

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2005**

The monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, March 28, 2005, in the Library of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street, in Bristol, RI. The Chairperson, Marjorie J. McBride, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:03 p.m.

Present: Marjorie J. McBride, William A. Estrella, Jr., William M. O'Dell, Thomas E. Skuba, Timothy L. Avila, Joyce M. Kinsella, John P. Saviano, Paul Silva and Beverly Z. Travers; Edward P. Mara, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools; Donna Bettencourt-Glavin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Grants; Jane F. Correia, Director of Administration and Finance; Leslie A. Neubauer, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; and Andrew Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor

Absent: none

OPENING BUSINESS

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

Mr. O'Dell read the District's Mission Statement.

Accolades

The Rhode Warriors, a team of Electronics and Engineering students from Mt. Hope, Tiverton, Portsmouth, and Middletown High Schools who worked with engineers at the Navy Warfare College, Raytheon, and University of Rhode Island, came in first in the FIRST Robotics Regional Competition held in Manchester, NH. Their robot won in every competition against 51 other public and private schools of technology from Maryland to Maine and received the highest overall points for design and success. The team will now go on to compete in the National Robotics Competition in Atlanta, GA, in April.

Mt. Hope Members of the team are: Joshua Afonso, Mike Diogo, Mitchell Hathaway, Fabio Lopes, Evan Patton, Steven Pereira, Robert Pinheiro, Nick Robinson, Danny Vieira and Bradford Williams.

Congratulations to 11 Mt. Hope students who participated in the 21st ACADEMIC DECATHALON of Rhode Island. The team finished 3rd in the state in the biggest event of the decathlon -- the Team Super Quiz.

Overall, Mt. Hope came in 10th out of 23 public and private RI schools and five of our students medaled in various areas. The team:

Stephanie Goodman, Susan Lamoureux, Garrett Mattson, Nicole Cote, Robert Labonte, Christopher O'Brien, Kevin Andrade - also a Bronze Medal in Social Science, Lydea Irwin - also a Silver Medal in Speech, Aaron Teixeira – also a Gold Medal in Essay, Wayne Powers -- also a Silver Medal in Math and a Silver Medal in the individual Super Quiz, and Allison St. Vincent – also a Silver Medal in Music, a

Silver Medal in the individual Super Quiz, and the Team High Score Medal.

The RI State Career Competition for the DECA Career Marketing Competition was held on February 28th. Guided by Anne Ricci, the following Mt. Hope students received awards in various business marketing areas:

Fourth Place: Esther Morency and Nicole Frias

Third Place: Emily Andrade, Kevin Andrade, Daniel Cembrola, John Coletta, Steven Parker, Mark Valcourt

Second Place: Matthew Silva

First Place: Katelin Aguiar and Lauren Jennings

Five students will be attending the International Career Competition in California in April.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Silva requested that Superintendent's Recommendation #2005-06, A.2. be removed from the consent vote.

Mr. Silva motioned to approve the remainder of the consent agenda;

Mr. Estrella seconded. There was no discussion. The motion passed by a vote of 9 to 0.

Mr. Silva motioned to seal the minutes to the February 28, 2005 Executive Session; Ms. Travers seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence – Request for Payment of Legal Fees

Mr. Michael Carbone, Principal of Kickemuit Middle School, and his attorney, Michael Robinson, addressed the Committee requesting reimbursement of legal fees relating to the incident in October 2004 when Mr. Carbone was charged with simple assault by the Warren Police when he removed a disruptive student from a function at the middle school to protect the safety of all members of the school community present; the case was dismissed by the judge. Mr. Robinson pleaded that reimbursement of Mr. Carbone's legal fees will send the message that the District will protect its administrators against false accusations and slanderous claims.

Mrs. McBride stated the Committee will take the request under advisement and respond after it is discussed. Mr. Avila and Attorney Henneous requested a copy of the fee agreement between Mr. Carbone and Mr. Robinson. This will be provided.

