

*THE BERLIN BOARD OF EDUCATION*

# *THE BULLETIN BOARD*

*A SUMMARY OF THE JANUARY 12, 2015 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING*

The Berlin Public Schools □ 238 Kensington Road □ Berlin, CT 06037 □ (860) 828-6581

***Berlin Bravos*** □ Due to the inclement weather and school cancellation, the Berlin Bravos were postponed to the January 26, 2015 meeting.

***Facilities Related Updates – Code Renovations – Berlin High School*** □ Director of Business Operations Roman J. Czuchta reported the antenna for the radio station was approved by the Public Building Commission and will be completed by the end of the month. Repairs were made to the desks and chairs by the supplier and they are holding together quite well. We will continue to monitor this. Asbestos removal occurred over the holiday break, which was critical for the next phase to move forward. As a result of the recent temperatures, there were some heating issues in some of the renovated spaces. It is being determined if adjustments need to be made or if some of the heating systems need to be enhanced. An owners' meeting is scheduled for tomorrow at which time the gymnasium floor will be addressed.

***2015-2016 Superintendent's Proposed Budget Presentation*** □ Superintendent David B. Erwin presented his proposed 2015-2016 budget to the Board. The proposed budget has an overall increase of \$1,174,751 or 2.88%, which represents an amount that is 0.9% lower than what was submitted last year. Salary increases represent the largest driver (1.56%) and the increase in the benefits account represents an additional 0.41% of the increase. Another major piece of the increase is in the area of tuition (0.48%). The remaining increase (0.43%) comes from contracted services, utilities, transportation, supplies, textbooks and materials, equipment and all other expenditures. Mr. Erwin is requesting an additional preschool teacher to educate a growing population of students with special needs. Three additional paraprofessionals have been requested to meet the needs of preschool and kindergarten students. Retirements account for \$100,000 in offsets to new staff. The building-level budgets remain at the same level as the current year – no increases, just maintenance. The Board will meet again on Tuesday, January 13, 2015, and will have individual presentations from the elementary, middle school and high school principals. Site and Building and Capital Requests will also be presented.

***Pending Claim and Litigation*** □ The Board entered into an executive session to discuss a pending claim and litigation, specifically a Freedom of Information complaint by the Berlin Education Association.

**The Board of Education meeting scheduled for Monday, January 26, 2015, has been cancelled due to anticipated inclement weather.** A date has not yet been determined to reschedule the meeting. When a date is determined, the agenda will be available online at [www.berlinschools.org](http://www.berlinschools.org).

**The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, February 2, 2015.**

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*The Bulletin Board provides a summary of Board of Education meetings. Official minutes from Board meetings are available at the Board of Education office, the Town Clerk's office, the Berlin Public Library, or on the district's website at [www.berlinschools.org](http://www.berlinschools.org).*