

THE BERLIN BOARD OF EDUCATION

THE BULLETIN BOARD

A SUMMARY OF THE MAY 23, 2016 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

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

Student Presentation – Emma Hart Willard School □ Elijah Clapp, technology integration specialist for Willard School, Conlan Simard (Grade 3), Jamison Evans (Grade 4), and Ariana DiDomenico (Grade 5) presented on 1-1 Chromebook use in Grade 3-5 classrooms. Mr. Clapp provided a brief overview of how the Chromebooks are integrated into the classroom and how the technology skills progress from one grade to the next. Students shared some examples of the work that they have done with their Chromebooks this year.

Special Presentation – Art Awards □ The district recently held their annual art show at The New Britain Museum of American Art. Many pieces of student artwork were on display. The following artists were recognized for their award winning artwork: Superintendent’s Choice – “Spooky House” by Nathaniel Baretta, Grade 12; Assistant Superintendent’s Choice – “Ice Cold” by Matthew Bacon, Grade 9; Griswold Principal’s Choice – “Starticle” by Hanna Bednarczyk, Grade 1; Hubbard Principal’s Choice – “Flower Power” by Monika Burbula, Grade 1; Willard Principal’s Choice – “One Point Perspective Cityscape” by Marissa Modifica, Grade 5; McGee Principal’s Choice – “Self-Portrait – Caring” by Anna Sarrazin, Grade 8; and Berlin High School Principal’s Choice – “Brooklyn Bridge” by Kaileen Langlois, Grade 12.

Personnel □ The Board appointed Cynthia L. Martin as the supervisor of special education – secondary, effective July 1, 2016. The Board accepted the retirement of Linda Germain, teacher of physical education, health and wellness at Catherine M. McGee School, effective June 30, 2016. The Board thanked her for the twenty years of service she has provided to the youth of Berlin and wished her good health and happiness in her retirement years. The Board also accepted the retirement of Paul Griswold, teacher of technology education at Catherine M. McGee School, effective June 30, 2016. The Board thanked him for the thirty-one years of service he has provided to the youth of Berlin and wished him good health and happiness in his retirement years.

Facilities Related Updates – Berlin High School Code Renovations □ Superintendent of Schools David B. Erwin reported the project is on track and on target for the substantial completion date of September 30, 2016. The Board can begin discussing what it would like to do in the fall for the school’s grand opening.

Summer Instructional Program □ Supervisor of Special Education Michelle Zeuschner reviewed the extended school-year programs for students with disabilities. These programs are based on PPT recommendations for specific students and provide students with an opportunity to maintain their learning over the summer vacation. Mrs. Zeuschner reported there will be two sessions: a five-week program that runs from June 27–July 29 for preschool through Grade 5; and a four-week program that runs from July 5–July 28 for preschool through Grade 12. The tentative numbers reflect 19 preschool students, 48 students in grades K-5, 23 middle school students, 25 high school students and 13 CHOICE students will participate in the extended school-year programs. The program includes 17 teachers and 36 paraprofessionals. Students also will receive all the special education services they need over the summer, including occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech therapy. There will be a teacher providing PE/movement at the elementary level, a reading teacher will be providing reading instruction, and a school psychologist and two nurses will be in attendance for the summer.

Adoption of Textbooks □ The Board adopted the textbooks, *Ways of Reading: An Anthology for Writers (Tenth Ed.)*, by Bartholomae, Petrosky and Waite and published by Bedford/Martin's, copyright 2014; *Chemistry*, by Robinson, Flowers, Theopold & Langley and published by Openstax College, copyright 2015; *Murach's Javascript, 2nd Ed.*, by Mary Delamater and published by Murach, copyright 2015; and *Murach's HTML5 and CSS3, 3rd Ed.*, by Anne Boehm and Zak Ruvalcaba and published by Murach, copyright 2015.

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–Peck Memorial Library, and on the district's website at www.berlinschools.org.