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

Members Absent: Mrs. Lenhardt

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

I. Opening of Meeting
   A. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Mr. Downey at 6:30 p.m.
   B. Adjourn to Executive Session – It was moved by Dr. Wijeyesinghe, seconded by Mrs. Giacone-Stever and passed unanimously to move to Executive Session at 6:30 p.m. to discuss an individual personnel contractual matter.

   Present at Executive Session: Mr. Downey, Mr. Cooper, Ms. Cunningham, Mrs. Giacone-Stever, 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. Student Senate Report – No Report

III. Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Douglas announced in his Superintendent’s Report that Bethlehem Alumni Danielle Mozeleski, also known as Dani Moz on stage as a current contestant on Season 6 of NBC’s The Voice, was visiting some of the schools she attended over a short break from filming in Los Angeles during the week. She had visited Glenmont Elementary school Tuesday and had visits to the Middle and High Schools scheduled for Wednesday. The students are very excited to ask her questions, and Danielle’s teachers are looking forward to catching up. Dr. Douglas wished her well as she advances to the top 20, and noted that she is making us all BC Proud.

IV. Board of Education Report

Vice President Mr. Cooper commented on Thursday’s Media Arts Festival, held by the Students in Advance Filmmaking, which he noted was a fabulous event. With students from seven different schools around the area, it was a great display of talents ranging from art, film, and electronic music. Art Supervisor Melanie Painter and her staff deserved a ‘kudos’ as well, as their teaching provided these students the tools to create such inspired work.

*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*
Dr. Wijeyesinghe thanked the Board and the Communications office for getting her up to date from the April 2nd meeting that she had to miss due to illness. She read the materials, watched the video from the meeting and felt prepared to join in on the discussion again.

Ms. Cunningham congratulated the girls Varsity Lacrosse team for their big win against Guilderland on Friday. She noted it was a real accomplishment, and that she enjoyed hearing the play-by-play through the media waves as she was unable to attend in person.

And, in conclusion, President Downey reminded his fellow Board members about the BOU Spelling Bee that occurred the past Friday night, as well, which he noted was a great event.

V. Presentations:

The Board of Education continued the public discussion of the school district’s budget development for the 2014-15 school year with a budget presentation by Judith Kehoe, Chief Business and Financial Officer. Mrs. Kehoe provided the Board with an updated overview of the current and the 2014-15 school year budget projections are at. Discussion commenced regarding where the Board members would like to see the school tax rate to be established for the school administrators to continue to work on the District’s costs and revenues to have a balanced budget. Dr. Douglas and Judith Kehoe will be presenting the final budget presentation on April 22nd for discussion and adoption by the Board.

To view the April 8th 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.

VI. Recognition of Visitors on any agenda and non-agenda items:

Community members addressed the Board of Education on the following topics:

General comments were made regarding Lab School and the rumored cuts and/or abolishment of the program by parents and Lab School advocates, which were followed by the Board of Education noting the absence of discussion regarding the topic. The conversation lead to clarifications by the administration regarding the current issue with class enrollment for Spanish 4 and French 4, which was being suggested to merge with the traditional High School students so that all the 20 students would have enough enrollment combined for the course to run, as well as a class suggestion for the lack of enrollment in the Math 5 for Lab School students (AP Statistics or AP Calculus in the traditional High School).

Students and parents also addressed the Board regarding the Chinese Language Program Phase-out decision from the April 2nd Board meeting. The Board responded with a request for the administration seek additional resources be looked into for the Middle School students who wouldn’t have been able to continue with the language based on the initial proposed phase-out plan.

A discussion continued by the Board in regards to the proposal to eliminate a 1.0 FTE Social Worker position by Special Education and Student Services, as well as tax rates and questions on other revenues for the School District to look into to create a balanced budget.

VII. Finance — No items

VIII. Professional Personnel - No items

IX. Support Personnel - No items
X. **Correspondence for Action** - No items

XI. **Future Meetings and Events**

A. Wednesday, April 9th 6:00 p.m.  **BOCES Annual Meeting**
B. Tuesday, April 22nd 6:00 p.m. **Budget Adoption**
C. Tuesday, May 6th 6:30 p.m. **Meet the Candidate Night**
D. Wednesday, May 7th 6:00 p.m. **Budget Hearing**
E. Tuesday, May 20th **Budget Vote and District Election**

XII. **Adjourn the Regular Meeting**

It was moved by Ms. Cunningham, seconded by Mrs. Giacone-Stever and passed unanimously at 9:27 p.m. to adjourn the regular meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brittany Barrett
District Clerk

Date Approved: April 22, 2014