

BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

WORKSHOP

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2004

The monthly workshop of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held in the Library of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street, Bristol, RI, on Tuesday, October 12, 2004. The Chairperson, William A. Estrella, Jr, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 PM.

Present: William A. Estrella, Jr., William M. O'Dell, Marjorie J. McBride, Timothy L. Avila, Mary V. Cabral, and Beverly Z. Travers; Donna Bettencourt-Glavin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Grants; and Jane F. Correia, CPA, Director of Administration and Finance

Absent: Paul Silva, Connie J. LaMountain and Deborah A. Redmond

OPENING ACTIVITIES

All present were invited to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mr. Estrella announced that the October meeting on the 25th will be the last before the election; there will be minimal action items; any

issues for discussion should be brought to the attention of the secretary as soon as possible.

MT. HOPE HIGH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Some of the Committee members raised issues with the Social Expectation portion of the mission statement.

Comments:

Mr. O'Dell – after a good discussion with the Superintendent, feels he should address the Mission Statement Committee next; concerned that the less verbal and less outspoken student may not have been represented on the mission statement team; does not see emphasis based on behavior; uncomfortable with intrusion into the personal thoughts of others; would abstain from a vote on the mission statement; bothered that this is being done because of accreditation and not because it is good for the kids.

Ms. Travers – great how expectations are defined in the rubrics, shows measurement; concerns with social expectations: “on thin ice when getting into social and emotional aspects of children” and how to measure it; should be the philosophy of the school and not necessarily outlined and put into print; teachers will have to be trained; we're adding another level to the high school; unless monitored well, could be a potential problem.

Mrs. McBride – social expectations are a self-measurement, not teacher driven, mastery must be indicated; the high school cannot administer until a vote is taken; the statement was developed with

guidance from NEASC; splintered support by the Committee will be viewed unfavorably by NEASC; a vote will be necessary at the end of the month.

Mrs. Cabral – the social expectations are reflective and are exercises necessary to produce educated adults; we should expect accountability.

Mr. Avila – it would be prudent to have a discussion with the mission statement team prior to the vote.

Mrs. Glavin – the social expectations are a start to encourage students to reflect on their behaviors and see what society expects of them; we are moving toward personalized learning communities; perhaps we need to clarify “feelings.”

Mr. Estrella – the Committee’s concerns should be brought to the people developing the mission statement; approval of the mission statement will included in the October meeting agenda as a Superintendent’s Recommendation.

OLD BUSINESS

Some doors at the high school remain chained because the doors need repair or replacing; maintenance should proceed with whatever action is necessary.

Regionalization Study Commission

Mr. Estrella reported that many of the appointments to the Commission have been made, Warren will make their appointments

after the elections, and the first meeting of the Commission will be set at the October School Committee meeting for sometime during the last week of October.

BOND EDUCATION TASK FORCE

Mrs. McBride distributed the brochure produced by the Task Force and the Building Committee. So far, there has been much support from the community. The Task Force will attend "Meet the Candidates Night" where the bond question, as it will appear on the ballot, will be read; also they plan to meet with the Senior Citizens Groups of each town. The Open Forums are scheduled for October 20 at Mt. Hope and October 21 at Kickemuit at 6:30 PM; Mrs. Cabral, Ms. Travers, Mr. Gregson, Mr. Mayo and she will attend; children are welcome. Mrs. Cabral encouraged the public, including those in opposition, to attend the Open Forums. Mr. Estrella added that the public not only has the right, but the responsibility to attend.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Correia said a date for the Grand Opening of the Performing Arts Center will be set very soon. Information will be forwarded in the Friday packet.

ADJOURNMENT – 7:50 PM

There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. Cabral motioned to

adjourn at

7:50 PM. Ms. Travers seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie J. McBride, Secretary

/ca