

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2009**

**The monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, February 23, 2009, in the cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street in Bristol, RI. The Chairperson, Paul Silva, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 PM.**

**Present: Paul Silva, Chair, Paul E. Brule, Vice-Chair, Marjorie J. McBride, Secretary, William M. O'Dell, Treasurer, John C. Bento, Diana B. Campbell, Karen A. Lynch and John P. Saviano; 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; Leslie J. Anderson, Interim Director of Pupil Personnel Services, and Andrew D. Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor**

**Absent: Denise R. Arsenault**

**OPENING BUSINESS**

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

**Mr. Silva asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of Marilyn Usher, a former teacher who gave much to the District.**

## **Accolades**

**All-State Cross Country (Boys) Head Coach: Jon Lawson**

**Metro Division Team Sportsmanship Award**

**Jason Godek All Academic**

**Jeff Allen All Academic**

**Matt Sooknah All Academic**

**The Bristol Warren Art Department is pleased to announce that the following students received RI Scholastic Art Awards this year. We would like to thank art teachers Ms. Mullen, Ms. Sloat, Ms. Enjeti, Ms. Camara and Ms. Baxter for their work with the students and guidance.**

**The students' work was on display at Bannister Gallery at Rhode Island College and the students were honored at a Reception and Awards Ceremony on January 18th. The Gold Key winners will compete at the regional level in March for national awards.**

**We congratulate:**

**Kickemuit Middle School Winners:**

**Gold Key in Drawing: Katie Benevides**

**Gold Key in Painting and Silver Key in Drawing: Alexis Fowler**

**Silver Key in Drawing: Jon Perroni**

**Mt. Hope High School Winners:**

**Gold Key in Graphic Design: Flora Bates**

**Gold Key in Mixed Media and the Photography Portfolio Award:**

**Erin Flannery**

**Silver Key in Drawing: Katie Foley**

**Silver Key in Digital Photo: Erica Kennedy**

**Silver Key in Mixed Media: Nadine Mattson**

**Gold and Silver Keys in Ceramics: Ashley Soares**

**Bristol Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, chartered by the National Society as the eleventh chapter on December 17, 1891, perpetuates the memory and spirit of American Independence, promotes education and fosters patriotism in Bristol County, Rhode Island. The Bristol Chapter, the first NSDAR Chapter founded in the State of Rhode Island, and the Rhode Island DAR have chosen one of our Mt. Hope High School teachers to receive their American History Teacher Award. This recognition exemplifies this teacher's dedication and communicates a positive representation of the District. We are proud to congratulate:**

**Deborah Leonard**

**The DAR also honored two Mt. Hope High School students for winning on both the local and state levels. We congratulate -**

**Christopher Columbus Essay Contest Winner: Victoria Hope**

**Good Citizen of the Year: Matthew Sooknah**

**The 2009 Mt. Hope High School Science Fair was once again an impressive display of talent, hard work and thought. We extend a special thank you to the Mt. Hope science teachers for all the extra time put in to helping students, the students for continuing to improve their projects and presenting themselves in a professional manner, family members for their support, and the incredible turnout of judges from Roger Williams University, Community College of RI, Naval Undersea Warfare Center, Professionals in the Community, Rockwell School, Mt. Hope High School, and Bristol Warren administration.**

