

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2010**

**The monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, February 22, 2010, 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 7:05 PM.**

**Present: Paul Silva, Chair, Paul E. Brule, Vice-Chair, William M. O'Dell, Treasurer, Marjorie J. McBride, Secretary, Denise R. Arsenault, John C. Bento, Diana B. Campbell, Karen A. Lynch and John P. Saviano; Melinda L. Thies, Superintendent; Mario J. Andrade, Assistant Superintendent; Pauline A. Silva, Director of Administration and Finance; Leslie J. Anderson, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Mary N. Almeida, Director of Literacy and Title I; and Andrew D. Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor**

**Absent: none**

**OPENING BUSINESS**

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

## **Accolades**

**The Mt. Hope High School Cheerleading Team competed at The Portsmouth High School Cheerleading Invitational, a RI Interscholastic League sanctioned event, on Saturday, February 6, 2010. There were 17 High School Varsity teams competing; Mt. Hope was one of six teams competing in the Medium Division, the toughest division this year. Our girls were so good, they won the Division. We congratulate team members:**

**Alexandra Absi Abbie Harris**

**Samantha Beaulieu Tara House**

**Amanda Bernard Alicia Jannitto**

**Caitlin Bisbano Brittany Joubert**

**Abbigale Booth Hailey O'Dell**

**Katy Camelo Marisa Rainey**

**Janelle Canario Krystyna Schinigo**

**Rebecca Cordeiro Lauren Simons**

**Amanda DaCosta Samantha Soares**

**Catelynn DaCosta Katie Tavares**

**Bethanie DaSilva Hannah Tickle**

**Carly Ferias Jessica Varrichione**

**Kelsey Haggerty Rachel Whiting**

**The Mt. Hope DECA business students were extremely successful at the RI DECA Career Development Competition on January 29th. We congratulate the following students:**

**First Place- Marketing Management- Corey DaSilva**

**First Place- Quick Service Restaurant – Victoria Jamiel**

**First Place- Accounting Applications- Zeke Felag**

**Second Place- Sports and Entertainment-**

**Samantha Ramsden**

**Third Place- Apparel and**

**Accessories- Krystal Amaral**

**Third Place-**

**Retail Merchandising Series- Sophia Andreadis**

**Third Place -Buying and Merchandising Team – Kailey Grantham and**

**Athina Mitakis Third Place- Marketing Management- Ryan Medeiros**

**A special thank you to the business teachers and Diane Verdolotti for assisting the students.**

**Mrs. McBride mentioned that the Mt. Hope Gymnastics Team recently captured the Division II title.**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Nancy Chase of the Kickemuit Education Foundation invited the Committee and the public to their spring fundraiser, The Bodacious Bee. The KEF raises money for programs for the Bristol Warren public schools and has awarded \$25,000 in grants to provide enrichment opportunities for students. Last year's Bee raised \$8,600; this year's goal is \$15,000. Representative Gablinske invited Commission Gist, who accepted, provide she does not have to spell**

anything; more information is available on the website. Mrs. McBride said the Committee will be fielding a team. Ms. Chase thanked the Committee for their support. Mrs. Thies gave special thanks to Ms. Chase and the Board members; she encouraged each of the schools to participate with a school-sponsored team as a way of giving back; the District is grateful for the wonderful service the KEF provides. Mrs. Campbell added that the Bee will be held at Blithewold; it will be a beautiful night out and a lot of fun.

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

None

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Silva said he was asked to remove Section C and item F.I. from Personnel Recommendations #S 2010-09.

**MOTION:** Mr. Brule motioned to approve the remainder of the consent agenda. Mrs. McBride seconded. The motion to approve passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Mr. Brule motioned to seal the minutes to the January 25 and February 8, 2010 Executive Sessions; Mrs. McBride seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 9 to 0.

In regards to the appointment of Joseph Koger as the Interim Science Department Head at Mt. Hope, Mr. Silva commented that what is going

on in that department is very nice. Mrs. Thies added that we are deeply grateful to the Science Department for coming together as a group of dedicated educators for the students after the passing of Mrs. King; they are teaching her classes to provide continuity for the students. Mr. Koger was specially acknowledged for coming forward as a leader. On behalf of the School Committee, Mr. Silva thanked the Science Department for their phenomenal handling of the loss for the students and the community.

### **BUDGET FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE**

Mr. O'Dell reported the next meeting will be March 15 at 6:30 PM. He informed the Committee that the Chair of the Joint Finance Committee sent notice there will be one Joint Finance meeting on March 25, 7:00 PM at the Bristol Town Hall. While it is good to streamline, enough information must be provided to form a sensible decision; Mr. O'Dell therefore asked the Chair to direct nine (9) packets containing our financial position and our request be prepared and mailed to the Chair of Joint Finance; plus nine (9) more packets be sent to each member of this School Committee; plus more packets prepared to be available to the public – all packets to be sent out no later than March 1 to give ample time for all to be prepared at the meeting. Mrs. Campbell suggested the documents also be posted on our website for access by PTOs and the public; we need all the help we can get. Mrs. Thies confirmed this is possible; it will also be sent to the Town Halls and the town libraries. Mrs. Lynch asked that PTO

presidents be informed when it is posted on-line so they can disseminate it via their email lists.

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

Mrs. Campbell said their next meeting is on Monday, March 1 at 6:30 PM at Oliver; discussed will be the Wellness Policy, the tobacco, alcohol and other drug policy, and transportation policies.

#### **PERSONNEL/ CONTRACT NEGOTIATION SUBCOMMITTEE**

Mr. Saviano said there is nothing remarkable going on right now.  
Mr. Silva mentioned that it is Mr. Saviano's birthday today.

