

***THE BERLIN BOARD OF EDUCATION***

# ***THE BULLETIN BOARD***

***A SUMMARY OF THE DECEMBER 12, 2016 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING***

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

***Special Student Presentation – Berlin High School Madrigal Singers*** □ The Berlin High School Madrigal Singers performed under the direction of Kathryn Scherer, BHS music teacher. They have earned both silver and gold awards at music festival competitions and perform in period costumes. The group is chosen by audition and features many of the most talented young vocalists from Berlin High School. Singers were Mark Bosse, Claire Christiana, Mariel Christiana, Alexa Crowley, Caroline Daigle, A.J. DelGiorno, Olivia Dybinski, McKenna Evans, Sami Fasciano, Becca Ferrero, Carlos Fontes, Meghan Fox, Jessica Jha, Filip Kielbowicz, Jeremy Kinney, Joey Leary, Maeve McQuillan, Kyle Parisi, Nicole Pinto, Theo Reed, Aidan Rich, Kate Rochette, Nicole Vasil, Caylie Whiteside, Maya Wolanin, Anna Woodin and Melody Zielke.

***Berlin Bravos*** □ Berlin Bravos is a program where the BOE 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: Sania Khan, student at Berlin High School, for creating and running the first ever Random Acts of Kindness Club at Berlin High School; Lauren Nguyen, student at Berlin High School, for caring about others through her work with the Vietnamese Mutual Assistance Association of Connecticut for the past 18 months and her work as a member of the Random Acts of Kindness Club at Berlin High School; Adam Gauvin, student at McGee School, for making a fantastic transition to middle school; Mary Morley, student at McGee School, for being a role model for her classmates; and Janice Zagorski, Berlin resident and teacher at McGee School, for her diligence and commitment to always being present at Board of Education meetings and observing the operation of the school district.

***Committee Reports/Correspondence to the Board*** □ Report of Student Representatives: Mr. Bordonaro reported on the charity events that the National Honor Society, Upbeat and Interact Club have been involved with. He also reported that the high school winter chorus and band concert was recently held in the newly renovated auditorium and that the Berlin High School Capstone Academic Expo begins on Tuesday evening. Ms. Nappi reported that winter sports have begun and the Moses Parts the Red Sea fan group will be attending the basketball games. Correspondence to the Board: Ms. Miller reported that the Upbeat adult training weekend will take place on February 3-4, 2017, and provided an overview of the program. Mr. Tencza reported that the Educational Resources Committee will consist of Board members Jeffrey Cugno, Timothy Oakes and Matthew Tencza, with Jeffrey Cugno continuing as the chair of the committee; the Student Achievement Committee will consist of Board members JoAnn Angelico-Stetson, Kari Sassu and Robin Evans, with JoAnn Angelico-Stetson continuing as the chair of the committee; and the Communications Committee will consist of Jake Fisher, Jaymee Miller and Julia Motte, with Jake Fisher serving as the chair of the committee. Superintendent Erwin shared correspondences received from Casey Downes, Laura Phillips (daughter of Robert Zukowski), Chris Moccio, and Karen Cote.

***Audience of Citizens*** □ Mohamed Reza Mansoor, M.D., a cardiologist at Hartford Hospital, assistant professor at the University of Connecticut, president of the Islamic Association of Greater Hartford and resident of Berlin, addressed the Board concerning the increase of bullying of Muslim students since the election. Dr. Mansoor indicated the Islamic Association has organizations that can provide information and introduction sessions on the basics of Islam, as well as the misconceptions. Dr. Mansoor would like the opportunity to meet with the teachers in the school system. He noted that his wife, Aida, is a Muslim chaplain, having received her master's degree in Islam and Christian relations at the Hartford Seminary. Superintendent Erwin invited Dr. and Mrs. Mansoor to attend a Parent Advisory Council meeting. The Council meets on the first Thursday of every month.

**Facilities Related Updates** □ **Berlin High School Code Renovations:** Director of Business Operations Eva Gallupe reported that the high school renovations are not 100% complete. The Public Building Commission has requested a quote to complete the mill work for the auditorium entrance. On Thursday, December 15, 2016, there will be a meeting with Silver Petrucelli + Associates, the design architect, and their crew to address ongoing issues with the chiller/heating system. **Hubbard School Roofing Project - Closeout:** Director of Business Operations Eva Gallupe reported that all punch list items and warranty paperwork has been completed and received. The Board approved closing the project and authorized the filing of the final electronic submission with the state.

*Prior to adjournment, Superintendent Erwin reported that he had a good meeting with Coach Joe Aresimowicz regarding the football team. He commended Coach Aresimowicz, his assistants, players and families for a great season.*

*Mr. Tencza reported that he and Superintendent Erwin are working on a date for a Board of Education retreat to address the issues the Board discussed at its special meeting held prior to tonight's regular meeting.*



**The next meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, January 9, 2017, 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 Offices, the Town Clerk's Office, the Berlin-Peck Memorial Library, or on the district's website at [www.berlinschools.org](http://www.berlinschools.org).*