### **Third Place Winners**

**Alexandra Absi Does Mulch affect the growth of plants?**

**Fiona Adams How to Retain the Most Amount of Moisture**

**Lyndsey Aguiar Do Environments Affect the Reaction Times Of Siamese Fighting Fish?**

**Sarah Holt Which Insulation Works The Best?**

**Mitchell Contente Plants Growth Under Different Colored Lights**

**David Cunha How Clean Are Your Clothes?**

**Caroline Daniels Male vs. Female... Which gender most successfully finish the stroop test**

**Haley Holmes Do vegetables grow faster in soil or sand?**

**Ava Callery Shampoo's Effect on Hair**

**Alyssa Stuart Do Different Types of Light Have an Effect on the Outcome of Acrylic Paint?**

**Second Place Winners**

**Sophia Andreadis Effectively Eliminating Bacteria**

**Maggie Azar Decomposing Paper**

**Madelaine Dennis Light Waves and Solar Gain**

**Tyler Falcoa Which Bread In Which Condition does Mold grow more Effectively on?**

**Samantha Fletcher The Effect of Liquids on the Kidney**

**Briahna Leinhos What Colors Absorb More Heat In Sunlight?**

**Kaitlin Mulcahey Does Garlic Inhibit the Growth of E. coli?**

**Tyler Murgu The effectiveness of varying bleach concentrations on inhibiting bacterial growth.**

**Rachel Whiting Vitamin C!**

**Alicia Carreiro The Effects of Temperature on the Growth of B. cereus and E. coli**

**First Place Winners**

**Evan Boisvert Can You Disinfect Water Using Solar Radiation?**

**Taylor Drew Allelopathic effect of Juglans Nigrans on Escherichia. coli**

**Christina Fontana Tummy Trouble.. Does the concentration of hydrochloric acid effect the growth of E.coli?**

**Kim Hoffman Foam On Fire**

**Amy Moreira Allelopathy**

**Corey Silvia Can People Convert their Garbage into a Fuel which can Power their Cars?**

**Brooke Pacheco The Effect of Cleat Design on Performance**

**Aaron Pica The Effects of Ailanthus altissima on Bacillus cereus**

**Principal's Award**

**Marissa Simeone and Neale Ross Why Are You Glowing? The Analysis of a Mutant Plasmid**

**Best of Fair**

**Erin Aparicio The Clone Wars: The Affect of Supplements on Cloned Venus Flytraps**

**All first place winners have the opportunity to compete at the Amgen Science and**

**Engineering State Fair – March 21,22 2009, CCRI, Warwick, RI**

**The Bristol County Elks Lodge announced essays winners from Bristol Warren Regional---What Freedom Means to Me.....These students will be invited to a dinner in their honor in March. Their essays will now be entered into the state competition. There were 441 entries from students who attend Bristol, Warren and Barrington schools. We congratulate:**

**First Place - 8th Grade Girl: Lauren Morra**

**Honorary Mention: Carolina Suarez**

**Catherine May McGee**

**First Place - 6th Grade Girl: Katarina Heyden**

**Honorary Mention: Lauren Borges**

**Again this year our DECA students made us extremely proud!**

**Under the guidance of Maureen Gauthier and Anne Ricci, the Mt. Hope High School DECA business students won several first, second and third places at the RI DECA Career Development Conference. The first and second place winners will represent Mt. Hope and Rhode Island at the International Career Development Conference in California.**

**Third Place in Business Law and Ethics Robert Arcand**

**Third Place in Business Law and Ethics Kevin Manual**

**Second Place in Sports and Entertainment Edward Borges**

**First Place in Apparel and Accessories Jennae Paul**

**First Place in Accounting Applications Eric Motta**

**First Place in Marketing Management Andrew Lombardi**

**First Place in Sports and Entertainment Marketing Ashley Aguiar**

**Mr. Silva asked the public to remember to give students recognition when it is deserved and to the staff that helped them get there.**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**None**

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

**None**

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

**Mrs. Campbell asked to remove the February 9 meeting minutes for an adjustment.**

**MOTION: Mr. Brule motioned to approve the remainder of the consent agenda; Mr. Saviano seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 0.**

**MOTION: Mr. Brule motioned to seal the minutes to the January 26 and February 2 Executive Sessions; Mrs. McBride and Mr. Saviano seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride motioned to approve the February 9, 2009 Meeting Minutes; Mr. Brule seconded. Mrs. Campbell wished to add the notation to P. 6 under the Superintendent's Continuous Improvement Plan that Mr. Silva mentioned he would like to set up a workshop later in the spring for the School Committee to discuss**

**their goals for next year. There was no objection; the minutes will be amended. The motion to approve the minutes as amended passed by a vote of 8 to 0.**

**MOTION: Mr. Brule motioned to seal the minutes to the February 9 Executive Sessions; Mrs. McBride seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **BUDGET FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Mr. O'Dell said there is a recommendation to approve the budget request later in the meeting. Joint Finance Committee meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, March 4, 7:00 PM at the Warren Town Hall, and Thursday, March 19, 7:00 PM at the Bristol Town Hall.**

### **POLICY/ COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Mrs. Campbell said there are a number of first and second readings on this agenda; the next Subcommittee meeting is March 2, 6:00 PM at Oliver; on the agenda is the HIV policy and field trips policy to address equity.**

**The next Wellness Committee meeting is Thursday, March 5 at 6:30 PM in Room M108 of Mt. Hope High School.**

## **PERSONNEL/ CONTRACT NEGOTIATION SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Mr. Saviano asked that board members email him concerns with the Council 94 contract as discussions will be taking place. Mr. Silva reiterated Mr. Saviano's request for concerns; this is the Committee's opportunity to have their say about what happens with the contract.**

## **COLT ANDREWS CONSTRUCTION SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Mrs. McBride reported she met with the Principal and the PTO President about the bushes. The windows were due on the 23rd but have not yet been received; Mr. Simmons met with Mr. Daly and Mr. Farrar; although the stair rail has not been installed yet, punch list work is 90% complete.**

