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 Mrs. Giacone-Stever and passed unanimously to move to Executive Session at 6:00 p.m. to discuss an individual personnel contractual matter.

      Present at Executive Session: Mr. Downey, Mr. Cooper, Ms. Cunningham, Mrs. Giacone-Stever, Mrs. Lenhardt, Dr. Navarro, 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 7:06 p.m.

   D. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Approval of Minutes
   A. It was moved by Mrs. Lenhardt, seconded by Ms. Cunningham and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2014, Regular Board Meeting.

III. Student Senate Report:
    Anna Kreienberg, Vice President of the Student Senate, reported that the student group met that day to discuss how they would like to utilize the funds they raised with their recent Mr. Bethlehem pageant and their upcoming dodge-ball tournament. They noted that they would like to give it back to the community in some form, as well as a scholarship to honor a current senior. Also, Anna responded to Dr. Navarro’s question as to where she would be going to college, revealing that she has chosen New York University in New York City for the fall where she will study English and foreign relations.

IV. Superintendent’s Report
    Dr. Douglas began his Superintendent’s Report by presenting President Downey with the 2014 School Safety Excellence Award, where the district was awarded with the Platinum level. Dr. Douglas thanked Mrs. Kehoe and Mr. Nolte for their hard work over the year in submitting reports and assisting in getting our school to the platinum level for safety.

* AN EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY BE CONVENED UPON MAJORITY VOTE OF ITS TOTAL MEMBERSHIP TAKEN IN AN OPEN MEETING Pursuant to a Motion Identifying the General Area or Areas or the Subject or Subjects to Be Considered. (BOARD POLICY 2.2.9)
Following the award presentation, Dr. Douglas noted the many wonderful musical events that had taken place the week prior at the Slingerlands’ *The Knight the Castle Rocked* performance, as well as the High School performance of *Damn Yankees!* The entire cast and crew from Slingerlands and the High School did a great job.

Dr. Douglas announced the BCHS’ Students in Advanced Filmmaking Festival to take place at the High School Auditorium, on Thursday, April 3. Students from seven different school districts were to attend the festival (approximately 65 students). They will be joining our students for lunch and taking part in the film festival during the day in the auditorium. Students in Advanced Filmmaking will be hosting the event, and Dr. Douglas was looking forward to the chance to see the artwork or films of our students.

And, in conclusion to the Superintendent’s Report, Dr. Douglas invited up the following students for recognition for educational achievement:

Caroline Reilly: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 1, Division 1  
Kiki Baum: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 1, Division 1  
Teddy Shaw: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 1, Division 1  
Lily Beiter: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 1, Division 1  
Charlie Blanchard: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 1, Division 1  
Claire Peretta: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 1, Division 1  
Dewey Mongue: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 5, Division 1  
Megan Dellenbaugh: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 5, Division 1  
Daniel Zhou: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 5, Division 1  
Nathaniel Koplik: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 5, Division 1  
Aliza Cotton: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 5, Division 1  
Claire Smith: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 5, Division 1  
Abe Kauffman: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 5, Division 1  
Juliette VanLuven: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 3, Division 1  
Emma VanLuven: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 3, Division 1  
Caitlyn Roddy: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 3, Division 1  
Henry Reichman: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 3, Division 1  
Ethan Rosenblum: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 3, Division 1  
Sage Obernesser: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 3, Division 1  
Beth Turnidge: Hamagrael Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 3, Division 1  
Jack DeSanti: Slingerlands Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 1, Division 1  
Caleb Ells: Slingerlands Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 1, Division 1  
Ben Goldberg: Slingerlands Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 1, Division 1  
Zachary Price: Slingerlands Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 1, Division 1  
Nicholas Watson: Slingerlands Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 1, Division 1  
Sophia Soka: Slingerlands Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 1, Division 1  
Michael O'Shaughnessy: Slingerlands Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 5, Division 1  
Madison Sinuc: Slingerlands Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 5, Division 1  
Ray Hutton: Slingerlands Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 5, Division 1  
Peyton Cardinal: Slingerlands Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 5, Division 1  
Isabella Cometti: Slingerlands Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 5, Division 1
Elliot Barrett: Slingerlands Odyssey of the Mind team member, 2nd place in Problem 5, Division 1
Anders Baum: BCMS Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 2, Division 2
Ethan Gravel: BCMS Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 2, Division 2
Ben Gravel: BCMS Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 2, Division 2
Thomas Buffaline: BCMS Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 2, Division 2
Taylor Roddy: BCMS Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 2, Division 2
Gillian Roeder: BCMS Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 2, Division 2
Morgan Leonard: BCMS Odyssey of the Mind team member, 1st place in Problem 2, Division 2
Chelsea Cato: Students Inside Albany Program representative for Albany County
James Barrier: BCHS National Merit Scholar Finalist
Julia Champagne: BCHS National Merit Scholar Finalist
Elizabeth Cultrara: BCHS National Merit Scholar Finalist
Katherine Kołodziej: BCHS National Merit Scholar Finalist
Max Rosenberg: BCHS National Merit Scholar Finalist
Seth Schoenhaus: BCHS National Merit Scholar Finalist
Aria Shi: BCHS National Merit Scholar Finalist

V. Board of Education Report

Mrs. Lenhardt added the recent event of the district-wide choral festival to the list of wonderful musical events Dr. Douglas had previously noted. She loved seeing the Middle School and High School students coming together, which resulted in an impressive number of students involved in the festival! Also, Mrs. Lenhardt attended the Slingerlands musical, which she stated is an important opportunity for elementary students as it may be the only opportunity they have to be involved in theater and music, as it may not be their thing by choice. Also, it is important as studies show that being exposed to art and music in a curriculum shows positive improvements for the overall knowledge and strengths in other areas of a student’s education. Bethlehem has wonderful programs that Mrs. Lenhardt is proud to support.

