

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2006**

The monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, April 24, 2006, in the cafeteria 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, Paul E. Brule, 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: Joyce M. Kinsella

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

Last month the Mt. Hope High School Jazz Band gave of their time and their talent to play at a Mardi Gras benefit at the Bristol Train of Artillery Hall to help families recover from Hurricane Katrina. Everyone present was awed by their talent. We would like to recognize Mr. Bob Arsenault, their director, and the band members: Tim Boughton, Carolyn Halaburda, Jason Schrutt, Christyn Brown, Christine Lombardo, Jamie Souza, Sam Carreiro, Evan Patton, Matthew Sylvia, Missy Costa, Matt Perrault, Cheslea Verria, Amanda DaLuz, and Jon Pomerleau.

On Saturday, April 1st, the Mt. Hope Science Olympiad Team participated in the State Competition and did extremely well. We would like to congratulate the following students:

Silver Medal in “Fermi Questions:” Garrett Mattson and Evan Patton

Silver Medal in “Science Bowl:” Evan Patton

Gold Medal in “Compute This:” John Coletta and Evan Patton

This year’s RI State High School Drama Festival was held at Mt. Hope High School and several Mt. Hope High School students won awards. Under the direction of Carol Schlink, and with the assistance of Anne Marie Dean, and the help of many Mt. Hope staff members, the following students won awards:

Laura Martinville - All State Cast

Brittany Pacheco - All State Cast

Dillon Medina - All State Cast

Christyn Brown - Director's Choice Award

Shaelyn Maynard - Achievement in Stage Management

Keira Duffy - Stanley Anderson Award for Technical Achievement

Keira Duffy - Achievement as Technical Director

Keira Duffy - Achievement in Lighting Design

Mt. Hope High School's Technical Theatre Class

- Achievement in Set Design & Construction

- Achievement in Costume Design & Construction

Special thanks to Dr. Mara and Peggy Vendituoli for allowing the festival to take place at Mt. Hope.

The Mt. Hope High School Choruses and Guitar Ensemble participated in the “Festivals of Music” a few weeks ago in New York City! We would like to present this citation to Vicky Boyle, Mt. Hope High School Choral Director, on behalf of the Choruses and Guitar Ensemble as a group for their outstanding performance—they received the following awards:

- First Place in women’s chorus category with a rating of “Excellent” to the Mt. Hope High School Chorus**
- First Place in mixed choir category with a rating of “Excellent” to the Mt. Hope High School Vocal Ensemble**
- First Place in guitar ensemble category with a rating of “Superior” to the Mt. Hope High School Guitar Ensemble**
- First Place in Jazz Choir category with a rating of “Superior” to the Mt. Hope High School Jazz Choir**

- **Best Overall Soloist Award to Samantha Brilhante for her solo in “JIVE”**
- **Best Overall Choir in Festival to Mt. Hope High School “JIVE”**

In addition, the 60 students who participated in the festival were all extremely well behaved and respectful throughout the entire weekend in New York. They represented our schools and our communities with pride.

Thank you and congratulations to all the participants and chaperones!

PUBLIC COMMENT – none

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. O’Dell asked to remove item III.2.B. from the consent vote.

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

Mr. Estrella seconded. The motion passed 7 to 0 (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote.) Mr. Silva motioned to approve item III.2.B.; Mr. Estrella seconded; the motion passed by a vote of 6 to 0 (Mr. O’Dell abstained and Mrs. McBride chose not to vote).

Mr. Silva motioned to seal the minutes to the March 27 Executive Session; Mr. Estrella seconded; the motion passed 7 to 0 (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote).

BUDGET/FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Recommendation #BF 2006-02: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, approve the raising of the pay for substitute support staff from \$8.50 to \$9.50 per hour.

Ms. Travers motioned to approve; Mr. Brule seconded. Mr. Saviano asked if this was negotiated and if it would reflect on other groups. Mr. Skuba explained that the issue was brought to the Subcommittee that it was difficult to fill sub positions at the old rate and this has no long-term affect on negotiating contracts. The motion to approved passed by a vote of 7 to 0 (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote).