## **STUDENT POPULATION PLANNING TASK FORCE**

**Mrs. Lynch formally asked three members to be part of the Task Force—Mrs. Arsenault (accepted to Mrs. Lynch prior to the meeting); Mrs. Campbell, respectfully declined due to lack of time; Mr. Bento, accepted. Mrs. Lynch said any activity of the Task Force will go before the full Committee; an in-depth enrollment survey is being performed by NESDEC which will be completed in four to six weeks; once the report is received, community members will be sought; interested people should email Mrs. Lynch.**

**Mr. Silva mentioned the initiative of the former Chair, Mr. Estrella, to change the enabling legislation to address the crowding issue in Bristol; Attorney Henneous said the research has been completed and will be provided tomorrow. Mr. Silva will ask the Committee to vote at the next business meeting on moving forward to a referendum ballot.**

## **CHAIRPERSON'S INITIATIVES**

### **School Committee Liaisons**

**Mr. Silva followed through on the assignment of School Committee liaisons to the schools.**

**“I recently had a discussion with Dr. Mara regarding School Committee Liaisons to the various schools in the District. During our discussion we realized that this issue has not been addressed for quite some time. In fact, the last time it was addressed we had more school buildings than we currently have and we had different membership on the School Committee. As a result we felt it was important to bring this issue up once again and re-establish the network of communication that it was meant to provide.**

**In our School District, as with any and all school districts, the staff of our schools, both certified and non-certified, have a method of**

addressing their issues and concerns. They have regular building meetings with the staff, department heads, head teachers, etc. and during these meetings they have the opportunity to raise any issue of concern to them. The issues raised there have a process for them to reach this body (the School Committee) if deemed necessary. That process is through the building Administrator and the rest of the Administration.

Our students, parents groups and school community do not have such a process. That is why, a number years ago, we established a School Committee Liaison for each of the school buildings. The purpose of the liaison is to be available to the Parents Group, students and school community to keep them informed of any issues that affect their school community, to hear their questions regarding current issues or upcoming concerns, to direct them through the process of getting answers and to bring before this body (School Committee). This is not to imply that the liaison is there to speak on behalf of the School Committee. The Liaison is to be a conduit for relaying information to their group and to be their guide to the proper channels for having the group's issues addressed.

**Now for identifying the Liaisons:**

In keeping with this School Committee's goal of keeping all members involved in something and not over delegating responsibilities to any one individual Paul & I decided that the Chairpersons of our three major Sib-Committees should not be Liaisons to any school,

**therefore we would like to see them as follows:**

- o Rockwell School Karen Lynch**
- o Hugh Cole School John Bento**
- o Mt. Hope High School Paul Brule**
- o Kickemuit Middle School Denise Arsenault**
- o Guiteras School Marj McBride**
- o Colt Andrews School Paul Silva”**

## **SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES**

### **S2009-9 A-F: CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL**

**A. 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. Victoria Cheslawski Child Care Provider (Part Time)**

**Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the 2008-09 school year, pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient**

**2. Kristen N. Ianniello Child Care Provider (Part Time)**

**Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the 2008-09 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 applicants to the extracurricular positions listed below for the 2008-09 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs):**

**COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH**

**Sport Position Coach**

- 1. Lacrosse (Boys) Asst. Coach Michael Williams \***
- 2. Lacrosse (Girls) Asst. Coach Jaime Calenda \***

**HEALTHY HUSKIES WELLNESS CENTER/GYM AREA SUPERVISOR**

- 3. Supervisor (Spring) Thomas DelSanto**
- 4. Supervisor (Spring) Gerard Spence**
- 5. After School Gym Area Supervisor (3rd Quarter) Jared Urban \***

**6. After School Gym Area Supervisor (4th Quarter) Jared Urban \***

**INTERSCHOLASTIC COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE**

**7. Baseball (Boys) Coach Paul Castigliero**

**\* 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. Lisa M. Anderson Registered Nurse**
- 2. Donald T. Heinold General Subject Matter**
- 3. Suzanne E. Levine General Subject Matter**
- 4. Matthew S. Panichas General Subject Matter**
- 5. Julie M. Piccolo General Subject Matter**
- 6. Elaine M. Rigazio Elementary**
- 7. Mary Lou Riker Registered Nurse  
English/School Counselor**

**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. Marguerite M. Donaldson**
- 2. Melissa Mitchell**

**CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE**

- 3. Silverio A. Borges**

**E. LEAVE OF ABSENCE:** That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant a leave of absence for an Elementary Teacher as follows:

- 1. Sarah L. Stringer Grade Five Teacher – Colt Andrews**  
**Effective: Upon completion of Maternity Leave**  
**through May 22, 2009**  
**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 Jon Sawyer from the position of Assistant Baseball Coach as listed

**below:**

**1. Jon Sawyer Asst. Baseball Coach – Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: February 11, 2009**

**Reason: Personal**

**Recommendation #S 2009-04: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy IGBI English as a Second Language Instruction (Second Reading)**

