Members Present: Mr. Cooper, Mr. Downey, Ms. Cunningham, Mrs. Giacone-Stever, Mrs. Lenhardt, Dr. Navarro and Dr. Wijeyesinghe.

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Dr. Douglas, Mrs. Johnston, Mrs. Kehoe, Ms. Monroe, Dr. DeAngelo, and visitors

I. Opening of Meeting
   A. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Mr. Downey at 6:00 p.m.
   B. Adjourn to Executive Session – It was moved by Mrs. Lenhardt, seconded by Mr. Cooper and passed unanimously to move to Executive Session at 6:00 p.m. to discuss contract negotiations for a specific bargaining unit.
      Present at Executive Session: Mr. Downey, Mr. Cooper, Mrs. Giacone-Stever, Mrs. Lenhardt, Dr. Navarro, Dr. Wijeyesinghe, Dr. Douglas, Dr. DeAngelo, Mrs. Johnston, Mrs. Kehoe, and Ms. Monroe.
   C. Reconvene meeting to Open Session – The regular meeting was reconvened by Mr. Downey at 7:09 p.m.
   D. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Approval of Minutes
   A. It was moved by Mrs. Giacone Stever, seconded by Dr. Wijeyesinghe and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 18, 2013, Regular Board Meeting.

III. Student Senate Report:
    Anna Kreienberg reported that the Student Senate’s focus has been on the organization and communication of the Albany Devils Hockey night on January 31st at the Times Union Center. Pre-sale tickets will be on sale two weeks prior to the event, which will be sold at half price. This event will be a district-wide event, and they hope the community comes out for all the fun! In other news, the Student Senate are focusing on the next dance, Snowball, for which they are discussing ways of increasing attendance. Finally, discussion and planning on a student lounge is underway, in collaboration with Principal Scott Landry. The lounge will assist in keeping students on campus and encouraging them to utilize the café and other spaces during students' free time.

IV. Superintendent’s Report
    Dr. Douglas noted that a congratulations was in order to the Bethlehem Central History Bowl Varsity team. On December 8, they won the New York City Regional History Bowl in Manhattan. The competition included a 12-team round-robin tournament and in the finals defeated the North Babylon Team A with a score of 400 to 140. The BCHS team has qualified for the History Bowl National Tournament, which will be held in the Spring of 2014. In the individual History Bee Competition, Tom Sheridan and Ben Weinstein qualified for...
Nationals by virtue of their top 6 finishes in the Varsity History Bee Competition. Eric Wolfsberg won the Junior Varsity History Bee in the New York City tournament and also qualified for Nationals. Eric and Ben have also qualified for the National US Geography Challenge with their top 2 scores on the regional qualifying exam. Dr. Douglas noted that they have done a great job representing Bethlehem for the past two years!

Also making Dr. Douglas proud was the recent Spotlight article profiling the BCHS Student Help Desk, a novel student intern program launched by the district’s Technology Department. Now in its second year, the Help Desk has nearly 20 students trained to assist staff and students with technology issues of all sorts. The innovative program taps students' native technology know-how while providing them with real life work experience and professional mentoring. Dr. Douglas noted that these students and the IT administration are making strides in the field of technology, which the Governor expressed a need for in his State of the State address that day.

On behalf of Melanie Painter, Art Supervisor, Dr. Douglas shared the wonderful news that the Bethlehem Central School District was selected to be a part of The Student Art Exhibit: Exploring the Power of Separation to Bring Us Closer, based on War Horse by Michael Morpurgo. The show will take place from January 14-19, 2014, during the Broadway run of War Horse at Proctors. After much consideration, the jurors of the show selected 25 works of art to be displayed in the exhibit at Proctors in the Fenimore Gallery. 100 percent of the Bethlehem student artwork submitted was selected for exhibition. The jurors commented on the way our students understood the novel and its meaning within the literature. The novel, War Horse is read by many of our 8th grade students at Bethlehem Central Middle School. The art show’s opening reception will be at Proctors on Wednesday, January 15th, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

In other news, Dr. Douglas noted that he attended the BCMS Lab School Open House, which occurred on Tuesday, January 7th, for 8th grade students and their parents who are getting ready to transition into High School. Also in January, many wonderful music concerts are being held at the High School, as well as production of the BCMS Musical, Seussical Jr., premiering at the end of the month! Dr. Douglas noted that there is so much to look forward to, and he is excited to start off the New Year with such positive and uplifting news.

V. Board of Education Report

Board President Matt Downey congratulated Mrs. Lenhardt on officially assuming her new position as President of the New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA).

Mrs. Lenhardt mentioned that she was invited to Governor Cuomo’s State of the State Address on Wednesday, January 8th. She explained what topics were covered in the speech, and noted that the message was very positive overall. Mrs. Lenhardt highlighted some educational topics the Governor addressed; including a $2 billion Technology bond issue in schools, the need for universal and equal pre-kindergarten programs, and scholarships to students who graduated at the tops of their classes who are attending SUNY schools in the field of science and math. Also, Mrs. Lenhardt mentioned Cuomo’s acknowledgment of a $2.5 billion surplus for the NYS budget, which she would like to see utilized to fill the gap elimination adjustment that education is experiencing.

Dr. Wijeyesinghe noted her attendance to many winter sporting events at BC, and commended the athletes and Coaches, as well as the Athletics, Operations and Management, Transportation departments for all their work in keeping kids active and ensuring the safety during these winter months.

