

## **Regular Meeting**

Wednesday, January 8, 2014 7:00 PM

Auditorium, 129 Church Street, Bristol, CT 06010

1. **Call to Order, National Anthem, Moment of Silence**
2. **Staff and Student Recognition**
3. **Approval of Minutes - December 4, Regular Meeting Minutes**
4. **Committee Reports**
5. **Consent Agenda**
  - 5.1. Personnel
    - 5.1.a. New Administrator Hired
    - 5.1.b. Administrator Retirement
    - 5.1.c. New Teachers Hired
    - 5.1.d. A-3 Teacher Appointment
    - 5.1.e. Sixth Year Salary Credit - Effective February 1, 2014
  - 5.2. Grants
    - 5.2.a. Bristol Business Education Foundation Grant
6. **Superintendent Report**
7. **Public Comment**
8. **Deliberated Items/District Leadership Team Reports**
  - 8.1. Preliminary Calendar for the 2014-2015 School Year (First Presentation)
  - 8.2. Board of Education Committee Appointments
  - 8.3. BOE Commissioner Appointment to the Northeast Middle School Roof Project
9. **Old Business**
10. **New Business**
11. **Information**
12. **Adjournment**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Bristol, Connecticut**  
**Regular Meeting – December 4, 2013**

The regular monthly meeting of the Bristol Board of Education was held on Wednesday, December 4, 2013 at 7:00 p.m., at the Board of Education Administration Building, 129 Church Street, Bristol, Connecticut.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners: Lawrence Amara, Karen Bourassa, Genard Dolan, Jill Fitzgerald, Karen Hintz, Jeffrey Morgan, Thomas O'Brien, Karen Vibert, and Chairman, Christopher Wilson; Ellen W. Solek, Superintendent of Schools, Susan Moreau, Deputy Superintendent, Dennis Bieu, Director of Human Resources

**CALL TO ORDER AND NATIONAL ANTHEM, MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Chairman Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Dr. Solek introduced the Northeast Middle School Express Singers and invited the audience to stand for the singing of the National Anthem. Student performers included: Amari Floyd, Emily Gdovin, Anna Korpanty and Tina Guo.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

**Chairman of the Board of Education for a Two Year Period**

Dr. Solek called for nominations for the position of Chairman of the Board of Education.

Commissioner Fitzgerald nominated Larry Amara to the position of Chairman; Commissioner Dolan seconded the nomination.

Commissioner Vibert nominated Chris Wilson to the position of Chairman; Commissioner O'Brien seconded the nomination.

With no other nominations made, Dr. Solek announced the nominations closed and handed out ballots to commissioners. Written ballots for the position of Chairman were returned to Dr. Solek who tallied and announced the votes. Dr. Solek declared that Larry Amara was elected Chairman of the Board of Education for a two year period with a 5-4 vote.

**Vice Chairman of the Board of Education for a Two Year Period**

Chairman Amara called for nominations for the position of Vice Chairman of the Board of Education.

Commissioner O'Brien nominated Karen Vibert to the position of Vice Chairman; Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion.

Commissioner Bourassa nominated Genard Dolan to the position of Vice Chairman; Commissioner Fitzgerald seconded the motion.

With no other nominations made, Chairman Amara announced the nominations closed and handed out ballots to commissioners. Written ballots for the position of Vice Chairman were returned to Chairman Amara who tallied and announced the votes. Chairman Amara declared that Genard Dolan was elected Vice Chairman of the Board of Education for a two year period with a 5-4 vote.

**Secretary of the Board of Education for a Two Year Period**

Chairman Amara called for nominations for the position of Secretary of the Board of Education.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS – con't**

Commissioner Dolan nominated Karen Bourassa to the position of Secretary; Commissioner Vibert seconded the motion.

Chairman Amara announced the nominations closed. With no other nominations, Chairman Amara declared that Karen Bourassa was unanimously elected Secretary of the Board of Education for a two year period.

Chairman Amara thanked everyone for allowing him to be the Chairman of the Board of Education. He asked that Commissioner Wilson continue to run the meeting as the Chairman and he will take over in January.

