

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2006**

The monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, September 25, 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 7:10 PM.

Present: Marjorie J. McBride, William A. Estrella, Jr., William M. O'Dell, Paul E. Brule, Joyce M. Kinsella, John P. Saviano and Paul Silva; Edward P. Mara, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools; Melinda L. Thies, Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Curriculum, Assessment and Instruction; Mary Cerullo, Executive Director of Literacy K-12, Elementary Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Jane F. Correia, Director of Administration and Finance; and Andrew Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor

Absent: Thomas E. Skuba and Beverly Z. Travers

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.

Dr. Mara announced, with great pleasure, pride and a sense of accomplishment, the results of the state's standardized testing:

Byfield ̑V High Performing

Guiteras ̑V High Performing and Commended

Hugh Cole ̑V High Performing

Kickemuit Middle School ̑V High Performing

Mary V. Quirk ̑V High Performing

Mt. Hope High School ̑V High Performing and Regents Commended

Reynolds ̑V High Performing and Commended

Rockwell ̑V High Performing and Commended

We are now a high performing school district!

Dr. Mara also wished to clear up some misconceptions reported in the local papers: Tennis Team uniforms were purchased three years ago and are in excellent condition, it is the District's responsibility to purchase uniforms, not the Booster Club, the District budget is not supplemented by Booster Club funds, and requests for uniforms or equipment replacement have never been denied. Also, the Education Foundation is being formed to provide programs that cannot be supplied by the budget, such as the Boat Building Project at Mt. Hope or in row to a health care career; monies will not be used for classroom supplies.

Donation to Mt. Hope High School

Walter Pepere, representing the Bristol Parks and Recreation Adult

Volleyball Team, presented a check in the amount of \$2,000 to help defray the cost of a new volleyball system for the practice court at Mt. Hope. They wish to reciprocate for the use of our facilities and equipment over the years. Mr. Pepere was also involved with the Cats production and their group gave \$500 to the Masquers. Mrs. McBride thanked them.

Presentation by Interlocal Trust about Flood Insurance

Colleen Bodziony, representative of The Trust, the District's insurance provider, explained our situation with flood insurance. Guiteras and Mt. Hope are in the flood zone so our premium increased by \$22,000. The reinsurer dropped coverage to \$2M for all customers; however, The Trust will provide coverage back up to \$10M. The flood insurance policy is at cash value; The Trust will cover replacement costs. The basement of Guiteras is actually the first floor and The Trust would cover this even though basements are not normally covered. There is a 30-day waiting period. Necessary action is enacted in Mrs. Correia's report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lynn Wainwright, addressed the Committee as a parent and taxpayer. She commended the Committee on the great strides made in the past years; All-day K, entry deadline of September, the bond, Rockwell looks phenomenal, student portfolios, NECAP testing, fiscally sound budget and becoming a high performing District. As a result, private

school parents are now choosing Bristol Warren schools. She presented a "wish list" to consider:

Require all building principals to complete a school improvement plan by the end of the first quarter and report to the School, and also report at the end of the year, and base salary increases on the progress made.

Strongly discourage parents from taking 1 and 2-week family vacations during school time.

Encourage teachers to take full advantage of classroom websites, since some parents do not live under the same roof as students, it would be a useful tool for parents to become better partners.

Create enrichment opportunities for our children.

Begin college preparation in the 8th grade rather than in 10th and 11th grade.

Have high school guidance counselors meet individually with students and their parents to take full advantage of scholarship opportunities.

Explore the websites of the top 100 schools in the nation and get some ideas for ours.

Mrs. McBride and Dr. Mara responded that we do have a policy on family vacations during school time and a letter is being sent to parents, the Assistant Superintendent is working with the Middle School already and Mrs. Wainwright should meet with Mrs. Thies, and Dr. Mara is working on the rest of the issues.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Estrella requested Item C of Superintendent's Personnel Recommendations be removed from the consent vote.

Mr. O'Dell requested Superintendent's Recommendation #S2006-51 be removed from the consent vote.

Mr. Silva motioned to approve the consent agenda absent Item C of Recommendation S2006-45 and absent Recommendation S2006-51; Mr. Estrella seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6 to 0 (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote).

Mr. Silva motioned to seal the minutes to the August 21, September 11 and September 18 Executive Sessions. Mr. Estrella seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6 to 0 (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote).

