Student Presentation – Catherine M. McGee School □ Students at McGee have begun a new course called S.T.E.A.M., which is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math. Mrs. Carpenter and Mr. Rosa are the pioneer teachers who are teaching students to apply skills in the disciplines listed above during one trimester each year. While taking the S.T.E.A.M. course, sixth grade students used a digital art program to create sprites, characters that they animated and imported into Scratch. Scratch is a programming language created by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to give students the opportunity to learn computer programming at an early age. Using Scratch and the digital art they have created, students are building their own video games based on their original concepts that they will then be able to play and share through a web browser. Mrs. Carpenter and Mr. Rosa provided an overview of the new course, which included the S.T.E.A.M. coursework and philosophy; design thinking; and past and current curriculum. McGee students Elijah Burgos and Brandon Garrity demonstrated some functions of the games they have started working on and their digital art characters.

Committee Reports/Correspondence to the Board □ ***Report of Student Representatives:*** Mr. Halkias reported that the Berlin High School Athletic Department is hosting the DredCoat Run on October 13, 2017. Tickets are $20 and all proceeds benefit the Berlin High School Athletic Department. He also reported that the Random Acts of Kindness and Recycling Club are looking for new members. ***Correspondence to the Board:*** Ms. Angelico-Stetson praised Linda Holian, Cindy Martin, Michelle Zeuschner and the teachers involved in the Transition Academy Open House.

Old Business □ ***Graduation Update:*** Board President Matthew Tencza reported that the two dates reserved for graduation at the Welte Hall Auditorium, on the CCSU Campus, are Sunday, June 17 (Father's Day) and Sunday, June 24 (if needed for weather cancellations). The Board is still considering possible changes to the location and date of commencement ceremonies subsequent to 2018. ***Wellness and Healthy Foods:*** Assistant Superintendent Brian Benigni reported that he has researched nine other school districts regarding their policies and that this matter should be brought to the Student Achievement Committee for further discussion. ***School Liaisons:*** Board President Matthew Tencza reported that the Board is in favor of having school liaisons. This item was referred to the Communications Committee to determine the value of the school liaisons and to design the parameters and expectations. ***BOE Retreat Work:*** Board President Matthew Tencza reported that he will schedule additional meeting time for the Board to continue its work; however, this will occur after the election for Board officers.

Policy Review/Revision – Second Reading/Adoption □ The Board adopted revised Policy 5144 – Student Discipline and revised Policy 5113 – Attendance, Truancy and Chronic Absenteeism.

Ratification of Contract – Custodians □ The Board approved the tentative agreement reached between the Berlin Board of Education and the Connecticut Association of Labor Unions, Inc. – Custodians.

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The next meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Tuesday, October 10, 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.