

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2011**

The bi-monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, October 24, 2011, in the cafeteria of Kickemuit Middle School, 525 Child Street, Warren, RI. The Chairperson, John C. Bento, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:16 PM.

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

Absent: Marjorie J. McBride

OPENING BUSINESS

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

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC FORUM

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairperson Bento removed item D. 15. from Superintendent's Recommendation #S2011-46-Personnel, to be reconsidered at the November 14th Workshop. Mrs. McBride disagreed with this action by the Chair based on the recommendation by the Superintendent.

MOTION: Mr. Silva motioned to approve the remainder of the consent agenda. Mr. O'Dell seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 0.

MOTION: Mr. Silva motioned to seal the minutes to the September 26, 2011 Executive Session; Mrs. Campbell seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 0.

BUDGET/ FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. O'Dell had nothing to report at this time; their last meeting was fairly routine.

POLICY/ COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE

Mrs. Arsenault reported the Subcommittee meets on the first Monday of the month, the next being November 7th, 5:30 PM at Oliver. The new Elementary School Placement Policy on tonight's agenda for approval of the first reading has been revised several times and is believed to be the best solution at this time; elementary placements this year were guided by this policy; Mrs. Arsenault urged the School Committee to respect the decision of the Subcommittee and approve this first reading.

PERSONNEL/ CONTRACT NEGOTIATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Saviano said mediation has been requested; there is hope for resolution in a reasonable amount of time. Mr. O'Dell questioned who it is that makes the request for mediation; Attorney Henneous explained it is done by the School Committee; the union is notified in advance; there is agreement on the identity of the mediator and three meetings have been tentatively set; the Subcommittee will meet before those dates. In response to Mrs. Campbell, Mr. Henneous said the Subcommittee will attend the mediation sessions for the time being and the full Committee can be requested if the Chair so chooses.

WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Mrs. Campbell said their kickoff meeting was last week, at which they

developed this year's goals: community outreach, continued promotion of good nutrition and active lifestyles (schools have done a phenomenal job at this), investigate the incorporation of environmental wellness—health and wellness at a different level, and revisit the wellness policy to simplify and streamline it to improve ease and consistency of implementation. Their next meeting is November 16th.

CHAIRPERSON'S INITIATIVES

Joint Finance Committee Ad Hoc Task Force

Mr. Bento shared that he had a brief discussion with Bristol Town Council Chairman Marshall regarding moving forward with the collaborative task force initiative. Mr. Barboza, Chair of Joint Finance, will be in contact with the School Committee. Mr. Bento intends to craft a letter on behalf of the School Committee requesting the make-up of the task force, and the establishment of goals and a timeline. Mr. Bento will invite the Town Councils to the November 14 Workshop. Mr. O'Dell mentioned the template the Superintendent had developed; Mr. Bento will review it.

Mrs. Arsenault expressed concern for those citizens who communicated interest in being part of the task force and suggested an ad in the Phoenix and Times announcing the meeting. Mrs. Campbell commented on the unfortunate timing of the movement on this task force; since the District will soon begin its budget process, it

is disappointing that things that could have happened won't; although this Committee is not at fault for delays, it is the responsibility of this Committee to have their own goals in line.

School Calendar

The Chair asked for a continuance of discussion on the school calendar on the next agenda.

Procedures

Mr. Bento instructed Committee members who had legal questions to contact him first and he will consult our Attorney.

Committee members are reminded to request the floor from the Chair before making statements.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES

Recommendation # S2011-46 A-H: CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL

A. APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the positions of Teacher Assistant (Part Time) and School-to-Work School Based Coordinator (Part Time) as listed

below:

1. Maria Serbst Teacher Assistant (Part Time) – Colt Andrews

Effective: October 11, 2011, for the remainder of the 2011-12 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Operational Budget

2. Diane Verdolotti-Lowe School-to-Work School Based Coordinator (Part Time)

Effective: For the 2011-12 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy in accordance with grant funding

Funding: Perkins

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. Chelsey Marsh Child Care Provider (Part Time)

Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the 2011-12 school year, pending

satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

C. GCD APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the Superintendent's appointment of the following applicants to the extracurricular positions listed below for the 2011-12 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs) in accordance with Section GCD of the School Committee Bylaws as follows:

WINTER COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH

Sport Position Coach

- 1. Basketball (Boys) Head Coach Michael Topazio**
- 2. Basketball (Girls) Head Coach Michael Almeida**
- 3. Cheerleading (Competition) Head Coach Debra Marshall**
- 4. Gymnastics Head Coach Melissa Gendreau**
- 5. Hockey Head Coach Matthew Grieve**
- 6. Special Olympics Co-Head Coach Susan Carlson**
- 7. Special Olympics Co-Head Coach Wanda Lukas**
- 8. Swimming Head Coach Jonathan Dell**
- 9. Track (Indoor) Head Coach Andrew Sabourin**
- 10. Wrestling Head Coach Brian Latessa**

D. 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 2011-12 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs):

