

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

The bi-monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, March 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 7:03 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 (7:45 PM), 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

In January we recognized six Bristol Warren students for receiving awards in the Elks Americanism Essay Contest. We are proud to report that two of the students received Honorable Mention at the state level for their essays:

Mills Lane Sparkman - Guiteras School

Ryan Bartell - Kickemuit Middle School

2010 Mt. Hope High School Science Fair Winners

Third Grant

Eric Pattie Carbon Dioxide's Effects on Plants

Victoria Campo Temperature's Effect on the Sound of a Flute

Ryan Wilson Using Tesla Coils and Ozonation to Purify Drinking Water

Alexandra Wetherald To See or Not to See, That is the Questions

Rachael Norton A Fungus Not Among Us: Identifying Ideal Conditions for Managing Contamination in Tissue Culture

Samantha Robillard The Effects of Big Red Gum and Bacteria in the Mouth

Second Grant

Justin Sampson Batter Up!

Katey Amaral Allelopathy in Black Walnuts

Jilian Mestre The Not So New Antibiotics

Benjamin Hamel Spit Happens: The Effects of Dog vs Human Saliva

on B. cereus

Marisa Rainey Ringing Reaction

Jameel Sylvia Brine Shrimp

John Farias Nitrogen Bacteria vs Nitrogen Fertilizer

Jason Grandgeorge Can Genetics Influence Coaching Decisions?

Adam Trindade Fishing Line: The Breaking Truth

Giancarlos Rodriguez Holla at Your Boy: The Effects of Competing Bacteria on v. Fischeri Glowing

First Grant

Demetre Ellinwood &

Brent Flannery 1 Virus, 2 Virus, 3 Virus, More

Vivian Ramos Killer Plants: The Effect of Allelopathic Plants on Seed Germination

Corianna Mascena Is it Safe to Reuse a Plastic Bottle?

Courtney Bragantin Heat, Bacterial Growth and Its Effects on Food Contamination

Kenzie Castriotta Face Masks and Cooked Rice. . How Does B.cereus Growth Relate to These

Cassidy Cabral Hairs: The Scoop on Lightening Hair

Adam Hamel Stressed Out: How Much Force is Put on the Knee When Bent

Jeremiah Alves Heat it Up but Slow it Down

Principal's Award

Elysha Grant Daphnia and Pollution

Best of Fair

Hillary Mulvey Is Garlic the Answer to Superbugs?

Kickemuit Middle School Music Teacher Missy Labonte proudly informed us the following KMS students auditioned for, and were accepted to the following RI State Honors Ensembles this year:

RI Junior All State Honors Band: Breana Barboza

RI Junior All State Chorus: Cliff Lezark

Carl J. Gerhard

RI Junior All State Honors Chorus: Tess Smith

We also have one student who auditioned for, and plays regularly with, the prestigious Rhode Island Youth Wind Ensemble: Elisabeth Iacono

The students performed at Rhode Island College yesterday.

At the high school level, more outstanding accomplishments. Bob Arsenault and the entire Bristol Warren school community are proud of the following students who have auditioned and been selected to

perform in the following music festivals.

All New England Band - Plymouth, New Hampshire: Mason Francis

**Southern New England Honors Band - University of Rhode Island:
Emily Cambrola
Nic Dion
Mason Francis**

**RI Junior Division All State Musicians:
Ricky Souza
Kaitlyn DaSilva
Angela Mascena
Ava Mascena
Lyn Kotuby
Allie Threadgill
Kaitlyn Ouellette**

**RI Senior Division All-State Musicians:
Victoria Carroll
Nic Dion
Madison Cardoza
Erin Oliver
Alicia Caton
Mason Francis**

At the Berklee Jazz Festival on March 13, Lyn Kotuby received the Judge's Award for her performance with the Jazz Combo and the Jazz Ensemble. This is the first time in Mt. Hope High School history that the same student was selected for both awards.