Dr. Navarro publically thanked her fellow Board members for their support over the past few weeks in the accommodation and generosity with her son’s injury and her inability to be in attendance at the April 2nd meeting.

VI. Presentations:

The Board of Education continued the public discussion of the school district’s budget development for the 2014-15 school year with a presentation by Jody Monroe, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Programs and Instruction.

Superintendent Dr. Thomas J. Douglas also gave an overall budget update in which he discussed efforts to achieve a balanced budget and the challenges that lie ahead.

To view the April 2nd presentation, and for a full calendar of budget meetings and other budget information, please visit the District’s Budget homepage at [bethlehemschools.org/budget/budget.html](http://bethlehemschools.org/budget/budget.html).

Proposed 2014-15 Instructional Staffing and Programs – Ms. Jody Monroe

Assistant Superintendent Jody Monroe provided projected enrollment numbers for 2014-15 and proposed staffing cuts to address enrollment and student needs. This would include a net reduction of 3.8 instructional FTEs, including 2.0 elementary teachers districtwide; the elimination of one sixth
grade team; and added support for students who struggle with math at the elementary and middle school levels. In addressing the reduction of the sixth grade team, Monroe noted the incoming class is expected to have 75 fewer students than the current sixth grade.

Ms. Monroe also said the district is proposing to phase out the district’s Chinese language program. As part of the phase-out plan, Monroe said, a program will be established to ensure students currently enrolled in Chinese, in every grade, are able to meet foreign language requirements. The Board voted to approve the phase-out, per discussion during the open meeting.

The proposed instructional budget was the last department level presentation before the Board. Prior meetings have focused on Special Education, Athletics, Transportation, Operations and Maintenance and Technology.

VII. Recognition of Visitors on any agenda items:

A community member encouraged the Board to look to increase the tax rate to over the 2.99% proposal, stating that if it could assist in keeping something that would have to possibly be eliminated, the community would support the district in its needs.

Another community member and Bethlehem Central student approached the Board of Education to emphasize the need for social workers in the school, and that the proposed position elimination should be rethought, as student have tough days and need assistance that this worker provides.

A final member of the community make a comment regarding the proposal to phase out the Chinese program. His son was in the program and spoke very highly of the program and the need for students to learn the Chinese language in the future landscape of the world.

VIII. Finance

It was moved by Mrs. Giacone-Stever seconded by Mrs. Lenhardt and passed unanimously to approve the following finance action item:


IX. Professional Personnel

It was moved by Mrs. Lenhardt, seconded by Mr. Cooper and passed unanimously to approve the following Instructional Staff action item. (All appointments and payments for services are subject to our 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.)

A. Approved the salary adjustments for professional development advancement according to the attached list. These applicant entries were submitted by the March 1, 2014, deadline and were reviewed by the Professional Advancement Committee on March 18, 2014.

X. Support Personnel

It was moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mrs. Lenhardt and passed unanimously to approve the following Support Staff action items A through F. (All appointments and payments for services are subject to our 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>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Effective Date</th>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Years of Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B. Paul Franchini</td>
<td>Director of Child Nutrition</td>
<td>Food Service</td>
<td>March 28, 2014</td>
<td>Resignation for Personal Reasons</td>
<td>6 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Mia Calabrese</td>
<td>School Monitor (Aid to Students with Disabilities)</td>
<td>Middle School</td>
<td>April 8, 2014</td>
<td>Resignation for Personal Reasons</td>
<td>9 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Todd Winne</td>
<td>10 month Temporary School Bus Driver</td>
<td>Transportation Department</td>
<td>February 10, 2014</td>
<td>Adjustment of placement on salary scale from Appendix 6 to Appendix 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Danika Raup</td>
<td>10 month Temporary School Bus Driver</td>
<td>Transportation Department</td>
<td>February 10, 2014</td>
<td>Adjustment of placement on salary scale from Appendix 6 to Appendix 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Mary C. Ansbro-Ingalls</td>
<td>10 month Temporary School Monitor (Bus Attendant)</td>
<td>Transportation Department</td>
<td>February 10, 2014</td>
<td>Adjustment of placement on salary scale from Appendix 6 to Appendix 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**XI. Correspondence for Action**

It was moved by Mrs. Giacone-Stever, seconded by Mr. Cooper and passed unanimously to approve the 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:

3-25-14, 3-21-14, 3-20-14, 3-19-14, 3-18-14, 3-17-14, 3-14-14, 3-13-14, 3-12-14, 3-11-14, 3-07-14, 3-06-14, 3-05-14, 3-04-14, 2-27-14, 2-07-14

XII. Recognition of Visitors: (This time is for visitors to address any items not on this agenda) None

XIII. Future Meetings and Events

A. Tuesday, April 8th  6:00 p.m.  Budget Meeting
B. Wednesday, April 9th  6:00 p.m.  BOCES Annual Meeting
C. Tuesday, April 22nd  6:00 p.m.  Budget Adoption
D. Tuesday, May 6th  6:30 p.m.  Meet the Candidate Night
E. Wednesday, May 7th  6:00 p.m.  Budget Hearing

XIV. Adjourn the Regular Meeting

It was moved by Mrs. Lenhardt, seconded by Ms. Cunningham and passed unanimously at 9:22 p.m. to adjourn the regular meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brittany Barrett
District Clerk

Date Approved: April 22, 2014