

# NEWSLETTER

*Berlin-Boylston Regional School District*



## UPDATE

### EXPLORATORY SUBCOMMITTEE

**School Committee:**  
Lorie Martiska, Chair  
Matthew Lozoraitis  
Angela Yildiz

**Administration:**  
Karen Molnar  
Robert Conry

**Legal Counsel:** Russell Dupere

**Board of Selectmen:**  
Berlin – Christine Keefe  
Boylston – James Underwood

**Finance Committee:**  
Berlin – Stan Rogalinski  
Boylston – Seth Ridinger

**Planning Board:**  
Berlin – Jay Teich  
Boylston – Homaira Naseem

**Teachers:**  
Berlin Memorial – Mollee Langelier and  
Betsy Trudeau  
Boylston Elementary – Bev Fletcher  
Tahanto Regional MS/HS – Beth Barry

**Parents :**  
Berlin – Richard Wheatley  
Christina Slocomb  
Boylston – Libby Matos Dumais  
Tara Rondeau

**Residents:**  
Berlin – Linda Sallee  
Boylston -- Michael Dubrule

The Regionalization Exploratory Committee has been working since June to identify questions, benefits and concerns regarding the idea of fully regionalizing the Berlin and Boylston public schools

The two communities are already regionalized at the Middle/High School level, but each has their own elementary school district. This structure presents a number of challenges.

The goal of this committee is to explore the facts, assemble information, model different scenarios and share our findings to help us all decide if we should pursue a vote at the spring town meetings to complete the regionalization of the Berlin and Boylston school districts

We welcome your feedback and any additional questions. Please send your thoughts to Cheryl Nelson at [cnelson@bbrsd.org](mailto:cnelson@bbrsd.org) or by contacting any member of the committee.

Please also consider joining us at a future meeting or at one of the several Informational Sessions to be scheduled in February or March.

## Language Protecting Elementary Schools in Each Town

The most common worry the Committee has heard throughout our talks of regionalization with parents, teachers and concerned community members is the question of what that will mean for the current structure of our elementary schools.

Currently, each town has an elementary school to serve its specific community.

Keeping the students' best interests and their learning at the forefront, we want to confirm that we are only looking at language that would allow for this to continue. We have reviewed specific language from other districts and are considering language similar to the following:

***“There shall be no less than one elementary school in each member town. Students in the elementary grades shall attend schools in their towns of residence, except in special cases where a different arrangement is in the best interest of a student, as defined by the Regional District School Committee.”***

## FAQ's

**Q: Could a school be eliminated?**

A: There will be specific language in the revised regionalization agreement prohibiting this without town meeting votes.

**Q: Could one grade school be altered to serve PK-2 and the other serve 3-5 (for example)?**

A: No. Busing young children an unnecessary distance does not benefit students nor does it make sense for either community.



**IF YOU CAN THINK IT,  
YOU CAN MAKE IT.**

### Upcoming Meetings

Thursday, November 16 –  
7:15pm,  
Berlin Memorial Elementary  
School Library

Thursday, December 7 –  
7:15pm,  
Tahanto Regional Middle/  
High School  
Multi-Purpose Room