It is no wonder our students perform so well with the talented instructors we have at Mt. Hope. Our Choral Director has been selected to conduct the RI Music Educators Honors Chorus in March. We congratulate: Vicki Boyle

Seventeen students competed in this year's District Spelling Bee. It was the ability to spell words like "mnemonic," "zephyr," and "anomaly" that won the following students the top three spots in the completion:

Third Place – Noah Hanmer

Second Place – Victoria Ezikovich

First Place – Tess Alexandre

Tess will go on to compete at the State level.

The Mt. Hope Actors' Studio performed The Laramie Project at the 2010 RI State

Drama Festival this past weekend. The entire cast and crew performed very well and the production as a whole was a success! The following students were selected for special awards:

Stanley Anderson Award for Technical Excellence: Madison Kilcoyne

**All State Acting Awards: Philip Brodeur
Brian Hebert**

Director's Choice Awards for Acting Excellence:

Tori Bedford

Allie Martinville

Jon Silva

Ryan Zinno

A special thank you and congratulations to another very talented teacher who we are proud and fortunate to have at Mt. Hope: Carol Schlink

Mr. Silva announced that the Joint Finance meeting will be held this Thursday, March 25 at 7:00 PM in the Mt. Hope auditorium and he asked everyone to come and show their support of our budget request.

In celebration of Arts Month, the Mt. Hope High School Jazz Combo

played a few selections before the meeting and during the accolades the Combo played the piece they performed at the Berklee Music Festival. Mr. Arsenault introduced the members of the Combo: John Hunt on saxophone, Mike Conlon on guitar, Lyn Kotuby on guitar, Tyler Falcoa on bass, and Nate Gomes on drums. Their performance was impressive and most appreciated. Mr. Arsenault invited everyone to the All Choral Concert on March 23.

Mrs. McBride congratulated the Mt. Hope Hockey Team for winning the State Championship.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PUBLIC FORUM

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Campbell asked to remove the reports of the Assistant Superintendent and the Director of Technology from the consent vote.

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 February 22 and March 8, 2010 Executive Sessions; Mrs. McBride seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 0.

BUDGET FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. O'Dell said his only comment was already made by Mr. Silva earlier in the meeting about the Joint Finance Meeting.

POLICY/ COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE

Mrs. Campbell said their next meeting is on Monday, April 5 at 6:30 PM at Oliver; there will be a full and fun agenda; it is nice to have parents and community members in attendance to get their input.

Wellness Committee

Mrs. Campbell reported they are again applying for worksite awards and are hoping to improve on the award won last year. Mrs. Campbell also mentioned a television show that will be aired on Friday in which Jamie Oliver will be going to a school district in Virginia to make an impact on the way people eat; she recommended people try to watch it.

PERSONNEL/ CONTRACT NEGOTIATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Saviano said there is nothing remarkable going on right now.

FUTURE ENROLLMENT AND FACILITIES TASK FORCE

Mrs. Lynch explained the Task Force is on a hiatus after their presentation to the Committee; a date in April for the presentation to the Bristol and Warren Town Councils is being worked out.

CHAIRPERSON'S INITIATIVES

Mr. Silva said he and Mrs. Thies attended a TriTown Meeting on Saturday; as a result he will put on the next School Committee Workshop Agenda discussion on an RFP for a review of the enabling legislation. The Warren Town Manager, the Bristol Town Administrator and the Superintendent are to meet to develop a draft and discuss the funding for this review.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES

Recommendation # S2010-12 – PERSONNEL

A. 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

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

INTERSCHOLASTIC COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE

1. Fast-Pitch Softball (Girls) Coach Brian Ferreira *

*** Pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

B. NON-CERTIFIED ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT STAFF: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to re-appoint the following individuals to the non-certified administrative support staff positions listed below for the 2010-11 school year only:

Name Program Assignment

- 1. Patricia Brissette Child Care Program Manager**
- 2. Sharon Eberlein Information Systems Coordinator**
- 3. Roger Melo Network Manager**
- 4. Myra Webster COZ/Family Center Coordinator**
- 5. George Whitehead PC Technician/Analyst**

