

*THE BERLIN BOARD OF EDUCATION*

# *THE BULLETIN BOARD*

*A SUMMARY OF THE APRIL 24, 2017 BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING*

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

**Student Presentation – Richard D. Hubbard School** □ One of the primary initiatives for Hubbard School staff this year has been the development and provision of real-world, authentic learning tasks in math. This has been a priority for building/grade level professional development and planning, as well as a focal point for instructional rounds visits. Third graders recently completed a real-world performance task where they were asked to assist in planning the seating needed for a new performance at the Hubbard School Community Picnic. Scenarios were created and students applied computational knowledge to determine the number of guests for each grade level attending the event, implemented factor/product knowledge and skills concerning seating arrangements, and subsequently employed seating configurations for each grade level given constraints to the area. The Grade 3 teachers and students presenting were Mrs. Wesoly with students Ellie Henriques and Meghan Snyder; Ms. Hlavac with students Mercedes Schilling and Valencia Ortiz; and Mrs. DeAngelo with students Destiny McKinley and Stephen Cullen.

**Special Recognition** □ **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: Nikki Malong, a Grade 11 student at Berlin High School, for her extraordinary understanding of rhetorical structure and execution of sophisticated writing, while only beginning to study and speak English three years ago; Hannah Schulz, a Grade 12 student at Berlin High School, for being amongst the very top academically successful students at Berlin High School and her many accomplishments in clubs, sports and other activities; Katelyn Zuk, a Grade 8 student at Catherine M. McGee School, for working hard to overcome personal and family trauma to thrive in her final year at McGee; and Jenna Zup, a Grade 8 student, for being the consummate student. **Bob Tarigo, Retired Girls Volleyball Coach** – The Board honored Bob for his impressive coaching career. He started coaching at Berlin High School in 1982. His career record is 453 wins and 224 losses. Under his leadership, Berlin won 13 conference championships. He has coached 54 all-conference players and 11 all-state players. In 1993 and 2012, he coached the CT Girls High School Senior Volleyball All-Stars Game and was awarded the Gatorade Outstanding Coach Award for Connecticut Volleyball in 1998. In 2004 and 2011, he was a National Volleyball Coach of the Year finalist. In 2015, he was inducted into the New Britain Sports Hall of Fame; in April 2016, he was inducted into the Berlin High School Athletic Hall of Fame; and in November 2016, he was inducted into the Connecticut Scholastic Women’s Volleyball Hall of Fame. In addition to coaching, Bob volunteered his time with the Berlin High School Boys Basketball Program for seven years.

**Audience of Citizens** □ Emily Kobus, student at McGee School, addressed the Board in support of the Family and Consumer Science program at McGee. She provided a summary of the math, science, language arts, teamwork, problem solving, social and life skills she has learned over the past two years in the program. She requested the Board find a way to keep this very important program. Julia Stewart (student) and Cynthia Kobus (parent) also addressed the Board in support of the Family and Consumer Science program.

**Retirement** □ The Board accepted the retirement of Scott Anderson, teacher of technology education at Catherine M. McGee School, effective June 30, 2017. The Board thanked Mr. Anderson for the year of service he has provided to the youth of Berlin and wished him good health and happiness in his retirement years.

**Approval of Educational Specifications for School Security Vestibule Projects** □ The Board approved the Educational Specifications (Statement of Need) for the School Security Vestibule Projects at McGee, Griswold, Hubbard, and Willard. They will now be forwarded to the temporary town manager for action in accordance with the Charter of the town of Berlin.

**Summer Reading Program** □ K-12 Literacy and Social Studies Coordinator Debra Thibault provided an overview of the summer 2017 reading program.

**Status of the Board of Education's Adopted Budget for 2017-2018** □ Superintendent of Schools David B. Erwin reported that there was a public hearing on Wednesday, April 19, 2017, and the number in attendance was small. The Town Council reinstated funds to the Board of Education's proposed budget. The annual budget referendum will be held on Tuesday, April 25.

**Non-renewal of Contracts for Non-tenured Staff** □ The Board voted that the contracts of employment for non-tenured teachers Kyle Armstrong, Marc Asselin, Jeremiah Berard, Heather Constantinescu, Samantha Corallo, Christine Cugno, Christine DeAngelo, Danielle Gemmell, Heather Gish, Stefanie Johnson, Sarah Kane, Kathryn Krol, Tara Moore, Shayne Muñoz, Gretchen Schultz, Thomas Sheridan, and Rick Silva not be renewed for the 2017-2018 school year, upon their expiration at the end of the current school year. Some were temporarily hired to cover for regular staff on leave during the 2016-2017 school year and others were non-renewed due to a reduction in force.

**Revision to the 2016-2017 School Calendar** □ The Board approved revising the 2016-2017 school calendar to reduce the final three student days, making Friday, June 16, 2017, the last day of school (#180) for all students. The last day will be a full day of school. Teachers will participate in curriculum writing and professional development activities on Monday-Wednesday, June 19-21. The revised calendar appears on the district's website.

**Executive Session** □ The Board entered into an executive session to discuss a matter of personnel, a student matter, and a contract.

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**The next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Monday, May 8, 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 office, the Town Clerk's office, the Berlin-Peck Memorial Library, and on the district's website at [www.berlinschools.org](http://www.berlinschools.org).*