Mr. Silva motioned to approve Recommendation S2006-45, Item C; Mr. Brule seconded. Mr. Estrella recused himself from this vote. The motion passed by a vote of 5 to 1 with Mr. Saviano voting no (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote).

Mr. Estrella motioned to approve Recommendation S2006-51: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve requests for home school for two (2) families (Family A: two Kindergarteners, one fourth and one sixth

grader; Family B: one fourth, one fifth, one seventh and one ninth grader), adhering to all requirements as set forth by the Bristol Warren Regional School District. Mrs. Kinsella seconded. There was discussion on whether the Committee needed to approve or only be informed of home schooling requests. Attorney Henneous will research the issue. The motion to approve passed by a vote of 6 to 0 (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote).

BUDGET/FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Mrs. Correia reported the next meeting is October 17 at 6:00 PM at Oliver.

POLICY/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE

Mrs. Kinsella said the Subcommittee will be absent their Chair for a while; Mrs. McBride directed the two remaining members to meet; if consensus is a difficulty, the issue can be brought to the full Committee; Mrs. McBride will attend the Subcommittee meetings. The next meeting is set for October 16 at 6:00 PM in the Superintendent's Office.

PERSONNEL / CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

Discussion will take place in Executive Session.

ROCKWELL BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Per legislation, the bond monies cannot be spent by anyone but the nine-member Building Committee; five of the original are available to meet.

MOTION: Mr. Estrella motioned to authorize the Chair to appoint four Committee members to serve on the Rockwell Building Committee to fill out the nine required in order to finalize the budget. Mr. Silva seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mrs. McBride, Mrs. Kinsella, Mr. O'Dell and Mr. Silva will serve. There are only a few punch list items remaining and the total \$1.7M will be expended.

Dr. Mara said the new playground surface has been poured, the soil for the grass in front of the building has arrived and the shrubs in front of the Goff property have been planted.

CHAIRPERSON'S INITIATIVES

Phone System

Scott Medeiros of Voice Systems talked about our new phone system; X487 telephones networked with one centralized voice mail system. The School Committee was concerned that we had no emergency communication when the power at Main Street went out a short time ago; most cell phones do not work in our buildings. Mr. Medeiros explained that Main Street does not have a generator. An engineer will be working on the system. Emergency live lines will be installed in all the buildings, and a few at the high school (AD's office

and Principal's office). The directory system will be reconfigured; all the numbers should be published and parents should receive a list of their school numbers. Mrs. McBride thanked Mr. Medeiros for his presentation.

Colt Andrews Kickoff

Mrs. McBride said there was a kick off meeting for Colt Andrews last week; Mr. Torrado's contract will be reviewed by Attorney Henneous and Mr. Farrar.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES

Recommendation #S 2006-45: PERSONNEL

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

1. Anna Liechty Mathematics Teacher at Mt. Hope High

Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the 2006-07 school year, pending receipt of certification and satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements

Reason: To fill a vacancy

(Retirement of J. Lero)

Funding: Operational Budget (8th Step)

2. Beth Hayes Head Teacher - Byfield

Effective: Immediately, for the 2006-07 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

(Resignation of M. Cottrell)

Funding: Operational Budget

3. Joseph Gallo Head Teacher - Rockwell

Effective: Immediately, for the 2006-07 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

(Transfer of P. Gablinske)

Funding: Operational Budget

B. BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants 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. Kelly A. Cavanagh Child Care Provider (Part Time)

Effective: Immediately, for the 2006-07 school year, pending satisfactory completion

of pre-employment requirements

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

2. Courtney M. Miles Child Care Provider (Part Time)

Effective: Immediately, for the 2006-07 school year, pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

C. 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 2006-07 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs):

HEALTHY HUSKIES WELLNESS CENTER

- 1. Supervisor (Fall) Greg Arruda**
- 2. Supervisor (Fall) Robert Arsenault**
- 3. Supervisor (Fall) Ellen Estrella**
- 4. Supervisor (Fall) Gerard Spence**