President Downey wrapped up the Board of Education Report, noting that former BC student Brad Campion, who now is a sophomore at Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU), was part of the 2013 Men’s Soccer National Champions. On top of that, SNHU men’s soccer team was honored in 2013 with the Northeast-10
Team Academic Excellence Award for having the highest team grade-point average in the Northeast-10 Conference for men's soccer, and Brad Campion received the Elite 89 award for the highest cumulative grade-point average at the 2013 NCAA Division II Men's Soccer Championship. Way to go, Brad!

VI. **Presentations:**

**BCMS Bridge Building Design Unit – Amy Ludik and Students**

As part of the curriculum of the 8th grade technology course, Engineering Basics 2, Mrs. Ludik and 10 of her students explained and demonstrated their Model Truss Bridge Design unit. Each student described part of the design process that they used during the truss bridge project. And they demonstrated the final step the unit the model bridge load testing and evaluation. The students showed dedication, pride and excitement in their work, and many acknowledged their interest in furthering their education in additional Engineering classes in the future.

The 10 students who participated in the presentation and bridge load testing for the Board of Education and community members were Emma A., Katherine B., Claire C., Christian D., Claire F., Lauren H., Tess H., Maggie K., Molly K., and Christian W. Great job!

VII. **Recognition of Visitors on any agenda items:** None

VIII. **Finance**

It was moved by Dr. Wijeyesinghe, seconded by Mrs. Giacone Stever and passed unanimously to approve the following finance action items A through B:

A. Treasurer’s Report and Budget Status Report – The Board of Education accepted the Treasurer’s Report for the month of November 2013 and the Budget Status Reports for the period ending November 30, 2013.

B. Accept Anonymous Donation and Approve Budget Amendment – The Board of Education accepted the donation made anonymously to be used to purchase instruments for the Music Department and amend the 2013-14 budget, as per attached.

IX. **Professional Personnel**

It was moved by Mrs. Lenhardt, seconded by Mrs. Giacone Stever and passed unanimously to approve the following Instructional Staff action items A through E. (All appointments and payments for services are subject to out possession of proper certification and transcripts substantiating credits and diplomas and a notice from the Commissioner of Education, that (s)he is fully cleared for employment.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Position:</th>
<th>Location:</th>
<th>Effective Date:</th>
<th>Reason:</th>
<th>Length of Service:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.</td>
<td>Aaron J. Robertson</td>
<td>0.4 Music Teacher</td>
<td>Slingerlands Elementary / Middle School</td>
<td>1/29/14</td>
<td>Resignation for Personal Reasons</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Arthur L. Leder</td>
<td>1.0 Remedial Speech Teacher</td>
<td>Elsmere / Hamagrael Elementary</td>
<td>6/30/14</td>
<td>Resignation for Retirement Reasons</td>
<td>28 Years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
C. Name: Kelly L. Burlile  
Position: 1.0 Replacement Special Education Teacher  
Building: Hamagrael Elementary School  
Replacement Start Date: 1/13/14  
End Date: 6/30/14  
Salary: $46,000. MA Step 1  
Pro-Rated Salary: $26,450.  
Education: BS – The College of Saint Rose – Childhood Ed/Special Ed  
MS – The College of Saint Rose – Literacy B-6  
Certification Status: Literacy (Birth-Grade 6)  
Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6)  
Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)  
Reason: Maternity Leave of Kara Saint John

D. New Teacher: Kelly L. Burlile  
Discipline: 1.0 Replacement Special Education Teacher  
Building: Hamagrael Elementary School  
Mentor: Mary Bigelow  
Total Stipend: $720.00

E. It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the attached list of Continuing Education appointments for the Spring 2014 program.

X. Support Personnel

It was moved by Dr. Wijeyesinghe, seconded by Mrs. Lenhardt and passed unanimously to approve the following support staff action items A through B. (All appointments and payments for services are subject to our possession of proper payroll documentation and a notice, if appropriate, from the Commissioner of Education that (s)he is fully cleared for employment.)

A. Name: Cathy Hasselbach  
Position: School Monitor (Aide to Student with Disabilities)  
Location: Slingerlands Elementary School  
Effective Date: 1/24/14  
Reason: Resignation for retirement  
Years of Service: 18 years

B. Name: Doreen Slingerland  
Position: School District Bus Dispatcher  
Location: Transportation Department  
Hours Per Day: Increase hours from 4 to 8 hours per day  
Effective Date: 1/13/14  
Reason: Due to retirement of Samuel Robinson

XI. Correspondence for Action

It was moved by Mrs. Lenhardt, seconded by Mr. Cooper and passed unanimously to approve the following Correspondence for Action item:

A. Committee on Special Education/Preschool Special Education Recommendations – Approved the Committee on Special Education recommendations and the Committee on Preschool Special Education recommendations for the following meeting dates:  
12-17-13, 12-13-13, 12-11-13
XII. **Recognition of Visitors:** (This time is for visitors to address any items not on this agenda)
None

XIII. **Future Meetings and Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. Thursday, Jan. 16</th>
<th>6:00 p.m.</th>
<th><strong>Mid-Year Board Retreat</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B. Wednesday, Jan. 22</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Regular Board Meeting</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Wednesday, Feb. 5</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>Regular Board Meeting</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

XIV. **Adjourn the Meeting**

It was moved by Mrs. Lenhardt, seconded by Dr. Wijeyesinghe and passed unanimously at 7:47 p.m. to adjourn the regular meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brittany Barrett
District Clerk

Date Approved: January 22, 2014