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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 8-K**

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**CURRENT REPORT**

**Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported): January 29, 2015**

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**bluebird bio, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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**DELAWARE**

(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation)

**001-35966**

(Commission File Number)

**13-3680878**

(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

**150 Second Street  
Cambridge, MA**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**02141**

(Zip Code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code (339) 499-9300**

**Not Applicable**

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

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Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.**

On January 29, 2015, bluebird bio, Inc. (the “Company”), entered into a Transitional Services and Separation Agreement (the “Agreement”) with Dr. Mitchell H. Finer, the Company’s Chief Scientific Officer, pursuant to which his employment with the Company will end on July 6, 2015, unless earlier terminated pursuant to Dr. Finer’s resignation or termination by the Company for cause (the “Separation Date”). Following the Separation Date, Dr. Finer will serve as a member of the Company’s Scientific Advisory Board.

Under the Agreement, Dr. Finer will continue to receive his salary and benefits and will continue to vest in his outstanding equity awards through the Separation Date. In the event of a change in control prior to the Separation Date, all of Dr. Finer’s outstanding options will immediately accelerate and become fully exercisable. Dr. Finer will remain eligible for cash incentive compensation for 2014 to be determined by the Company’s board of directors, which will be paid when 2014 cash incentive compensation is paid to other Company executives.

Following the Separation Date, Dr. Finer will continue to receive his base salary for a period of six months and will continue to vest in his outstanding stock options for a period of six months. If he elects to continue his group healthcare benefits, to the extent authorized by and consistent with COBRA, the Company will pay the monthly employer contribution until the earlier of (1) six months following the Separation Date or (2) the date Dr. Finer becomes eligible for insurance through another employer or otherwise becomes ineligible for COBRA.

**Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.**

On January 29, 2015, the Company issued a press release announcing Dr. Finer’s transition. A copy of this press release is furnished as Exhibit 99.1 to this report on Form 8-K.

The information in this Item 7.01 and Exhibit 99.1 attached hereto is intended to be furnished and shall not be deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Exchange Act”) or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933 or the Exchange Act, except as expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

**Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press release issued by bluebird bio, Inc. on January 29, 2015, furnished herewith.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Date: January 29, 2015

**bluebird bio, Inc.**

By: /s/ Jason F. Cole

Jason F. Cole

*Senior Vice President, General Counsel*

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## EXHIBIT INDEX

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press release issued by bluebird bio, Inc. on January 29, 2015, furnished herewith.

## NEWS RELEASE



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**bluebird bio Announces Transition of Chief Scientific Officer**

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., January 29, 2015 – bluebird bio, Inc. (Nasdaq: BLUE) a clinical-stage company committed to developing potentially transformative gene therapies for severe genetic and rare diseases, today announced that Mitchell H. Finan, Ph.D., chief scientific officer (CSO), has decided to transition from his current role with bluebird bio over the next six months. At the end of this transition period, he will remain an important scientific voice at bluebird bio by serving on the company’s scientific advisory board (SAB) and continuing to share his experience and insights to benefit the company’s scientific strategy. The company is now initiating the process of recruiting for a CSO replacement.

“Mitch has made tremendous contributions to bluebird bio, and his knowledge of gene therapy has been instrumental to the successful build-out of our platform capabilities over the last several years,” stated Nick Leschly, chief bluebird. “We appreciate all of the insight and experience Mitch has brought to our team during our formative years. We would not be where we are today without his full-time participation, and we look forward to continuing to utilize his expertise and work closely with him as a member of our SAB.”

“Transitioning out of a full-time role at bluebird was a difficult decision for me, but on a personal level the timing was right,” stated Dr. Finan. “bluebird is in a great position to continue to lead the gene therapy revolution, and I look forward to continuing to work closely with the team as an active member of the SAB. I am extremely proud of the advances we have made over the last five years that have moved the field several big steps closer to realizing the powerful promise that gene therapy holds for patients.”

**About bluebird bio, Inc.**

With its lentiviral-based gene therapy and gene editing capabilities, bluebird bio has built an integrated product platform with broad potential application to severe genetic diseases and T cell-based immunotherapy. bluebird bio’s clinical programs include Lenti-D™, currently in a Phase 2/3 study, the Starbeam Study, for the treatment of childhood cerebral adrenoleukodystrophy, and LentiGlobin®, currently in three clinical studies: a global Phase 1/2 study, the Northstar Study, for the treatment of beta-thalassemia major; a single-center Phase 1/2 study in France (HGB-205) for the treatment of beta-thalassemia major and severe sickle cell disease; and, a separate U.S. Phase 1 study for the treatment of sickle cell disease (HGB-206). bluebird bio also has a preclinical CAR T cancer immunotherapy program in collaboration with Celgene Corporation, as well as discovery research programs utilizing megaTALs/homing endonuclease gene editing technologies.

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