#### **FUTURE ENROLLMENT AND FACILITIES TASK FORCE**

Mrs. Lynch reported their final major meeting is tomorrow night, February 23rd at 6:00 PM in the Oliver Administration Building Conference Room to prepare the presentation to the full Committee on March 8. Mr. Silva wished her good luck with the hard work; the Committee looks forward to the presentation.

#### **CHAIRPERSON'S INITIATIVES**

Mr. Silva had nothing at this time.

#### **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES**

**Recommendation # S2010-09 – PERSONNEL**

**A. APPOINTMENTS:** That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the positions of Interim Science Department Head and Early Childhood Special Educator as listed below:

**1. Joseph W. Koger, Jr. Interim Science Department Head – Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: January 29, 2010, through the end of the 2009-10 school year only**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy (Death – M. King)**

**Funding: Operational Budget**

**2. Amy Kneath Special Educator (Preschool) – Hugh Cole**

**Effective: February 22, 2010, for the remainder of the 2009-10 School year, pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy (Retirement – E. Malafronte)**

**Funding: Operational Budget (7th step)**

**B. 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. Samantha Medeiros Child Care Intern (Part Time)**

**Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the 2009-10 school year**

**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 2009-10 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs):**

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

**1. Supervisor (Spring) Thomas DelSanto**

**2. Supervisor (Spring) Gerard Spence**

**3. After School Gym Area Supervisor (3rd Quarter) \*\* Meredith Friedman**

**ADVISORS**

4. Concert Band Robert Arsenault
5. Dance Squad Jean McMullen \*
6. Jazz Improvisation Vocal Ensemble (JIVE) Virginia Boyle
7. Marching Band – Drum Line Instructor Ray Sartini \*
8. Symphonic Band Christopher Lambert

\* Pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements

\*\* Funded by Warren Substance Abuse Task Force

**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. Denise G. Adams Registered Nurse
2. Margot B. Alfano Elementary/ESL/Sp.Ed.
3. Ryan Barrette Counselor/Health/Phys.Ed.
4. Patricia M. Benevides History
5. Morgan B. Buonanno General Subject Matter
6. Sharon A. Doherty School Nurse/Teacher
7. Ashly Gallagher Elementary/Sp.Ed.
8. Courtney A. Gobeil Elementary
9. Lawrence A. Goldfarb General Subject Matter
10. William G. Goetzinger General Subject Matter
11. John T. Keysor General Subject Matter

**12. Dianne X. Lee General Subject Matter**

**13. Kimberly A. Trant General Subject Matter**

**E. 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:

**CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE**

**1. Paul A. Canario**

**2. Sowath Launh**

**3. Dennis A. Traynor**

**F. LEAVES OF ABSENCE:** That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant a leave of absence for a Middle School Music Teacher and a Secondary Special Educator as follows:

**1. Elisabeth G. Vincze Music Teacher – Kickemuit Middle**

**Effective: For the 2010-11 school year**

**Reason: Professional Leave in accordance**

**with Article 21, Section D of the**

**Master Agreement**

**2. Hilary Grieve-McDermott Special Educator – Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: Upon completion of Maternity Leave**

**through May 3, 2010**

**Reason: Parental leave in accordance with  
Article 21, Section L2 of the Master  
Agreement**

**G. SUSPENSION, NON-RENEWAL AND/OR TERMINATION OF CERTIFIED PERSONNEL: Based on the uncertainty of sufficient Federal, State and local funding for general and categorical programs for the 2010-11 school year, and program reductions, consolidation of classes, re-alignment of staff and elimination of positions to more efficiently and effectively use the school system's assets, the Superintendent recommends to the School Committee the termination/ non-renewal of the following listed personnel effective the last day of the 2009-10 school year:**

**1. Amy Kneath**

## **SECTION C**

**Mrs. Arsenault recused herself from this vote.**

**MOTION: Mr. Brule motioned to approve; Mr. O'Dell seconded. The motion to approve passed by a vote of 8 to 0 with Mrs. Arsenault recused.**

**Item F.1.**

**MOTION: Mr. Brule motioned to approve; Mr. O'Dell seconded.**

**Mrs. McBride expressed concern about the contract. Attorney Henneous advised this be addressed in Executive Session, then again in open session. Later in the meeting, after Executive Session, action was taken.**

**Recommendation #S 2010-10: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request of two families to home school their children for the 2009-2010 school year, adhering to the requirements set forth by the Bristol Warren Regional School District.**

**MOTION: Mr. O'Dell motioned to approve; Mr. Brule seconded. Mrs. McBride commented that this is late in the year for such a request. Mrs. Thies explained often families enter the District during the year. The motion to approve passed by a vote of 9 to 0.**

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION - 7:35 PM**

**MOTION: In accordance with Open Meeting Laws 42-46-5(a)(1)-(9), 2(b), Mr. Brule motioned to go into Executive Session at 7:35 PM for legal advice from the attorney on litigation, contract issues and student discipline issues; action will be taken when open session resumes. Mrs. McBride seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**RESUMPTION OF MEETING – 8:42 PM**

**In Executive Session, the Committee received legal advice from Attorney Henneous. No action was taken during Executive Session.**

**Recommendation #S2010-09, Item F.1.**

**MOTION: Mrs. Campbell motioned to table Item F.I. of Recommendation #S2010-09; Mrs. McBride seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT – 8:45 PM**

**MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. McBride, seconded by Mr. Brule, motioned to adjourn at 8:45 PM. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Marjorie J. McBride, Secretary**

**/c**