS Student Representatives Jenna Luck and William Whedon were also present. BOE member John Hambrook left the meeting at approximately 7:00 p.m. and returned at approximately 8:15 p.m. to attend the Board of Finance meeting at the Municipal Center.

- B. Celebration of Excellence – The following staff and students were recognized: May Employees of the month, Mayland Clark, Art LaJoie, and Dave Vincent; Kindergarten and First Grade students Daniel Coman, Grace Kiser, Chloe McNamara, Lily Midford, Molly Martin, Keno Morrison and Michael Zakowski; FBLA students Amanda Burkhart, Kara Kerz, Sam Marshall, Jason Maulucci, Leah Seften, Bill Whedon, Matt Zawislinski and Crystal Zimmerman; BCS CAFE students Jessica Larsh and Alex Nemphos and BHS CAFE students Olivia Muro and Nevin Ounpuu-Adams.
- C. Comments from the Audience – none
- D. Additions to Agenda – Items 7A, E and F were moved up in the Agenda.
- E. Routine Business Items
 - 1. Communications to Board Members – none
 - 2. Approval of Minutes – April 5, 2012 – Rich Hayes noted an item of discussion was missing regarding the receipt of information verifying there is no limit to the number of Columbia students allowed to enroll at BHS. The April minutes will be amended to reflect this information under 7e. A motion was presented from John Hambrook to accept the April 5, 2012 minutes as amended, 2nd by Joe Muro, MUP.
 - 3. Board of Education Committee Reports –
 - a. Personnel – Karen Bergin reported the committee met to discuss the current negotiations with the Custodial and Part-time Instructional Assistants bargaining units.
 - b. Policy – John Hambrook stated there was no meeting. The next meeting was scheduled for May 21 to discuss BOE By-Laws. Rich Hayes requested the meeting be postponed due to a conflict. The committee will determine the next meeting date.
 - c. Curriculum – John Hambrook reported the committee met to discuss training, mentoring, and teacher evaluation (Charlotte Danielson model). There was discussion on existing and future collaborative initiations with Columbia on curriculum development (math and language arts have already been specifically addressed). It was agreed that Paul Smith will extend the offer to Columbia for a “liaison position” on the BOE.
 - d. Building & Grounds – Rich Hayes reported the committee met on April 9 to review corrective actions on existing punch list items and the scheduled spring site work. There will be a PBC meeting at the BHS LMC on May 14 and a meeting at the Municipal Center on May 16 to discuss the combined town/schools field work.
 - e. Finance – Trace Maulucci reported the committee did not meet and the next meeting is scheduled for May 14.
 - f. Transportation – Trace Maulucci reported the committee met for the annual review and that it has been a good year.

- g. Pupil Services – Karen Bergin reported the committee did not meet. The next meeting is scheduled for May 21.
 - h. Community Information/Development – Joe Muro reported the committee did not meet but did suggest the recent awarding of the US News and World Report Best High Schools Silver Medal to Bolton High School be highly promoted. There was discussion on better coordinating the various town meeting dates so they don't conflict with one another, in particular the Board of Finance. Karen Bergin will contact the BOF chair for further discussion.
- 4. Community Meeting Reports/Board of Education - John Hambrook provided a review of topic discussions at the annual CREC meeting he attended and that he will be stepping down as the CREC Committee Chair. He also provided information on the many seminars he attended at the recent National School Board Conference in Boston.
 - 5. Report from BHS Student Representatives – Bill Whedon reported the Boys Baseball team is hoping to make the State tournament; the Boys Tennis team has already qualified for State tournament; the Bigs and Littles, headed by Catherine Allegretti, held its first meeting to begin organizing events for the 2012-2013 school year. Jenna Luck reported the National Honor Society held its induction ceremony for the regular, Spanish, Latin and French inductees; Bolton's Got Talent show will be on May 25 (tickets are \$5 at the door); AP testing has begun; Senior Demo Night is May 24 (Joe Maselli asked if any members of the BOE were interested in judging the student work at this event to please let him know.); the Student Council hosted a breakfast in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week.
 - 6. Administrators Reports – In reference to the BHS Principal's Report, Rich Hayes asked for a copy of the pre-selected titles for reluctant readers and Paul Smith will ensure the list is provided to him. Mr. Hayes also requested if the BOE could be provided with monthly enrollment numbers on our Columbia and CHOICE students. Joe Maselli will provide this information to him. After discussion, it was agreed the principals will provide this information in their respective monthly reports and the figures will be added to the bottom of the BPS Enrollment sheet in the BOE packet. Mary Grande reported there are currently 38 students enrolled for next year's Kindergarten program at BCS. Trace Maulucci inquired on the TEAM program and mini grant proposal. Claudia Danna reported that TEAM is the new acronym for the district's teacher mentoring program and that the \$4000 mini grant applied for in support of the Student Success Plan was rejected. The Guidance program Naviance will be available to BCS next year in support of the required SSP program for middle school students. There was discussion on coordinating Professional Development days with Columbia and to the extent it is possible with separate school calendars, we have done that. All subject areas have been addressed in committee with staff from both towns over the years. Collaborative efforts will continue in the development of new Teacher Evaluation standards. Rich Hayes questioned a figure in the BCS Health Room report and Mrs. Grande clarified it.
 - 7. Superintendent of Schools Report –
 - a. Tablet Pilot Feedback – Teachers Ms. Carvalho and Senor Ruiz, and three of their students provided feedback information on the tablet pilot for their classes. Some highlights of the information provided are through using online tests and quizzes, immediate grading and class discussion can ensue improving effectiveness of teacher feedback and areas needing further instruction; allows for constant "discussion" among students and with the teacher outside of class through tablet communication; provides an effective means of organization for the students; online applications (dictionary,