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. Rachel Gibbons General Subject Matter**
- 2. Alexandra M. Lancellotta General Subject Matter**
- 3. Joshua G. Petersen Elementary/Sp.Ed.**
- 4. Christina L. White-O'Brien General Subject Matter**

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 application for a classified substitute pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE

- 1. Robert P. Verrette, Sr.**

E. LEAVE OF ABSENCE: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant a leave of absence for a Middle School Library/Media Specialist as follows:

- 1. Linda LaClair Library/Media Specialist – Kickemuit Middle**

Effective: April 12, 2010 through April 11, 2011

Reason: Non-paid leave in accordance with

Article 21, Section E of the Master

Agreement

Recommendation #S 2010-13: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Budget Facilities Subcommittee, award the bid for the Colt Playground Site Work.

MOTION: Mr. Brule motioned to approve; Mrs. McBride seconded. Mr. O'Dell explained the bid is awarded to JH Landscaping for \$54,500; this does not include the alternate which is the special surface. Mrs. Campbell added this does not include the playground equipment, just the preparation of the surface. The motion to approve passed by a vote of 8 to 0.

Report of the Assistant Superintendent

MOTION: Mrs. Campbell motioned to accept the report of the Assistant Superintendent; Mrs. McBride seconded. In response to Mrs. Campbell, Dr. Andrade said the parents' survey is expected to be disseminated during the last week of April or first week of May; it will be accessible on line, via email message to parents and by paper; the two-part survey will solicit information on how the schools are doing and what type of more innovative and enrichment programs parents would like to see. The motion to accept passed unanimously.

Mr. Bento arrived at 7:45 PM.

Report of the Director of Technology

MOTION: Mrs. McBride motioned to accept the report of the Director of Technology; Mrs. Campbell seconded. Mrs. Campbell asked if all teachers at Kickemuit Middle School are on board with I-Parent. Mr. Morris explained the vast majority of KMS teachers have started to use “Grade Book”; roughly 66% of middle and high school households have accounts; 30% of those are active (at least once per week); at Kickemuit there is an agreement between the Principal and the teachers that those who participate would not have to do progress reports. The high school is on a voluntary basis and participation continues to increase. Mrs. Campbell recommended this useful tool for parents be utilized as much as possible as it keeps parents involved and up to date on their children’s progress. Mrs. Thies said if the tool is implemented in lieu of progress reports, all middle school teachers will use it.

Mrs. Lynch asked when this will be mandatory on the teachers’ part. Mrs. Thies responded there should be an incentive for 100% implementation; supplementing that with progress reports seems appropriate. Mrs. Lynch felt disheartened that “we have to buy their participation.” Mrs. Thies will meet with Administration to arrive at an efficient and effective method. Mrs. Arsenault reminded everyone that teachers and students are inputting information into portfolios, which is an enormous amount of work, and it is accessible to parents on line; she would rather see the teachers teaching and interacting with students. Mrs. Lynch disagrees. Mrs. Campbell believes this would not add much more to what teachers are already doing, it is

just using a different tool; we can urge them to participate. Mr. O'Dell asked if it is possible to instruct an employee to do something. Mrs. Thies said it is possible through a mandated contractual obligation; a better, more sustainable method is to develop common ground and understanding. Mrs. McBride felt parents of young men especially could use a tool to check homework assignments. Mrs. Thies said there is a website where assignments are posted over a quarter. Mrs. Lynch added that Kickemuit has homework hotlines that are updated daily. Mrs. McBride asked what we are providing high school parents as a homework tool. Mr. Silva said Mrs. Thies was told it was not mandated this year, but it will be next year; the Committee would like the Superintendent to see something is done. The motion to accept this report was approved unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - 8:05 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 8:05 PM for legal advice from the attorney on litigation; no action will be taken during Executive Session or when open session resumes except to adjourn. Mrs. McBride seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING – 8:13 PM

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

ADJOURNMENT – 8:14 PM

MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Brule, motioned to adjourn at 8:14 PM. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie J. McBride, Secretary

/c