

BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

WORKSHOP

MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2005

The monthly workshop of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held in the Cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street, in Bristol, RI, on Monday, June 13, 2005. The Chairperson, Marjorie J. McBride, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:40 p.m.

Present: Marjorie J. McBride, William A. Estrella, Jr., William M. O'Dell, Thomas E. Skuba, Joyce M. Kinsella, John P. Saviano, Paul Silva and Beverly Z. Travers; Edward P. Mara, Superintendent; Donna Bettencourt-Glavin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Grants; and Jane F. Correia, Director of Administration and Finance

Absent: none

OPENING BUSINESS

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

STUDENT NUTRITION PRESENTATION

Barbara Cohen, Andy Cerullo, and Nancy Roberts, nutritionist, from Chartwells, our food service provider, explained that Chartwells follows the Federal guidelines for breakfast and lunch in regards to calories, fat, fruits and vegetables and whole grains. We receive a good deal of food from the federal commodities program. Students are asked for input—most comments are good but some feel the servings are too small, although standardized portions are used. Several flavors of low fat, skim and whole milk are offered as well as juices, and a whole wheat pizza crust will be piloted. Healthy snacks are offered through the Balanced Choice Program—maximum of 200 calories per package with limited sugar, fat and sodium content. Our elementary schools already offer 85% balanced choice; this is a revenue producing program for the District. At the middle and high school levels, posters showing the nutrition content of the most popular foods will be displayed to help students make good choices; it is hoped that the students will be involved in making the posters.

MVQ SALT REPORT

Dr. Mara commented that this is a great report, emphasizing the great work that the Mary V. Quirk staff has done and he thanked Dr. Annotti and the staff.

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

RFP for Project Management Services for the Hugh Cole and Colt

Andrews Project: After consulting a firm from Boston, it was clear that this move will reap tremendous benefits; Mr. Pugh, Mr. Skuba, Mr. Estrella, Mrs. Correia and Dr. Mara will screen and interview applicants.

BUDGET/FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Thomas Skuba reported that the latest series of meetings have been very productive; continuation of last Monday's discussion will resume after the remainder of this meeting's agenda items have been addressed.

PERSONNEL/CONTRACT SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Silva thanked the Committee for accepting the BWEA contract.

POLICY/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE

Ms. Travers said the next meeting is on June 20; student nutrition will be discussed and Dr. Mara will give his recommendation on combining the input from the nurses and Chartwells to create a policy.

CHAIRPERSON'S UPDATE ON DISTRICT ISSUES

Byfield Fence: The Bristol Historic Commission approved the plan;

Town Council approval is needed next; it is hoped to raise the funds (\$4000 for the fence and \$3000 for installation) separate and apart from the budget.

Letter to Statehouse: Mrs. McBride received a response—they will look into the issue.

RIDE Middle School Roundtable: Although there are no spaces available, Mrs. McBride will distribute the information.

School Committee Scholarship: Discussion tabled.

CONTINUATION OF BUDGET DISCUSSION

Further cuts of \$100,000 are still needed to meet the budget; this includes the switch to “pay to play” interscholastic sports at Kickemuit. The \$300,000 extra from the State as a result of the surplus has shrunk to \$80 – 100,000. The advertisement for teachers in the newspaper is for non-recalls and to fill vacancies created by certification mandate changes on the high school level.

Mr. Saviano commended Mrs. Glavin for installing Spanish in the elementary schools.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 8:47 PM

In accordance with Open Meeting Laws 42-46-5(a)(1)-(9), 2(b), Mr. Silva motioned to go into Executive Session at 8:47 PM to discuss the contract and personnel issues. Mr. Estrella seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING – 11:00 PM

Discussed in Executive Session was contract and personnel.

ADJOURNMENT – 11:02 PM

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Silva, seconded by Mrs. Kinsella, motioned to adjourn at 11:02 PM. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

William M. O'Dell, Secretary

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