

## **Bristol Boards Convene For First Tri-Board Workshop**

Members of the Bristol Board of Education, the Board of Finance, and the City Council convened on Wednesday night in the BOE Auditorium for an informational workshop session. The purpose of the workshop was to provide an overview of the complex mandates, programs, and resulting funding challenges faced by the Board of Education and the city of Bristol for 2013-14. Following presentations by Board of Education Chairman Chris Wilson, Mayor Art Ward, Bristol School Superintendent Dr. Ellen Solek and members of the district's leadership team, a focused discussion was held between the Tri-Board members on collaborative ways that city and board officials can begin to tackle the upcoming budget season – a season that includes shrinking revenues, rising costs, and possible reductions in state aid to towns and cities across Connecticut. The at-large Tri-Board meeting was the first of its kind to be held in many years. The group concurred that the workshop discussion proved both positive and productive and expressed a desire to hold follow-up workshop sessions on a quarterly basis.