**MOTION: Mr. O'Dell motioned to approve; Mr. Brule seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Recommendation #S 2009-10: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy BDDB Agenda-Meeting Format (First Reading)**

**MOTION: Mr. Brule motioned to approve; Mrs. McBride seconded. Mrs. Campbell clarified the changes—public forum was officially added as a suggested order of business allowing flexibility for the Chair. Mr. Silva thanked the Subcommittee for addressing his concerns. The motion to approve passed by a vote of 8 to 0.**

**Recommendation #S 2009-11: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, adopt the new School Committee Policy JHCH Peanut / Food Allergy Policy (First Reading)**

**MOTION: Mr. Brule motioned to approve; Mrs. McBride seconded. Mr. O'Dell questioned the reference to "transportation administrator" on P.4 and the streamlining of communication; Mrs. Thies explained that building administrators deal fairly regularly with the bus company to ensure that students are safe on the bus in terms of needs in the case of an allergic reaction. Mrs. Correia said this all gets channeled through her. Mr. Silva suggested adding "principal" and or "district administration." The Subcommittee will discuss the issue again and return with amendments for the second reading. The motion to approve passed by a vote of 8 to 0.**

**Recommendation #S 2009-12: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy JGF Bullying Policy (First Reading)**

**MOTION: Mr. Brule motioned to approve; Mrs. McBride and Mr. O'Dell seconded. Mrs. Lynch commented that the phrase "over a period of**

time” seems too open-ended and asked if school staffs had input to this revision. Mrs. Thies said a task force of various administrators, teachers and guidance staff was formed in November which provided considerable input. Mrs. Campbell said the Subcommittee will consider removing the phrase altogether for the second reading. Mr. O’Dell raised concern for the person who reports an incident, they may need as much support as a victim; Mrs. McBride suggested adding “or witness” to item 12. The Policy Subcommittee will review these suggestions at their next meeting and recommend amendments for the second reading.

**Recommendation #S 2009-13:** That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, remove School Committee Policy Exhibit JED-E Mt. Hope High School Attendance Policy

**MOTION:** Mrs. Campbell motioned to remove; Mr. O’Dell seconded. Mrs. Campbell felt this was more appropriate for student handbooks. The motion to remove passed by a vote of 8 to 0.

**Recommendation #S 2009-14:** That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy JED Student Absences and Excuses (First

Reading)

**MOTION:** Mr. Brule motioned to approve; Mrs. Campbell seconded. Mrs. Campbell said the removed paragraph was meddling. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 0.

**Recommendation #S 2009-15:** That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the insertion of a Disclaimer in front of the School Committee Policy Books

**MOTION:** Mrs. McBride motioned to approve; Mr. O'Dell seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

**Recommendation #S 2009-16:** That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, accept the proposed 2009-2010 budget package as presented by Administration and the Subcommittee.

**MOTION:** Mr. O'Dell motioned to accept. Mr. Brule seconded the motion. Mr. O'Dell commented that, as Mrs. Correia stated repeatedly, this is a bare-bones budget with no embellishments of programs to speak of, it is to get by with inflationary issues. Mr. O'Dell requested everyone's presence at the Joint Finance meetings.

**Mrs. Campbell stated that with the many activities and the NECAP scores, the District is accomplishing quite a lot in spite of the financial limitations, but it could not be done without community support; the money will be well spent. Mr. Silva thanked Mr. O'Dell and Mrs. Correia for their hard work on the budget which must be built on assumptions and with many things to consider; this tone will be passed on to the Joint Finance Committee. The motion to accept passed unanimously.**

### **Notification of Overnight Field Trips**

**Mrs. Thies, on behalf of Dr. Mara, asked that this discussion be placed on hold; protocols are in place to see the opportunity is available to all students; administrators and grade team leaders are being invited to a discussion at the next Policy Subcommittee Meeting.**

**Mr. O'Dell asked the number of students attending the DECA competition. Mrs. Thies said it would be five of the students recognized this evening with two adult chaperones. Mr. Saviano observed that it is unusual that no members of the Business Department will be chaperoning this year.**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION - 8:05 PM**

**In accordance with Open Meeting Laws 42-46-5(a)(1)-(9), 2(b), Mrs. McBride motioned to go into Executive Session at 8:05 PM for an**

**update on BWEA contract negotiations and Assistant Superintendent contract discussion. Mr. Brule seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Mr. Silva said the Committee will not take any action during Executive Session nor when open session resumes.**

**RESUMPTION OF MEETING – 9:38 PM**

**In Executive Session, the Committee discussed the items noted above. No action was taken during Executive Session.**

**ADJOURNMENT – 9:39 PM**

**There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Brule, seconded by Mrs. McBride, motioned to adjourn at 9:39 PM. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Marjorie J. McBride, Secretary**

**/c**