## **STUDENT AND STAFF RECOGNITIONS**

The Board recognized the following students: Sarah Larson and Ivan Navarro from Bristol Central; Maggie Getler and Joshua Unkrich from Bristol Eastern for their attendance at this year's CABE/CAPSS Conference. These four students will meet with the Student Achievement Committee to discuss their experiences as student representatives of the Bristol Schools and student leaders at the Conference.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Student Achievement** – Commissioner Amara reported that the committee met on Monday and discussed Magnet School Enrollment/Tuition and Impact to Bristol Schools, each year more students are attending Magnet/Charter schools. The committee would like to look further into this issue. The committee also discussed Cambridge Park attendance; Kristin Irvine, Principal at Edgewood School presented the information on student attendance for those students living in Cambridge Park and its effects on them, other students and the whole school. The committee discussed how it might be solved; three or four solutions were discussed, but the committee would need to look at them all before a decision can be made.

**Finance** – Commissioner Vibert reported that the committee met earlier this evening. We are looking at a \$30,000 end of year projection. That is a big difference from last month where we reported a \$400,000 projection the change is due to some unexpected special education expenses and students. The committee will continue to monitor this closely.

**Personnel** – Commissioner O'Brien reported that the committee has been meeting and has completed negotiations with BAPS, and they will be reporting on that in Executive Session. The arbitration hearings have closed with Local 2267; we expect a decision within 30 days. The hearing will be before the labor board will take place in early January, with a decision coming in late April.

## **Approval of Minutes**

November 6, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes

**Motion:** *passed by Genard Dolan and seconded by Karen Hintz*

## **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Dr. Solek, congratulated Bristol Eastern on their bell win at the Annual Thanksgiving Day game, and congratulated Bristol Central on a well-played game. She also thanked everyone who put the Breakfast of Champions together this year, she truly enjoyed the event. She thanked all of the personnel who put together the Thanksgiving luncheon. It was so nice to visit all of the schools and see the students and how meaningful it is for them to have the luncheon together.

CREC Legislative Breakfast coming up in February, please contact Susan Everett if you would like to attend.

SBAC Testing Update – We are discovering the technology requirements needed to administer these tests in the spring. Not only are there hardware and software requirements, but there are requirements our students will need to meet just to maneuver the technology to be successful on the test. She thanked Dr. Moreau, Denise Carabetta and her staff for the professional development work that was done in November with staff across the district. A sample test was administered to find the technology pitfalls and we will be working closely with the teachers to garner the skills for our students to take the test.

PreK Magnet School Tuition – Thanks to Commissioner Fitzgerald, we were notified that the PreK magnet school tuition will be paid through the state; that is very helpful.

Teacher/Administrator Evaluation – We are working closely with the districtwide data team and the building level data teams to continue the teacher/administrator evaluation process. It is still a pilot year for us and they are working very hard to smooth out the process. She thanked the teachers and administrators for their work on the implementation of this new system.

Dr. Solek presented the Full Day Kindergarten Report and Recommendation. The report presented was put together as a result of work of a lot of people. Dr. Solek introduced the committee and those in the audience stood to be recognized, she thanked the Board members and Dr. Moreau for their help on the committee. Using PowerPoint Dr. Solek presented a comprehensive report to the Board and in the end, recommended the Two Year Implementation Plan.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

### **Personnel**

#### **Administrator Retirements**

Michael Audette - WB - Principal - Effective June 30, 2014

Dennis Bieu - BOE - Director of Human Resources - Effective January 1, 2014

Michael Georgen - BOE - Supervisor, Special Education - Effective June 30, 2014

**Motion:** *passed unanimously*

#### **Teacher Retirement**

Elaine Taylor - BCHS - Guidance Counselor - Effective February 1, 2014

**Motion:** *passed unanimously*

#### **New Teachers Hired**

Elizabeth Camire - CHMS - Special Education - Effective December 2, 2013

Jennifer Fitzsimmons - MTV - Grade 5 - Effective November 13, 2013

Jennifer O'Connor Martin - BCHS - Special Education - Effective date to be determined

