

*THE BERLIN BOARD OF EDUCATION*

# *THE BULLETIN BOARD*

*A SUMMARY OF THE MARCH 14, 2016 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING*

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

**Board Member Appreciation Month** □ Superintendent David B. Erwin recognized March as “Connecticut Board of Education Member Appreciation” month. Each Board member received a gift as a token of appreciation for the time and effort they devote to Board business during the course of the year.

**Berlin Bravos** □ Berlin Bravos is a program where the Board of Education recognizes students, staff, parents, and volunteers who have had a significant achievement, gone well above and beyond, or have overcome a significant challenge or obstacle. The Board of Education acknowledged the following individuals: Emily Lamoureux, grade five student at Griswold School, for being a hard worker who tries her best all of the time and because of that is a successful student; Rebekka Enes and Kim Impelluso for being selected by Hubbard staff as CAS Parent Volunteer Award recipients; Tommy Motta, grade two student at Willard, for being a dedicated student who comes to school each and every day with a smile on his face; and Benny Guzman, grade five student at Willard School, for making tremendous strides this year.

**Personnel** □ The Board accepted the retirement of the following teachers effective June 30, 2016: Elizabeth Guidone, teacher of Grade 1 at Emma Hart Willard School; Lisa Rouleau, teacher of Grade 2 at Richard D. Hubbard School; and Judith Wiersema, teacher of Grade 4 at Mary E. Griswold School. The Board thanked Ms. Guidone, Ms. Rouleau, and Ms. Wiersema for the 30, 25, and 17 years of service respectively, provided to the youth of Berlin and wished them good health and happiness in their retirement. The Board approved the request of Jaime Ligas, teacher of kindergarten at Mary E. Griswold School, for a childrearing leave of absence to begin immediately following her maternity leave and end with her return for the start of the 2017-2018 school year.

**Facilities Related Updates – Berlin High School Code Renovations** □ Director of Business Operations Eva Gallupe reported the substantial completion date remains September 30, 2016. Eight additional classrooms will be utilized after the April break and there will be more classrooms that will be substantially completed and furnished; however, because of the egress, they cannot be utilized with students or staff in them. The chairs purchased for the school have had substantial failures, at a rate of 90%. Ms. Gallupe is in negotiations with the manufacturer and Silver Petrucelli + Associates for replacement of those chairs.

**Proposed School Calendar 2017-2018** □ The Board adopted the 2017-2018 School Calendar as proposed. The calendar is based on recommendations made by the CREC Uniform Regional Calendar Committee and the State Task Force. The adopted calendar allows for twelve early release days for afternoon professional development and two additional half days at the elementary schools and middle school for conferences.

**Textbooks for Adoption** □ The Board adopted the textbooks, *Microsoft Office for Mac 2011 Fundamentals*, by Kelley P. Shaffer, published by Cengage, USA, and *Foundations of Restaurant Management Book 1 and 2*, by the National Restaurant Association, published by Prentice Hall/Pearson, Chicago, IL. *Microsoft Office for Mac 2011 Fundamentals* will be used by students in grades 9-12 for Introduction to Business Technologies and *Foundations of Restaurant Management Book 1 and 2* will be used by students in grades 10-12 culinary classes. The textbooks were reviewed by the Textbook Adoption Committee, the Curriculum Council and the Student Achievement Committee.

**Budget Update** □ Superintendent of Schools David B. Erwin reported the original request for Capital Equipment was \$1,024,018. The town manager, in her original proposal, reduced Capital Equipment by \$483,053. The Town Council further reduced Capital Equipment by \$290,965, which leaves the Board of Education with a Capital Equipment Budget of \$250,000. Superintendent Erwin reported the original request for Site and Building was \$276,566. The town manager, in her original proposal, reduced Site and Building by \$160,500. The Town Council further reduced Site and Building by \$66,066, which leaves the Board of Education with a Site and Building Budget of \$50,000. Coupled with the Board's reduction of \$415,529 and tonight's additional reduction of \$200,000, the budget, as originally presented, has been reduced by \$1,616,113. The Educational Resources Committee will meet on Monday, March 21, 2016, followed by a Special Board meeting.

**Contract Ratifications** □ Negotiations with the custodians and head custodians were recently completed and a tentative agreement was reached with each group. The Board approved the tentative agreements reached with the custodians and head custodians.

□ □ □

**The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, March 28, 2016, at the Berlin Board of Education, beginning at 7:00 P.M., in the Board Meeting Room, 238 Kensington Road. The agenda will be available online at [www.berlinschools.org](http://www.berlinschools.org).**

---

*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, and on the district's website at [www.berlinschools.org](http://www.berlinschools.org).*