translation, word banks, study games, etc.) are valuable tools for the students providing a technology based study environment and eliminating the need to carry multiple books, papers and resource materials; a broader selection of teaching tools with Smart Board interaction (e.g. knee and hip surgery); work is backed up online so you can always recover needed papers. There was also discussion on Wi-Fi vs. 3G, school issued vs. privately owned, which classes are more conducive, etc. Additionally, Ms. Carvalho noted that some e-books have recently become available through the BHS LMC and, for students with library cards, also at Bentley Memorial Library.

- b. NEASC – Joe Maselli reported that the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) recently voted to remove BHS from the warning status and commended the school on several improvement areas. Mr. Maselli will be forming a follow-up NEASC committee.
 - c. Science Curriculum Sequence Update – In response to a previous BOE inquiry, Joe Maselli surveyed all NCCC high schools and they collectively responded that now is not the time to alter science curriculum sequencing. Such changes would most likely result in lower CAPT scores which could affect future teacher evaluations, student morale, graduation requirements and produce an overall negative public perception of BHS in stark contrast to the recent Silver Medal Best High Schools award.
 - d. BHS Summer Reading List – Joe Maselli handed out this year's summer reading list.
 - e. BCS Security – Paul Smith requested approval for the following building enhancements at BCS: new classroom door locks, a buzz-in entry system and a swipe card entry for the "old BOE", front and ramp entrances. After discussion on these items, a motion was proposed by Matt Giuffre to go forward with the classroom locks and buzz-in system as proposed, 2nd by Joe Muro. Motion passed with one abstention from John Hambrook. A second motion was proposed by Matt Giuffre to postpone the swipe card entry system and place it in capital expenditures for next year, 2nd by Rich Hayes – MUP.
 - f. BCS Wireless Infrastructure - Paul Smith reported that this is still a planned project for the summer, but that the Town recently undertook their own wireless infrastructure independently which eliminates the potential for any combined project savings.
 - g. 2012-2013 – Paul Smith provided the recently received updated figures from Ovation on our health insurance which dropped from an 8.4% increase to 6.9% resulting in approximately \$27K in savings. This information was promptly provided to the Board of Finance. It is still possible that a partial self-insured agreement could be reached with Columbia but not until mid-year at this point. There was discussion on the need for the additional section of Pre-K resulting from information obtained at the screenings. This program generates \$1000 of Town revenue per typical child enrolled in the program. BOE Chair Karen Bergin stated there would be a Special Meeting on May 30 at 6:00 p.m. in the BOE Conference Room if the budget passes at the May 22 Referendum.
- F. Unfinished and On-Going Business
- 1. Second Read Policy – There was no discussion on the revised policy on Tests and student work and a motion to accept the policy was presented by John Hambrook and seconded by Matt Giuffre, MUP. The policy will be numbered 6154.1.

G. New Business

1. Bulldog Nursery Program Grant – Wendy Scott has filed an Innovation Grant to fund this program and BOE support is required. Motion to support the grant filing was presented by John Hambrook, 2nd by Matt Giuffre, MUP.
2. FBLA Trip Permission – Paul Smith presented a request for BOE approval of the June 29-July 3 FBLA trip to San Antonio, TX for student competition in the National Leadership Conference. Motion to approve the trip was presented by Matt Giuffre, 2nd by John Hambrook, MUP.

H. Future Business

There was no discussion on Agenda items 1-3. However, there was a request to add the following topics for future discussion: possible need for a policy on internet access for students with their own technology (tablets, I-pads, laptops, etc.), explore the need for a second student network and possible inclusion in the wireless infrastructure bid, the need for a policy on bumping students up when requested by parent (Karen Bergin asked that this be addressed first through the Curriculum and Policy Sub-Committees), publishing the agreement/contract between Columbia and Bolton, evaluation of teachers when they are the only teacher teaching a particular subject.

- I. Meeting Review – Joe Muro requested the BOE comment on the acceptability of a BOE member excusing themselves as a member during a meeting to continue participation in the meeting as a citizen to address the audience. Mr. Muro also noted perhaps there is a need to clarify/revise the By-Laws regarding this point. There was discussion on these points and the existing protocol that the BOE Chair addresses all comments from the audience and that typically items are not discussed but will be appropriately followed up. It was suggested that the Policy Committee review the By-Laws and look into developing a “Contract of Behavior/Protocol” for BOE members. John Toomey, BOF member, delivered information on additional budget reductions recently voted on at the BOF meeting also held this evening. He reported the bottom line was an additional \$95K cut from the BOE and an additional \$43K from the Town.
- J. Adjournment – Motion to adjourn at 10:30 p.m. was presented by Matt Giuffre 2nd by John Hambrook, MUP.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Boyd
Board Clerk