BUDGET/FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Skuba reported that the final Joint Finance meeting is this

Wednesday when our local appropriation will be announced. A subcommittee meeting has been tentatively scheduled for April 13 at 5:30 PM to adjust the budget and review cost savings from this year's budget.

POLICY/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE

Ms. Travers, new Chair of this Subcommittee, reported the committee identified and prioritized policies in need of review; the person requesting or researching the policy is asked to present it to the Subcommittee. Any policy concerns should be emailed or telephoned to Ms. Travers, Mrs. Kinsella or Mr. Saviano.

Recommendation #PC 2005-01: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Policy / Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the new School Committee Policy JFCH-R Breathalyzer Policy (Second Reading)

Ms. Travers, seconded by Mr. Silva, motioned to approve. The motion passed, 9 to 0.

Recommendation #PC 2005-02: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Policy / Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy KG-R Use of Facilities (Second Reading)

Recommendation withdrawn.

PERSONNEL / CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Silva reported that negotiations continue to progress well; the next meeting is March 29, 5:00 PM, at Oliver; it is hoped that all issues will be concluded in a very short time. Update will be given in Executive Session.

CHAIRPERSON'S INITIATIVES

Mrs. McBride cannot attend the next meeting of the college and business people with Dr. Mara on April 20th and asked for representation by any other member of the Committee.

The Senior Contract is under review; a revision will be distributed to the Committee.

Byfield Fence: The plans will be presented to the Bristol Town Council after discussion with the Historic Commission. Ms. Travers raised concerns about spending money that may have to be re-spent if phase III goes into effect. Mrs. McBride said any expenditures will be brought to the Committee for approval.

Statehouse Visits: Mrs. McBride, Dr. Mara and Mrs. Correia attended the finance hearings at the Statehouse; Dr. Mara testified. Dr. Mara said they focused on charter school funding legislation and the strain that maintenance of older buildings places on school budgets, and he

requested they shrink the size of our transportation district. Mrs. McBride alerted everyone that Treasurer Tavares' proposed pension plan would cost us \$2.1M next year, twice as much as this year, and suggested each committee member respond individually.

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Dennis Gregson, Chair of the Building Committee, reported the architect contracts are near completion; they met with the Bristol Planning Board on the Rockwell project and are tentatively scheduled for the Zoning Board in May. The Committee requested a workshop with the Bristol and Warren Town Councils to apprise them of where the project stands. Mrs. McBride said there was a preliminary meeting with the Bristol Planning Board that morning.

Financial Status

Mrs. Correia said the District is in the process of financing bond anticipation notes.

Also, the District's financial rating has been upgraded by Moody's from A3 to A2. The Joint Finance Committee will be informed of this upgrade before the March 30th meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES

S2005-06: PERSONNEL

A. APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the applicants listed below:

1. Michael P. Monahan Director of Guidance – Mt. Hope High

Effective: April 25, 2005

Reason: To fill a vacancy

(Promotion – P. Vendituoli)

Funding: Operational Budget

2. Laura L. Silva Teacher Assistant (Part Time) – Hugh Cole

Effective: March 2, 2005, for the remainder of the

2004-05 school year, pending

satisfactory completion of pre-

employment requirements

Reason: To fill a vacancy

(Transfer – D. Rezendes to new

Half Day Preschool)

Funding: Operational Budget

B. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the extracurricular positions listed below for the 2004-05 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs):

COACHES

Sport Position Coach

- 1. Lacrosse (Boys) Asst. Coach Brandon Mead ***
- 2. Lacrosse (Girls) Head Coach Lee Parker ***
- 3. Lacrosse (Girls) Asst. Coach Kerri Ferreira ***
- 4. Softball (Girls) Asst. Coach Erika Saviano**
- 5. Tennis (Boys) Head Coach Scott Pellerin ***
- 6. Track (Outdoor) Asst. Coach John J. Castriotta**

HEALTH HUSKIES WELLNESS CENTER

- 7. Supervisor (Winter/Spring) Bryan Travers**

INTERSCHOLASTIC COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE

- 8. Baseball Coach Mark Masters**

*** Pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

C. CERTIFIED SUBSTITUTES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following applications for certified substitutes pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