Kyle Phelan - WB - Math, Grade 7 - Effective December 2, 2013

**Motion:** *passed unanimously*

#### **A-2 Teacher Resignation**

Meric Martin - BCHS - Musical Director - Effective November 1, 2013

Benjamin Oksanen - BCHS - Math League Co-Advisor - Effective November 18, 2013

**A-2 Teacher Resignation (con't)**

**Motion:** *passed unanimously*

**A-3 Resignation**

Carrie Jackson - EPH - Elementary Science Co-Leader - Effective October 28, 2013

Tami Raspanti - EPH - Elementary Science Co-Leader - Effective October 28, 2013

**Motion:** *passed unanimously*

**A-3 Teacher Appointment**

Kenneth Boudreau - CHMS - Instructional Resource Coordinator - Effective October 25, 2013

Merriah Currao - EPH - Elementary Science Leader - Effective November 8, 2013

Lynn Johnson - CHMS - Language Arts Curriculum Coordinator - Effective October 28, 2013

**Motion:** *passed unanimously*

**Teacher Request for an Unpaid Leave of Absence**

Janet Blauvelt - ID/MTV - Instructional Support - Effective through June 30, 2014

Gina Chace - BEHS - Science - Effective November 7, 2013 through January 6, 2014

**Motion:** *passed unanimously*

**Grants****Consolidated Federal Grant****Technology Investments for Common Core State Standards**

**Motion:** *passed unanimously*

**Public Comment**

Steve Vascola - 266 Summer Street – Addressed the board regarding Full Day Kindergarten. Thanked the board for considering the full day kindergarten option, but he does not believe that it should be done in a two year roll out. It should be done in one year, so that everyone is able to participate.

Marla Scheer - 50 Jennings Road - Addressed the board regarding Full Day Kindergarten. She is not a proponent of full day kindergarten, due to the physical, emotional, and mental demands placed on the children in such a setting.

**DELIBERATED ITEMS/DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM REPORTS****Bristol Eastern Trip to Greece**

Gary Fleming, Social Studies teacher from Bristol Eastern presented the Bristol Eastern Trip to Greece. For several years, Bristol students interested in classical history have traveled to Greece to explore the remains of an ancient civilization whose political and cultural contributions continue to shape societies two millennium after their birth. Prior to the trip, students have taken classes to learn about the ideas of Pericles, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Alexander the Great, Aristophanes, and Phidias. During the trip, they will take tours of the sites that inspired not only these Greek geniuses, but also the likes of William Shakespeare and Thomas Jefferson. Upon their return, students will have written a paper and earned  $\frac{1}{4}$  course credit. Currently there are seven students interested in the trip.

**Motion:** *passed by Lawrence Amara and seconded by Karen Bourassa.*

### **Bristol Central Italian Study Abroad Proposal**

Gina Gallo from Bristol Central presented the Italian Study Abroad Proposal. Accademia Italiana in Salerno presents the possibility of learning the Italian language in the South of Italy with an intensive program, where students will experience the History, Art, Music, Ceramics, Theater, Cooking and enjoy the beautiful beaches and harbors of Amalfi and Cilento Coasts in a traditional and real-life setting. The students will attend school, take four lessons a day and travel in the afternoon.

**Motion:** *passed by Lawrence Amara and seconded by Jeffrey Morgan.*

### **High School Program of Studies for 2014-2015**

Carly Fortin presented the High School Program of Studies for 2014-2015. The program is a collaborative effort of the Supervisors and Director of the Office of Teaching and Learning and the teachers, department chairs and administration at Bristol Central and Bristol Eastern. Three courses were added to the Program of Studies: Physics I AP, Physics C Advanced Placement, and Computer Programming and Video Game Design. Physics I AP is a new course in place of Physics, accelerated. Computer Programming and Video Game Design is a course in the Career and Technical Education department replacing Multimedia. This course will better prepare students to be successful in a concentrator area on programming for the state assessments of technology applications. Other revisions include: course descriptions in mathematics and Civics, which were revised to reflect the curriculum that was approved in Spring 2013 and the summer school policy, revised to reflect the current policy approved by the Board of Education in Spring 2013.