POLICY/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE

Recommendation #PC 2006-02: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the new School Committee Policy JHCF Diabetes Care Management, JHCF-E Diabetes Medical Management Plan, and JHCF-R Quick Reference Emergency Plan (Second Reading)

Mr. Silva motion to approve; Ms. Travers seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #PC 2006-04: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the

Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the new School Committee Policy JHCG Wellness Policy, and JHCG-E Appendixes 1 – 5 (First Reading)

Mr. Silva motioned to approve; Ms. Travers seconded. Mrs. McBride reminded the Committee that exhibits do not require Committee approval. Mr. O'Dell commented that the policy is very well done and he is very pleased. The motion to approve passed unanimously.

Recommendation #PC 2006-05: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy IGDF Fundraising, and IGDF-E Fundraising Activity Form (First Reading)

Ms. Travers motioned to approve; Mr. Saviano seconded. Mr. O'Dell motioned to amend to add “per school” before the word “year” in the last sentence of the third paragraph. Mr. Estrella seconded the motion to amend. Dr. Mara explained that a school-wide event would be a major activity as opposed to a classroom activity. The motion to amend passed by a vote of 7 to 0. Mr. Skuba was pleased to have this on file and suggested, for the future, a form for organizations such as the parent groups to submit for principal sign-off and project timelines. This would be a policy exhibit. The motion to approve the amended motion passed unanimously.

PERSONNEL / CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Silva had nothing new to report.

Attorney Henneous reported that Council 94 is now prepared to move forward with negotiations; he will report further in Executive Session.

CHAIRPERSON'S INITIATIVES

Mrs. McBride reminded the public that at the Workshop on May 8th, the Committee will entertain public comment from any and all individuals who live around the Hugh Cole School.

ROCKWELL BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Dennis Gregson reported that the DOT permit and Planning Board approval has been received for the bus circle. J. G. Edwards hopes to have the bids in by the end of the week. Dr. Mara said Mr. Edwards will soon have a cost figure for the project.

Change in Composition of the Building Committee: The Rockwell Building Committee has had difficulty forming a quorum; Mrs. McBride therefore asked Mr. Victor Cabral to step down; he agreed and Ms. Beverly Travers was appointed in his place.

MOTION: Mr. Brule motioned to approve this action; Mr. Silva seconded; the motion passed unanimously. A letter of thanks will be sent to Mr. Cabral.

HUGH COLE / COLT ANDREWS BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mrs. McBride approved change orders in the amount of \$7,193 for electrical work at Hugh Cole.

MOTION: Mr. Estrella motioned to ratify the Building Committee's decision to approve the change orders. Ms. Travers seconded. Mr. Brule stated that he approved but expects reimbursement from the architect—this was an error of omission on their part and Mr. Prout's responsibility. The motion to ratify passed unanimously.

Mr. Brule reported that a decision was made by the architect to change some of the bricks around the doors, the difference in cost amounting to \$15,000 rather than \$3,000 as the architect originally thought. Mr. Brule felt he should not be making these decisions on his own and will discuss it at the next Building Committee meeting. Mr. Estrella requested that this issue and the current status of change orders, as well as an executive session discussion on change orders be scheduled for the next Building Committee Meeting on May 8th. Mrs. McBride will schedule the meeting to begin at 5:30 PM, and Messrs. Farrar, Daly and Robert, and Attorney Henneous will be requested to attend.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES

Recommendation #S 2006-13: Personnel (*)

A. BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicant to the School of the 21st Century, Before and After School Program, as listed below (pending sufficient enrollment to warrant running this program and DCYF CANTS clearance):

1. Tracy Putzel-Bischoff Child Care Provider (Part Time)

Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the 2005-06 school year, pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

B. EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicant to the extracurricular position listed below for the 2005-06 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running this program):

