



**BELCHERTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
REGULAR SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
April 8, 2014**

**LOCATION:** Swift River Elementary School Library

**TIME:** 7:00 pm

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Dr. Linda Tsoumas, Chair; Ms. Clare Popowich, Vice-Chair; Mr. Richard Fritsch, Secretary; Ms. Myndi Bogdanovich, Member; Dr. Michael Knapp, Member

**ADMINISTRATION:** Dr. Judith Houle, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Brian Cameron, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning

**BHS STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES:** Michael DeBarge, Benjamin Stone, and Sienna Nielsen

**VISITORS:** Lawrence O'Brien, BHS Social Studies Teacher; Jordan Gamache, BHS student; Quinn Roche, JBMS student; Louise Levy, BHS Science Teacher; Tom Fuller, Treasurer, NEOWA

**AGENDA**

- I. Call to order
- II. Special awards and presentations  
Lawrence O'Brien, BHS Social Studies Teacher, William Spratt Award for Excellence in Teaching Secondary Social Studies  
New England Outdoor Writers Association Youth Writing Contest Winners' Recognition:  
Jordan Gamache (gr. 10) and Quinn Roche (gr. 8)
- III. Update from BHS Student Advisory Council representatives
- IV. Public comment regarding items on the agenda
- V. Approval of minutes  
A. March 25, 2014
- VI. Reports and recommendations of the Superintendent  
A. Out-of-State Field Trips  
1. JBMS Students to Washington, DC  
2. CHCS Grade 6 Students to CT Science Center
- VII. Reports of subcommittees/representative to Collaborative for Educational Services  
A. Collaborative for Educational Services (Ms. Bogdanovich)  
B. Curriculum & Instruction (Dr. Tsoumas/Dr. Knapp)  
C. Healthy & Safer Schools Advisory Committee (Ms. Popowich)  
D. Jessica's Boundless Playground Committee (Dr. Tsoumas)

1. Bills for payment: Permanent Mark, Inc., \$822.00 and \$360.00
  - E. Personnel & Policy (Ms. Popowich/Ms. Bogdanovich)
  - F. Property & Transportation (Mr. Fritsch/Dr. Knapp)
  - G. Technology Advisory Committee (Mr. Fritsch)
    1. Report from meeting: April 2, 2014
- VIII. New business
- A. Resignation of Non-Confidential Recording Secretary to the School Committee
- IX. Unfinished business
- A. FY 2015 budget
  - B. Superintendent search
- X. Correspondence
- A. Agenda: April 8, 2014
  - B. Minutes: March 25, 2014
  - C. Out-of-State field trip requests
    1. JBMS students to Washington, DC
    2. CHCS 6<sup>th</sup> grade students to CT Science Center
  - D. Bills for Payment
    1. Permanent Mark, Inc.: \$822.00
    2. Permanent Mark, Inc.: \$360.00
  - E. Resignation letter: Non-Confidential Recording Secretary to the School Committee
  - F. FY 2015 budget items:
    1. Memorandum from Paul Silva, Chair, Belchertown Finance Committee, regarding the FY 2015 budget
    2. Revised Income and Expense spreadsheet from Jill Panto, Town Accountant
- XI. Vote to enter into Executive Session under M.G.L., c. 30A, §21, Parts (2) and (3), to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel and to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with Unit C, Custodians, as conducting said business in open session would have a detrimental effect on the School Committee's negotiating position. The Committee will return to open session.

*The mission of the Belchertown Public Schools is to ensure that every student meets with success every day. To that end, we pledge to ensure that we have rigorous, standards-based curriculum; instruction designed to meet the needs of diverse learners in every classroom; and access to the global learning community via state-of-the-art technology in schools that are communities of respect and civility for all.*

**2011-2015 Strategic Plan Goals (adopted by the Belchertown School Committee, 3/1/11):**

Goal #1: To have guaranteed (standards-based and implemented by all), viable (doable and accessible to every student), seamless K-12 curriculum in every content area.

Goal #2: To have rigorous (standards-based), relevant (grounded in 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills), differentiated instructional practices with the ability to access the global learning community via technology available to every learner.

Goal #3: To implement a plan to ensure that our students understand the importance of acceptance, tolerance, and respect supported by all adults in the community.

The Belchertown School Committee conducts its business in open session pursuant to Chapter 30A, Section 21 of the Massachusetts General Laws. The public is welcome to comment only on items on the agenda for this meeting as noted above. If you wish to address the School Committee regarding an item not on the agenda for this meeting, please contact the Superintendent of Schools at 413.323.0423 or via email at [superintendent@belchertown.org](mailto:superintendent@belchertown.org) to determine the best way to address your concerns (see [School Committee Policy BEDH](#)).