**Motion:** *passed by Genard Dolan and seconded by Lawrence Amara.*

### **Schedule of Board of Education Meetings for the 2014 Calendar Year**

In accordance with Section 1-21 of the Connecticut General Statutes and in keeping with Board of Education policy, a schedule of Board of Education meeting dates for the 2014 calendar year is required by the Town and City Clerk. Board of Education meetings will be held the first Wednesday of every month\* at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Board of Education Administration Building, 129 Church Street, Bristol, Connecticut; \*except August and September.

**Motion:** *passed unanimously*

### **Old Business**

There was no Old Business to come before the Board

### **New Business**

There was no Old Business to come before the Board

### **Information**

Commissioner Hintz attended the CAFE conference she was particularly interested in the goal setting session, and she would like the opportunity to share that with the Board at some point. for board of education. Breakfast of champions was a terrific event as well.

Commissioner Vibert attended the CAFE conference where she attended a lot of informative sessions.

Chairman Amara attended the Breakfast of Champions, it was a sentimental event for him. He also thanked Commissioner Wilson for all that he has done for the last two years. He has learned a lot for him, he a couple of goals that are dear to him, and one of them is that we do the best we can as a nine member board to do the best we can for educating the students of Bristol.

Commissioner Dolan - attended the CABA conference; what he took away from the conference is the participation of high school students on the boards of education across the state. He hopes in the future that the Board we will be able to include students in our future meetings.

Commissioner Wilson - Shared several topics with the board, they included: discussion of changing our buses from diesel to propane and various legislative proposals covered at the CABA Delegate Assembly.

Dr. Solek wanted to mention the NEASC Evaluation Process that took place at Bristol Eastern in November. Board Members and administration were invited to the Sunday session of that visit. She wanted to say thank you to faculty and staff and the leadership at Bristol Eastern for all that they did to provide the visiting committee and the Board of Education with such an outstanding set of accomplishments.

**VOTE TO CONVENE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION for the purpose of discussing:**

Conduct and Strategies of Collective Bargaining for the BAPS contract.

**Motion:** *passed by Karen Vibert and seconded by Karen Hintz. (8:32)*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

PRESENT: Commissioners: Lawrence Amara, Karen Bourassa, Genard Dolan, Jill Fitzgerald, Karen Hintz, Jeffrey Morgan, Thomas O'Brien, Karen Vibert, and Chairman, Christopher Wilson; Ellen W. Solek, Susan Moreau, Dennis Bieu, Kim Hapken, Gary Franzi, Brian Clemow

**PRESENT:** Commissioners: Lawrence Amara, Karen Bourassa, Genard Dolan, Jill Fitzgerald, Karen Hintz, Jeffrey Morgan, Thomas O'Brien, Karen Vibert, Christopher Wilson; Susan Kalt Moreau, Acting Superintendent of Schools, Kim Hapken, Acting Deputy Superintendent, Denise Carabetta, Director of Teaching and Learning, Dennis Bieu, Director of Human Resources Gary Franzi, Director of Finance

Executive Session was called to order **(8:38 p.m.)**

Discussion of negotiations with the Bristol Association of Principals & Supervisors. (BAPS).

**Reconvene Into Public Session to take any necessary votes from Executive Session**

**Motion:** *passed by Karen Vibert and seconded by Genard Dolan. (9:32 p.m.)*

**Authorize Superintendent to sign the negotiated BAPS contract.**

**Motion:** *passed by Tom O'Brien and seconded by Chris Wilson.*

**Roll Call Vote was called with nine commissioners IN FAVOR of the motion.**

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board and on

**Motion:** *passed by Karen Vibert and seconded by Karen Hintz. (9:35 p.m.)*

Respectfully Submitted

*Susan P. Everett*

Susan P. Everett  
Executive Secretary to Board of Education

DRAFT