WINTER COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH

Sport Position Coach

- 1. Basketball (Boys) Asst. Coach Thomas Fullen**
- 2. Basketball (Boys) Asst. Coach William St. Vincent**
- 3. Basketball (Girls) Asst. Coach Warren Rensehausen**
- 4. Hockey Asst. Coach Wayne Marshall ***
- 5. Swimming Asst. Coach Rebecca Duggan**
- 6. Track (Indoor) Asst. Coach Jeffrey Blanchet**
- 7. Wrestling Asst. Coach George Nathan Webster**

SPRING COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH

Sport Position Coach

- 8. Golf Head Coach Christopher Munzert**
- 9. Lacrosse (Boys) Head Coach Scot Clark**
- 10. Lacrosse (Boys) Asst. Coach John Spina ***
- 11. Lacrosse (Girls) Head Coach Kerri Ferreira**
- 12. Softball (Girls) Head Coach Steven Zina**
- 13. Softball (Girls) Asst. Coach Meredith Friedman**
- 14. Tennis (Boys) Head Coach Geoffrey Keegan**
- 15. Unified Basketball ** Head Coach Ronald Silva – REMOVED BY**

CHAIR

HEALTHY HUSKIES WELLNESS CENTER/GYM AREA SUPERVISORS

- 16. Supervisor (Fall) Ryan Garrity**
- 17. Supervisor (Fall) Gerard Spence**

ADVISORS

- 17. Class of 2013 (Co-Advisor) Geoffrey Keegan**
- 18. Class of 2013 (Co-Advisor) Andrew Sabourin**
- 19. Class of 2015 Jackie Teixeira ***
- 20. Mathematics Club Anne Marie Fayan**

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

E. 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. Robert O. Bickford III Biological Science/Chemistry**
- 2. Marion I. Fodor Elementary/Reading Specialist**
- 3. Donald W. France, Jr. Elementary**
- 4. Elizabeth A. Gill Early Childhood**

- 5. Karen T. Martins General Subject Matter**
- 6. Nelson Miranda Elementary**
- 7. Angelina K. Rinaldi Early Childhood**
- 8. William J. Smitherman II General Subject Matter**
- 9. Karen E. Vendituoli General Subject Matter**

F. 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:

TEACHER ASSISTANTS

- 1. Pamela M. McDougall**

G. RESIGNATIONS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignations of Elizabeth J. McElroy and Ida C. Cabral from the positions of Elementary Teacher and Joseph V. Carvalho from the position of Custodian as listed below:

- 1. Elizabeth J. McElroy Grade One Teacher – Hugh Cole**
Effective: December 30, 2011
Reason: Retirement

2. Ida C. Cabral Grade Three Teacher – Hugh Cole

Effective: November 18, 2011

Reason: Retirement

3. Joseph V. Carvalho Custodian – Hugh Cole

Effective: October 31, 2011

Reason: Retirement

H. SUSPENSION, NONRENEWAL AND/OR TERMINATION OF CERTIFIED PERSONNEL: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to rescind the vote(s) of February 8, 2010 as to the following listed teacher and appoint the listed teacher to the position indicated:

Name Anticipated Assignment

- 1. Brad S. Rodrigues Middle School Social Studies
(effective October 11, 2011)**

Recommendation #S 2011-47: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request of two (2) Warren families and one (1) Bristol family to home school their children for the 2011-2012 school year, adhering to all requirements as set forth by the Bristol Warren Regional School District

MOTION: Mrs. Campbell motioned to approve; Mrs. Arsenault seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 1 with Mrs. McBride

opposed.

Recommendation #S 2011-24: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the new School Committee policy JC Elementary Placement Policy for Bristol Schools (1st Reading; tabled at the May 23 Meeting)

MOTION: Mr. O'Dell motioned to approve; Mrs. Arsenault seconded. Mr. Silva apologized to Mrs. Arsenault then stated the policy indicates a map is attached—there was no map attached. His main concern is the attempt to expand an existing policy for one school to cover three schools and the creation of three zone from ten; he feels this is impractical and opens the possibility for a child living across the street from a school not being able to go there while at the same time a child living one and a half miles from that school is attending. Although he has no real issue with this Superintendent, this policy gives a great deal of discretion to a superintendent he does not know; he believes the zones need to be narrowed. Mrs. McBride supports Mr. Silva's point of view and appreciates his long-standing knowledge about this matter.

Mrs. Arsenault reiterated a great deal of time has gone into this policy which is not a replacement for the Rockwell policy; a policy for only one school is questionable. Mrs. Arsenault prefers no elementary

placement policy but as written, it provides guidance to the Superintendent. The lack of a map is of no consequence because the zones are spelled out street by street; she urged recognition of the fact that students are happily, safely and soundly attending school now with this policy in place; there is more important work for the Superintendent and Subcommittee to do. Regarding future Superintendents, Mrs. Arsenault suggested staying on the Board to continue to select them.

Mrs. Campbell feels this policy does what it is intended to do—provide guidance for the Superintendent and gives parents the ability to plan and prepare their kindergarteners for their school placement.

The motion to approve passed by a vote of 6 to 3 with Mrs. McBride, Mr. Saviano and Mr. Silva opposed.

There was no need for an Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT – 7:45 PM

MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Arsenault, motioned to adjourn at 7:45 PM. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Lynch, Secretary

/c