



**BELCHERTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
REGULAR SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
January 26, 2016**

LOCATION: Swift River Elementary School Library
TIME: 7:00 pm

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Mr. Richard Fritsch, Chair (present); Ms. Myndi Bogdanovich, Vice-Chair (present); Ms. Dawn French, Secretary (absent); Dr. Michael Knapp, Member (absent); Dr. Thomas Laughner, Member (present)

ADMINISTRATION: Mrs. Karol Coffin, Superintendent of Schools; Mr. Brian Cameron, Assistant Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services; Shawn Fortin, Director of Teaching & Learning; Mr. Edward Dunn, Contracted School Business Manager; Ms. Christine Vigneux, Principal BHS ; Mr. Thomas Ruscio, JBMS Principal; Ms. Paula Fitzgerald, Principal CHCS; Mr. Robert Kuhn, SRE Principal; Ms. Sandra Bremer, Principal CSS; Mr. Doug Daponde, BHS Assistant Principal;

BHS STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES:

VISITORS: Brendan McCarthy, Sue Boyea, Aimee Henderson

Minutes

Pledge of Allegiance

- I. Call to order
Mr. Fritsch called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm
- II. Public comment regarding items on the agenda
There were no public comments regarding items on the agenda.
- III. Special awards and presentations
 - A. Maddie Hamparian – Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship recipient
Superintendent Coffin presented Madeline Hamparian with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Scholarship.
- IV. Update from BHS Student Advisory Council representatives
There were no students representatives present.
- V. Approval of minutes
 - A. January 12, 2016, Special Session
 - B. January 12, 2016, Regular Session
 Motion: Ms. Bogdanovich moved to accept the January 12, 2016, regular session and special session, minutes as amended.
 Second: Dr. Laughner
 Vote: 3,0,0
 Discussion; add Dr. Laughner and Mr. Fortin to attendance in special session.

VI. Reports and recommendations of the Superintendent**A. Bridge Plan report**

Mr. Fortin presented to School Committee with the update.

- Goal 1 – Collecting & analysis of DDMs
 - Evidence
 - DDM schedule/chart (chart what each teacher is using for assessments)
 - DDM – how & why use of assessments
 - School/district data team meetings
- Goal 2 – Social emotional whole child
 - Evidence
 - ID program at each school
 - Transition meeting schedule
 - Discipline referrals – 2010/11 and 2011/12 results shared (it was noted that peacebuilders started district wide in 2011/12, with the result that there were more incidents reported with implementation. The numbers level in 2012/13 and 2013/14.
- Goal 3 – Professional development
 - Evidence
 - Professional development survey
 - Professional development calendar with topics – assessment, technology, curriculum, and whole child

B. Cold Spring School – Progress report on school improvement plan

Ms. Bremer updated the School Committee on CSS school improvement plan.

- Goal 1 – Curriculum, planning, assessment
 - Kindergarten screening
 - DIBELS
 - MKEA
 - Level literacy interventions
 - Fountas & Pinnel Benchmarks
- Goal 2 – Teaching all students
 - Analyze data
 - DDM scores summary – Mr. McCarthy presented the Math DDM expectations based on frameworks.
- Goal 3 – Family/Community engagement
 - Bi-monthly themes
 - Project bases – February 8-12 is random acts of kindness
 - Community – fire station field trip, Veteran's day project, Mr. McIntire's outdoor education, Mr. Lamphear's environmental science, Officer Phil, Belchertown Fair, parent volunteers
- Goal 4 – Professional culture
 - Data meetings to share – Title 1, DIBELS numbers

Discussion also addressed what assessments are needed and what data is being used for. Data being assessed has shown to be valuable.

C. Superintendent's Entry-Plus Plan – Part 1

Superintendent Coffin presented the School Committee with updated plan findings.

- Part I
 - Results
 - Student interviews
 - Parent/guardian survey
 - Parent/guardian concerns
 - Staff survey
 - PTO/School Council
 - Student population trends
 - District accountability
 - State assessments
 - School visits

VII. Personnel update

There was no personnel update.

