

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2012**

The bi-monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, June 11, 2012, in the cafeteria of Kickemuit Middle School, 525 Child Street in Warren, RI. The Chairperson, John C. Bento, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:06 PM.

Present: John C. Bento, Chair, Paul Silva, Vice-Chair, William M. O'Dell, Treasurer, Karen A. Lynch, Secretary, Denise R. Arsenault, Diana B. Campbell, Marjorie J. McBride, Susan Rancourt 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, District Solicitor

Absent: none

OPENING BUSINESS

All present were invited to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Accolades

We would like to thank our camera man, Matthew Silva, for his services to the School Committee. With Matthew's help, the proceedings of all the School Committee meetings can be viewed in the homes of all the people who wish they could be here in person, but just can't make it. We would like to present to Matthew a gift certificate to the University of Maine Bookstore, where he will be attending next year. Thank you, study hard, and Good Luck!

RETIREES

TEACHERS

Donna Lavender – Colt Andrews

Marilyn McFadden – Colt Andrews

Gary Dion – Guiteras

Martha Genovesi - Hugh Cole

Patricia Zarembka - Kickemuit

Marcia Welch - Kickemuit

ADMINISTRATION

Charles Mello – Principal of Hugh Cole School

NON-CERTIFIED STAFF

Claudia Alfano – Secretary

Ann Marie DeLucia – Teacher Assistant

Joao Germano – Maintenance

Ellen Jennings - Secretary

Jose Machado – Custodian

Marilyn Pellerin – Secretary

Donald Woods - Custodian

TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

Colt Andrews Terry A. Gordon

Guiteras Gary E. Dion

Hugh Cole Susan L. Wiegand

Kickemuit Kristina L. Pereira

Mt. Hope Joseph W. Koger, Jr.

Rockwell Pamela R. Oliveira

DISTRICT Joseph W. Koger, Jr.

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC FORUM

None

PRESENTATION: Mt Hope High School Math Interventions

Mr. Greg Shea was introduced as the head of the STEM Department.

Mr. Shea introduced Mr. Wayne Lima, Teacher Leader in Math.

Topics

- Transition to Common Core State Standards for Mathematics (CCSSM)**
- Intensified Algebra (IA)**
- Blended Opportunities**
- Departmental Initiatives**

Transition to Common Core Standards for Math

- **Studied the standards**
- **Developed constructed response questions to use as performance benchmarks**
- **Will work with the Dana Center during 2012-2013 to draft curriculum Intensified Algebra**
- **Intensified Algebra is more rigorous than the two-year Algebra sequence**
 - **Students are better prepared for NECAP because material is taught before NECAP**
- **One year of Intensified Algebra has increased the students' grade equivalent score by 2 years**

Blended Opportunities

- **Virtual Learning Math Modules (VLMM)**
- **RIDE pilot program with 4 other schools. Attended pilot training in April**
- **Participants are students who scored Below Proficient on NECAP**
- **VLMM consists of 8 modules , with 4 sections per module**
 - **Students answer questions along the way**
 - **Each section has a summary assessment**
- **Students may receive individual or group tutoring via Skype:**
 - **RIDE provides certified tutors**
- **VLMM may be used in conjunction with the e2020 virtual classes**
- **Work is performed after school. Both programs are computer-based**
- **Work may be performed in Extended Day for blended instruction**
- **Strategies for Success program**

Departmental Initiatives

- **Leveraging our Professional Learning Communities:**

- **Developed common assessments in: Geometry, Algebra 1, and Algebra 2**

- **Each assessment addresses specific NECAP skills**

- **Examining common assessment results to guide instruction throughout the year**

- **Modifying classroom instruction to emphasize student engagement and critical thinking skills**

In response to Mrs. McBride's concern that one-third of our students were not proficient when they arrived at the high school, Dr. Andrade explained grades K to 8 will focus more on the Dana Center curriculum; over the last two years we have instructed to the rigor of the standards, and started the extended day program in grades 6 to 8.