D. 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. Joseph F. Andrade Social Studies/History**
- 2. John J. Cannady English**
- 3. Paula J. Dionisopoulos Elementary/Sp.Ed.**
- 4. Gera L. DiSanto General Subject Matter**
- 5. Joanne C. Donahue Early Childhood**
- 6. Rebecca Duggan Early Childhood/Elementary**
- 7. Jennifer McGovern Elementary**
- 8. Alka Naithani General Subject Matter**
- 9. Melissa Nickerson General Subject Matter**
- 10. Peter J. O'Hara Mathematics**
- 11. Jane H. Tonn Library/Media**

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

- 1. Elizabeth M. Pagano-Travers Special Educator at Mt. Hope High
Effective: Upon completion of Maternity Leave
through January 2, 2007
Reason: Parental leave in accordance with
Article 21, Section L2 of the Master
Agreement**

F. RESIGNATION: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Joseph Lero from the position of Secondary Mathematics Teacher as listed below:

1. Joseph Lero Mathematics Teacher jV Mt. Hope High

Effective: October 6, 2006

Reason: Retirement

Recommendation #S 2006-41: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy / Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the new School Committee Policy GBCC Anti-Fraud Policy and Organizational Code of Conduct (Second Reading)

Mr. Estrella, seconded by Mr. Silva, motioned to approve. Mr. Estrella questioned whether this policy should apply to all the entities under our umbrella, such as Boosters Club. The Policy Subcommittee will address the issue. The motion to approve passed by a vote of 6 to 0 (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote).

Recommendation #S 2006-46: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy / Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy KD (BDDH) Public Participation at School Committee Meetings (First Reading)

Mrs. Kinsella motioned to approve. Mr. Saviano seconded. Mr. Silva motioned to amend the recommendation to replace the words "will" and "can" in the new section to "may." Mrs. Kinsella seconded. The motion to amend passed by a vote of 6 to 0 (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote). There was disagreement on placing a public forum only in the Workshop. Mr. O'Dell moved the question with the stipulation that the issue be referred back to the Subcommittee to revisit. The motion to approve passed by a vote of 4 to 3 with Mrs. McBride, Mr. Silva and Mr. Brule voting no.

Recommendation #S 2006-47: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy / Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy JEA Compulsory Attendance Ages (First Reading)

Mrs. Kinsella, seconded by Mr. Silva, motioned to approve. The motion passed by a vote of 6 to 0 (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote).

Recommendation #S 2006-48: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy / Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy JEB Entrance Age (First Reading)

Mr. Estrella motioned to approve; Mr. Silva seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6 to 0 (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote).

Recommendation #S 2006-49: That the School Committee, upon the

recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy / Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy JFCH Tobacco, Alcohol and Other Drug Policy for Students (First Reading)

Mr. Estrella motioned to approve; Mr. Silva seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6 to 0 (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote).

Recommendation #S 2006-50: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy / Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy JG Code of Discipline (First Reading)

Mr. Estrella motioned to approve; Mr. Saviano seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6 to 0 (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote).

Naming of Mt. Hope High School Tennis Courts

Dr. Mara reported that Beth Penkala, Athletic Director of Mt. Hope High School, received a request to name the tennis courts after Mr. John Partington. The Town of Bristol voted to support the request.

MOTION: Mr. Silva motioned to endorse the naming of the Mt. Hope High School Tennis Courts after Mr. John Partington. Mr. Estrella seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 6 to 0 (Mrs. McBride chose not to vote). Mr. Partington was a long-time tennis coach, math teacher and head of the Math Department at Bristol High School. Mrs. McBride asked the Superintendent to inform the Bristol Town Council of the School Committee's vote. After the endorsement, a special ceremony will be held.

Mt. Hope Cafeteria Issue

Mr. Silva has received several phone calls that the fourth lunch period at Mt. Hope has insufficient seating, food and water; he asked this be placed on the next agenda. Mrs. Correia will meet with Chartwells. Mrs. Correia reported the regular monthly meetings with Charwells will be resuming shortly.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ;V 8:57 PM

In accordance with Open Meeting Laws 42-46-5(a)(1)-(9), 2(b), Mr. Estrella motioned to go into Executive Session at 8:57 PM for legal advice regarding Council 94 contract negotiations and contracts. Mr. O;Dell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING ;V 10:00 PM

Discussed in Executive Session were the issues mentioned above.

ADJOURNMENT ;V 10:01 PM

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Estrella, seconded by Mr. Brule, motioned to adjourn at 10:01 PM. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

William M. Ojeda, Secretary

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