CERTIFIED

Name Area/Level

- 1. Jennifer A. Bryant General Subject Matter**
- 2. Linda Dorfman General Subject Matter**
- 3. Kristen E. Hall General Subject Matter**

- 4. K. Duff Lewis General Subject Matter**
- 5. James F. Morgan General Subject Matter**
- 6. Marguerite Phelan Elementary/ESL/Sp.Ed.**
- 7. Allison E. Ramos General Subject Matter**
- 8. D'Ellen Roye English/M.S. English**

D. CLASSIFIED SUBSTITUTES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to place on file in the office of the Superintendent the following applications for classified substitutes pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

TEACHER ASSISTANTS

- 1. Rebecca Stockhecker**

CUSTODIANS/MAINTENANCE

- 2. Christopher Amaral**
- 3. Frank Morrow**

E. LEAVES OF ABSENCE: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant leaves of absence as follows:

- 1. Lori E. Prazeres Mathematics Teacher – Kickemuit Middle**
Effective: For the 2005-06 school year
Reason: Parental leave in accordance with
Article 21, Section L2 of the Master

Agreement

2. Linda A. Oliveira Reading Specialist – Mary V. Quirk

Effective: March 10 – April 22, 2005

**Reason: Leave in accordance with
Article 21, Section L3 of the Master
Agreement**

F. RESIGNATIONS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignations listed below:

1. Agnes Mitchell Secretary – Kickemuit Middle

Effective: June 30, 2005

Reason: Retirement

2. John Aguiar Social Studies Teacher – Mt. Hope High

Effective: June 17, 2005

Reason: Retirement

Ms. Travers requested Executive Session discussion on A.2.

Dr. Mara introduced Mr. Michael Monahan as the newly appointed Director of Guidance at Mt. Hope.

Recommendation #S 2005-07: That the School Committee, upon the

recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the 2005-2006 School Calendar.

Mr. Silva motioned to approve; Ms. Travers seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 9 to 0.

Recommendation #S 2005-08: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, adopt the textbook The World and Its People; author Boehm, et.al.; publisher Glenco McGraw Hill; copyright 2005.

Ms. Travers motioned to approve; Mr. Skuba seconded. Mrs. Glavin explained that students need more geography before high school, therefore, two years of social studies and history are being consolidated into one and a year of geography will be introduced in the seventh grade. The committee decided the textbook policy should be reviewed. On a show of hands, the motion passed by a vote of 9 to 0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 7:50 PM

In accordance with Open Meeting Laws 42-46-5(a)(1)-(9), 2(b), Mr. Silva motioned to go into Executive Session at 7:50 PM to discuss litigation, personnel and contract. Mr. Estrella seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – RECESSED AT 9:00 PM.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING – 9:00 PM

MOTION: Mr. Avila motioned to approve Superintendent's recommendation #2005-06 A.2; Mr. Skuba seconded. Mr. Silva abstained from discussion and vote. Ms. Travers asked that the standard notation "for the remainder of the 2004-05 school year only" be added to the recommendation. Mr. Saviano cannot approve and felt this was a huge mistake in regard to public perception. Discussion followed on this issue. Mr. Estrella moved the question.

MOTION: Mr. Estrella moved to amend the motion to include "for the remainder of the 2004-05 school year only; Ms. Travers seconded. The vote on the amendment was 7 to 1 with Mr. Saviano voting no and Mr. Silva abstaining. The motion to approve the amended motion passed by a vote of 7 to 1, with Mr. Saviano voting no and Mr. Silva abstaining.

RESUMPTION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION – 9:06 PM

Mr. Estrella and Ms. Travers recused themselves from contract discussion and left the meeting.

Mrs. Kinsella left the meeting at 9:25 PM.

Mr. O'Dell left the meeting at 9:32 PM.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING – 9:57 PM

Discussed in Executive Session were personnel, litigation and contract.

ADJOURNMENT – 9:57 PM

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Silva, seconded by Mr. Avila, motioned to adjourn at 9:57 PM. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

William M. O'Dell, Secretary

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