

**THE BERLIN BOARD OF EDUCATION**

# **THE BULLETIN BOARD**

**A SUMMARY OF THE AUGUST 15, 2016 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

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

**Discussion Involving Confidential Student Records** □ The Board entered into an executive session for this discussion.

**Audience of Citizens** □ Mr. John Kissane, of Main Street in East Berlin, in honor of his son, Kyle, addressed the Board requesting they take action to educate teachers, custodial staff, lunchroom staff and administrators concerning people suffering from suicidal tendencies and mental illnesses. Mr. Kissane proposed the district participate in *Looking in Theatre*, which is a group comprised of teenagers from the Greater Hartford area who present scenes dealing with important social, family and personal issues followed by a discussion in which the actors answer questions as their characters. Mr. Kissane provided Board members with two handouts.

**Superintendent's Report: District's Readiness for the Opening of School** □ Superintendent of Schools David B. Erwin reported the district is in good shape for the opening of school on Wednesday, August 31, 2016, for students in Grades PK-12. Last week, the large chiller at Berlin High School went down and is under repair for the opening of school. Ms. Gallupe reported two trucks of furniture will arrive on August 22, 2016, and two more will arrive on August 23, 2016, which will contain the classroom chairs. The remaining items are scheduled through August 26, 2016, which is also the punch list completion date. Superintendent Erwin reported that the courtyard looks great and the Board will be pleasantly surprised when the auditorium is ultimately opened at the end of September/early October. He suggested the Board discuss, at its next Board meeting, a date and time for a formal ribbon cutting ceremony in mid to late October.

**Facilities-Related Updates – Berlin High School – Code Renovations** □ Director of Business Operations Eva Gallupe reported that she will participate in a walk through with Dr. Adrian Wood, from the State Department of Education, Tom Smith and Principal Kennedy, on August 16, 2016, to confirm that everything Dr. Wood identified has been completed to his specifications. The substantial completion date remains September 30, 2016. There will be a slight delay for a small array of classrooms because of the construction of the auditorium; however, there is a plan of action in place. The regular lights have been installed in the library/media center. The generator is on sight and will be online in October. Fire Marshal Steven Waznia will perform a walk through the week of August 26, 2016, for the certificate of occupancy. Ms. Gallupe will report back to Mr. Tencza in response to his question concerning the impact the resurfacing of the tennis and basketball courts will have on the daily operations.

**Staffing Update** □ Superintendent Erwin reported that two speech positions have not been filled, and the district may have to go with an agency to fill these positions. The two technology education positions at McGee School have been filled. The Board was invited to the New Teacher Orientation Program, which will take place on Tuesday, August 23, 2016, and Wednesday, August 24, 2016, and the Convocation which will be held on Monday, August 29, 2016.

**Final Financial Report – 2015-2016 Fiscal Year** □ Director of Business Operations Eva Gallupe reported that the 2015-2016 fiscal year ended with a positive, unaudited balance of \$6,111.44. The Board approved returning the balance to the Town of Berlin General Fund.

**The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, September 12, 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).**

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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).*