

The Bolton Board of Education held its regularly scheduled business meeting on February 9, 2012. Karen Bergin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following board members in attendance: John Hambrook, Trace Maulucci, Joe Muro, Ronald Rousseau, and Matthew Giuffre. BHS Student Representatives Jenna Luck and William Whedon were also present. Richard Hayes arrived at approximately 6:50.

- B. Celebration of Excellence: The following staff and students were recognized: February Employee of the Month – Nancy Muller; BCS February Student Achiever - Ryan Casellini, BCS Spelling Bee winner – Morgan Dufour; BCS Geography Bee winner – Jacob Carlson; Top Five Poetry Out Loud Contestants – Caitlin Eaton-Robb, Catherine Allegretti, Lindsay Wasserman, Emily Niedzwiecki and Adrian Caraballo; Political Assembly presenters – Justin Clavet, Jonathan Maulucci, Rostyk Datsko, James Beckwith, Michael Buckson, Ben Teller and Jason Maulucci.
- C. Comments from the Audience – none
- D. Additions to the Agenda – There were no additions, however, item 7a – Bolton Center School PBIS Report was postponed until next month and item E5 – Report from BHS Student Representatives was moved up to be presented after this item.
- E. Routine Business Items
 - 1. Communications to Board Members – none
 - 2. Approval of Minutes – December 8, 2011 –John Hambrook noted there was no meeting with the selectmen on item 4 - Community Meeting Reports. Motion to approve the minutes as noted from Matt Giuffre and 2nd by John Hambrook. MUP.
 - 3. Board of Education Committee Reports
 - a. Personnel – no report
 - b. Policy – John Hambrook reported the committee reviewed the four policies presented – 1316(a) Conduct on School Property, 5131.911(a) Bullying; 5141.25(a) Food Allergy Management Plan and Guidelines and 6142.101(a) Student Nutrition and Physical Activity (School Wellness Policy). Mr. Smith provided clarification on which ones are required by law and which ones are revisions to existing policies. It was requested that the subjects of homework and returning of tests to students be part of the February 27th Policy Committee's agenda.
 - c. Curriculum – John Hambrook reported the committee met separately on the BHS and BCS items and discussed training needs for the mentoring program, in-house options and the proposed tech plan.
 - d. Building and Grounds – Rich Hayes reported there was a meeting with representatives from the town, school and Gilbane Construction Co. to review the remaining punch list items and outstanding furniture delivery/needs. It was noted that when possible, unused furniture is recycled within the district and/or traded for currently needed items. There also was a meeting with the Booster Club and outside consultant regarding the condition of the town and school fields and final proposals will be presented when available.
 - e. Finance – no report

- f. Transportation – no report
 - g. Pupil Services – A meeting was held and needs for Pre-K program were discussed.
 - h. Community Information/Development – no report
- 4. Community Meeting Reports/ Board of Education – Matt Giuffre and Rich Hayes attended the PTA meeting. Full-day Kindergarten was the main focus. The BARK program was discussed and it was noted that the prized award is win “free time with Mr. Gonzalez”.
- 5. Report from BHS Student Representatives – Jenna Luck reported this year’s fund-raising from the Lock-in will benefit a home heating fuel donation for Bolton and Columbia residents in need, the Semi-Formal will have a “Jungle” theme and Mr. Mishriky will bring 11 BHS students to the history competition in Manchester. Jenna also acknowledged our Chinese visitors and what a positive impact their visit has on BHS. Bill Whedon reported the the BCL hockey and the Girls Varsity Basketball teams have made it the State Tournament, the Boys Basketball team had its first conference win, the Unified Basketball team played at E.O. Smith, 75 BHS students participated in the Dodgeball Tournament which was a senior demo project (there were 13 boys teams and 1 girls team), the Social Justice Club will help at the MACC Shelter making pizzas, the Political Assembly will hold a “Dinner for Democracy”, and 31 8th grade students from Columbia came for tours of BHS and were transported to and from by Ray Boyd and treated to ice cream on their way back.
- 6. Administrators Reports – There were no comments on the reports.
- 7. Superintendent of Schools Report
 - a. Bolton Center School PBIS Report – This item was postponed.
 - b. 2012-2013 Budget Update – Mr. Smith noted there is a BOE Workshop scheduled for February 23rd at 6:00 p.m. in the BOE Conference Room. Information on the proposed BCS Infrastructure project was handed out. There was discussion on the existing BCS wireless availability and the need for expansion. The Board was reminded of the new Common Core testing standards which will begin in 2015 and will require all students in grades 3 through 8 to take the CMT’s using computer-based tests. With Board approval, Bolton would be able to pilot this new program in 2014. Specific information on current and future needs for BCS will be presented by BCS Administrators and discussed at the February 23rd workshop. This project’s impact on the Capital Budget will also be addressed.

F. Unfinished and On-Going Business

- 1. First Read Policies – John Hambrook identified the policies being presented for review. They are either required revisions to existing policies or required new ones. The cafeteria will undergo a State inspection in the fall for compliance and policies 5141.25(a) and 6142.101(a) are in support of that. Policy 5131.91(a) is in support of our Safe School Climate plan and 1316(a) is a revision. These will be voted on in March.
- 2. First Read Textbooks – John Hambrook presented an overview of the proposed new textbook for Spanish II. It includes a CD and a six-year on-line subscription. The Board will vote on this in March.
- 3. BOE Sub-Committees – Chair Karen Bergin asked Board members to communicate to Board Clerk Lori Boyd which committees they are serving on.

G. New Business

1. Bolton/Columbia Insurance – Mr. Smith stated that the Board of Selectman had voted to go forward with this proposal. A Draft Motion was handed out and after discussion on the benefits, risks, and commitment details, a motion to approve the Bolton/Columbia insurance agreement as presented was made by Matt Giuffre and 2nd by John Hambrook. MUP.
2. Permission for Overnight Trips; Summer 2012/School Year 2012-2013 – Itineraries were presented for Latin Club travel to Italy in 2013, a multiple night stay in New Jersey for the BHS Collegiate Challenge in June 2012 and a Political Assembly trip to Washington DC in February 2013. After an overview of field trip rules a motion to approve the preliminary requests was made by Joe Muro and 2nd by John Hambrook. MUP
3. Preschool Program 2012-2013 – Information was provided on the proposal for a preschool program at BHS in support of the Early Child Education and UCONN Human Growth and Development courses offered at BHS. There currently is a two day per week playschool hosted at BHS and runs approximately 8 weeks in the spring. A preschool program would provide an in-house internship which is a required component of the courses. Initial plans are to have this program be self-sufficient with no additional cost to the district. Specific details will be presented in March. A brochure was also provided for the current BCS preschool program which is a combination of special education and typical peer students. An Open House is planned for March 23rd and the screening process for next year's students will be held this spring.

H. Future Business - none

- K. Adjournment – A motion to adjourn the BOE Business meeting was presented at 8:15 p.m. by John Hambrook and 2nd by Matt Giuffre. MUP

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Boyd
Board Clerk