VIII. Unfinished business

A. Policy JKAA: Physical Restraint

Motion: Ms. Bogdanovich moved to approve policy JKAA.

Second: Dr. Laughner

Vote: 3,0,0

Discussion: Ms. Bogdanovich noted this policy was handed out for review at the last School Committee meeting.

B. Policy JICJ: Communication and Electronic Devices

Motion: Ms. Bogdanovich moved to approve policy JKAA.

Second: Dr. Laughner

Vote: 3,0,0

Discussion: Ms. Bogdanovich noted this is a new policy and was handed out for review at the last School Committee meeting.

IX. New business

A. Discussion on the start of the 2016-2017 school year

Superintendent Coffin started the discussion on the start date of the 2016-2017 school year. Discussion regarding starting school before or after Labor Day. Superintendent Coffin noted that the state minimum hours are; 425 – Kindergarten, 900 – elementary, 990 – secondary. The end date could potentially go to the end of June. Ms. Bogdanovich noted if the district used August 31st as a start date the last day would be June 23rd. Superintendent Coffin noted that DESI is suggesting districts take just a March vacation instead of both February and April.

X. Reports of subcommittees/representatives

A. Curriculum & Instruction (Dr. Knapp/Dr. Laughner)

Dr. Laughner noted they have not met.

- B. Personnel & Policy (Ms. Bogdanovich/Ms. French)
Ms. Bogdanovich noted they will meet next week.
- C. Property & Transportation (Mr. Fritsch/Ms. French)
Mr. Fritsch noted at the last scheduled meeting they discussed the needs of the buildings and the needs of new buildings.
- D. Finance & Budget Subcommittee (Dr. Laughner/Dr. Knapp)
Dr. Laughner noted the previous meeting scheduled for this evening had been cancelled.
- E. Collaborative for Educational Services (Dr. Knapp)
Dr. Knapp was absent.
- F. Healthy & Safer Schools Advisory Committee (Mr. Fritsch/Ms. Bogdanovich)
Ms. Bogdanovich noted they will meet tomorrow.
- G. Technology Advisory Committee
Dr. Laughner noted they have not met.

XI. Correspondence

- A. Agenda, January 26, 2016
- B. Minutes, January 12, 2016, Special Session
- C. Minutes, January 12, 2016, Regular Session
- D. Superintendents Entry-Plus Plan-Part 1
- E. Policy JKAA: Physical Restraint
- F. Policy JICJ: Communication and Electronic Devices

X. Vote to enter into Executive Session under M.G.L., 30A, §21, Part 3 to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation as conducting said business in open session would have a detrimental effect on the School Committee's bargaining or litigation position. The Committee will not return to open session.

Mr. Fritsch: yes
Ms. Bogdanovich: yes
Ms. French: absent
Dr. Knapp: absent
Dr. Laughner: yes

The School Committee voted to enter into Executive Session at 8:30 pm.
The Committee reconvened to Open Session at 8:50 pm.

Motion: Ms. Bogdanovich moved to adjourn at 8:51 pm.

Second: Dr. Laughner

Vote: 3,0,0

Respectfully submitted by,

Ramona Griffin
Non-Confidential Recording Secretary to the School Committee

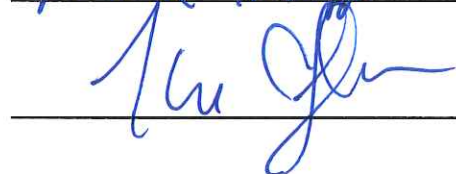
School Committee members' signatures:

 _____, Richard Fritsch, Chair

_____, Myndi Bogdanovich, Vice Chair

 _____, Dawn French, Secretary

 _____, Michael Knapp, Member

 _____, Thomas Laughner, Member

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.

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 to determine the best way to address your concerns (see [School Committee Policy BEDH](#)).