INTRAMURALS – MT. HOPE HIGH

1. Volleyball (Boys Pre-Club) Coach Brandyn Chace *

*** 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. Matthew Adams General Subject Matter**
- 2. Diana Baxter Art**
- 3. Kenneth R. Crook General Subject Matter**
- 4. Carol M. Scanlon General Subject Matter**

D. LEAVE OF ABSENCE: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant a leave of absence for an Elementary Special Educator as follows:

- 1. Christine M. Dutra Special Educator – Reynolds**

Effective: Upon completion of Maternity Leave

through end of the 2005-06 school year

Reason: Parental leave in accordance with

Article 21, Section L2 of the Master

Agreement

E. RESIGNATION: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation listed below:

1. Jessica D. Baxendale Secretary, Director of Guidance – Mt. Hope High

Effective: August 6, 2006

Reason: Retirement

Recommendation #S 2006-14: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve requests from two (2) families for home schooling (a seventh grader and an eighth grader).

Mr. Estrella motioned to approve; Mr. Silva and Ms. Travers seconded. Mr. Skuba suggested home schooling requests be part of the consent agenda vote, since State law requires approval. Attorney Henneous confirmed the legality and such requests will be handled this way henceforth. The motion to approve passed unanimously.

Recommendation #S2006-15: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the purchase of a modular classroom from the New Shoreham School District.

Mr. Silva motioned to approve; Mr. O'Dell seconded. Dr. Mara explained that the manufacturer, Scotsman, will wrap and prepare the classroom for the ferry, it will be stored momentarily at Pt. Judith, Scotsman will transport it to Bristol where it will be stored at the DPW until after the Fourth of July; it is our responsibility once it reaches the mainland. The cost is \$22,000 plus transportation from Pt. Judith

to Bristol. It was purchased new for \$60,000; a handicapped ramp was added and the unit is in excellent condition; it will be eventually located at the northeast corner of Byfield, once clearance is received from Historic District Commission and the Town, applications are in the process of being filed; when the Colt Andrews addition and renovation is complete, the classroom will be moved to the rear of the high school and used for classroom space. It is speculated that the classroom will be tied into the Byfield building for electricity only; it has its own heat and air conditioning; Byfield's toilet facilities will be utilized. Dr. Mara and Mrs. McBride stressed that no other options remain. Mr. Skuba commented that this plan is necessary in order to continue work at Colt Andrews and fulfill the bond vote. The motion to approve passed by a vote of 7 to 0 (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote).

Recommendation #S2006-16: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the bonding of the Rockwell Project.

Mr. Brule motioned to approve; Mr. Estrella seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #S2006-17: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the short-term borrowing of bond anticipation notes for the Hugh Cole and Colt Andrews Projects.

Mr. Brule motioned to approve; Mr. Silva seconded. Ms. Travers

raised concern that project finances be monitored so as not to deplete funds earmarked for one project to finish another; over spending is not acceptable. Mr. Estrella echoed concern for FF & E as well. Mrs. McBride requested an updated financial report on the project from the project manager; it was promised by May 2nd. Mr. Saviano suggested maximum use of the Colt Fund; he felt the asbestos and lead problems were inherited and should be covered by the Fund. Ms. Travers disagreed. The motion to approve passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 8:12 PM

In accordance with Open Meeting Laws 42-46-5(a)(1)-(9), 2(b), Mr. Estrella motioned to go into Executive Session at 8:12 PM for legal advice regarding student discipline, Council 94 contract negotiations and naming of school facilities. Mr. O'Dell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Silva attended Executive Session for discussion of two issues, and recused himself from Council 94 contract discussion and left the meeting.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING – 8:55 PM

Discussed in Executive Session were the issues mentioned above.

ADJOURNMENT – 8:57 PM

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Travers, seconded by Mr. Brule, motioned to adjourn at 8:57 PM. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

William M. O'Dell, Secretary

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