

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2011**

The bi-monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, November 28, 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 7:12 PM.

Present: John C. Bento, Chair, Paul Silva, Vice-Chair, William M. O'Dell, Treasurer, Karen A. Lynch (7:19 PM), 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

MOTION: Mr. Silva motioned to approve the consent agenda. Mrs. Campbell seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 0.

BUDGET FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. O'Dell said their meeting last Monday was fairly routine and there is nothing substantial to report.

POLICY/ COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE

Mrs. Arsenault reported the Elementary Placement policy is on the agenda for a second reading tonight; the Subcommittee is tentatively scheduled to meeting on December 5 provided there is new material for discussion.

PERSONNEL/ CONTRACT NEGOTIATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Saviano said mediation with BWEA starts tomorrow; there are great hopes that promising news will be forthcoming. Regarding the Superintendent's evaluation, Mr. Saviano is researching available

tools and other districts' practices; this will be on the December agenda. Mrs. Campbell would like to participate in the discussion on the tool.

WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Mrs. Campbell said their last meeting had to be cancelled; meetings will alternate between Wednesday and Thursday as will the time, the next being December 15 at 4:00 PM; the group will move forward with reviewing the wellness policy and the celebration of wellness week in April.

CHAIRPERSON'S INITIATIVES

Joint Finance Committee Ad Hoc Task Force

Mr. Bento said Chairman Marshall is excited about the task force; they will be meeting on November 30, the meeting to include public comment; the next meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 5th at Roger Williams University. Two members of the community will be included on the task force. Mr. Marshall is eager to begin meeting and is very interested in the pension reform bill and the impact of the funding formula, among other things, and strongly encourages community involvement. In response to Mrs. Campbell, Mr. Bento is considering two members of the School Committee's executive staff, one from Bristol and one from Warren, as the two representatives on the task force, namely the Chair and the Vice-Chair; if either cannot

participate, a representative from their respective towns would be assigned. Mrs. Arsenault recommended the School Committee Treasurer be one of the members on the task force because of his familiarity with our budget. Mr. Bento commented that everyone is invited to participate whether they are appointed to the task force or not. In response to Mrs. Thies, Mr. Bento said Mr. Marshall has not made any firm decisions on who from the community will be appointed but he will look at names brought forth by the Bristol Warren Education Foundation; the screening process has not been identified and further information will be forthcoming.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES

Recommendation #S 2011-49: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request of three (3) Bristol families to home school their children for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year, adhering to all requirements as set forth by the Bristol Warren Regional School District

MOTION: Mrs. Arsenault motioned to approve; Mr. Silva seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 0.

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 (2nd Reading)

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

Recommendation #S 2011-50: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Budget/ Facilities Subcommittee, award the bid for snow removal

MOTION: Mr. Silva motioned to approve; Mr. O'Dell seconded. Mr. O'Dell explained this contract is for Warren schools only because the Town of Bristol plows the Bristol schools. Mrs. Campbell aptly explained why untreated sand costs more than treated sand.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 7:32 PM

MOTION: In accordance with open meetings law 42-26-5(a)(2), at 7:32 PM Mrs. Arsenault motioned to go into Executive Session for an update on collective bargaining. The motion passed unanimously. Mrs. Arsenault will recuse herself from this discussion.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING – 7:59 PM

Mr. Bento reported that in Executive Session the School Committee was updated on collective bargaining. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT – 8:00 PM

MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. Campbell, seconded by Mr. O'Dell, motioned to adjourn at 8:00 PM. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Lynch, Secretary

/c