Mrs. Campbell commented that the blended opportunities sounds like teaching to the test; Mr. Lima said it is teaching to the standards with the idea of helping them with their deficiencies. Responding to Mr. Saviano, Mr. Lima and Dr. Andrade said a District-wide math team meets a few times each year and discusses preparing middle school students for high school; high school teachers, like all others, look at their continuous improvement cycle. Mrs. Rancourt asked about a stop-gap for students in 5th and 8th grades on the other end of the scale. Dr. Andrade and the Superintendent said interventions are discussed to push all students forward to the next level, including AP classes; VHS classes will offer more rigorous opportunities for

students who are “ready to launch.” To Mrs. Campbell they explained NECAP does not require a formal paragraph but students are encouraged to explain their work along the way, thus perhaps receiving partial credit for knowing the method but missing the final target; 23 students took AP Calculus, there have been 25 requests for Calculus. Mr. Bento thanked Mr. Lima for his passion for our children.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 8:18 PM

MOTION: In accordance with open meetings law 42-26-5(a)(2), at 8:18 PM Mr. Saviano motioned to go into Executive Session for a discussion of the Council 94 Collective Bargaining Update, the Superintendent’s Contract, Administrators’ Contracts, the Football Coach Appointment and the Warren Town Council/ FY 13 Budget; Mrs. Arsenault seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING – 9:40 PM

Open session resumed at 9:40 PM.

Mr. Silva had left the meeting during Executive Session.

SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation #S2012-24: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, adopt a resolution requesting

a change in the teacher layoff notification date

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

S2012-23 A-H: CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL

A. APPOINTMENT: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicant to the position of School Nurse/ Teacher (2/5 time) as listed below:

1. Phyllis M. Glavin School Nurse/Teacher (2/5 time) – Colt Andrews

Effective: For the 2012-13 School Year Only

Reason: To fill a job share vacancy

(Job Share – M. Lero)

Funding: Operational Budget

(10th step/Masters)

B. APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the positions of four Secondary Department Chairs, Secondary/Middle School Special Services Department Head and two Secondary Teacher Leaders as listed below:

1. Robert Arsenault Arts and Applied Arts Department Chair – Mt.

Hope High

Effective: For the 2012-13 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Operational Budget

2. Patrick Jackson Humanities Department Chair – Mt. Hope High

Effective: For the 2012-13 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Operational Budget

3. Thomas J. DeSanto Physical Education and Health Department Chair – Mt. Hope High

Effective: For the 2012-13 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Operational Budget

4. Gregory Shea Science, Technology/Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Department Chair – Mt. Hope High

Effective: For the 2012-13 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Operational Budget

5. Lisa M. Martin Special Services Department Head – Mt. Hope High/Kickemuit Middle

Effective: For the 2012-13 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Operational Budget

6. Wayne R. Lima Science, Technology/Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Teacher Leader – Mt. Hope High

Effective: For the 2012-13 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Operational Budget

7. Joseph Koger Science, Technology/Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Teacher

Leader – Mt. Hope High

Effective: For the 2012-13 school year

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Operational Budget

C. NON-CERTIFIED SUPPORT STAFF: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to re-appoint the following individuals to the non-certified staff positions listed below for the 2012-13 school year only (pending adequate Federal, State and local funding and contingent upon adequate enrollment and program renewal):

Name Program Assignment

1. Nancy Keyworth Parents as Teachers Educator

2. Emily Pearce-Spence Parents as Teachers Educator

D. EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR (ESY) SERVICES PROGRAM: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following individuals for the Summer 2012 session only of the Bristol Warren Regional Extended School Year (ESY) Services Program contingent upon sufficient enrollment:

Name Position

- 1. Marisa Casperson * Special Educator**
- 2. Matthew DeSisto Special Educator**
- 3. Cecelia Mellor Teacher Assistant**
- 4. Tami Stallings Teacher Assistant**
- 5. Michele Tanner Teacher Assistant**

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

E. SUMMER SCHOOL: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following individuals for the Summer 2012 session only of the Bristol Warren Regional Summer School contingent upon sufficient enrollment:

Name Course

- 1. Diane Nappi H.S. Guidance/Substitute**
- 2. Sinat Weiland * M.S. Mathematics**

3. Margaret McKiernan M.S. Substitute

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

F. 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. Taylor S. Duhamel Elementary/M.S. Math**
- 2. Joyce C. Griffin General Subject Matter**

G. 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. Dinis P. Simas**

H. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignations of Donna K. Lavender from the position of Elementary Teacher, Rachael A. Mascena from the position of Middle School Social Studies Teacher and Gwendolyn Canzian and Ann Marie DeLucia from the position of Teacher Assistant as listed below:

1. Donna K. Lavender Grade Four Teacher – Colt Andrews

Effective: June 20, 2012

Reason: Retirement

2. Rachael A. Mascena Social Studies Teacher – Kickemuit Middle

Effective: June 30, 2012

Reason: Retirement

3. Gwendolyn Canzian Teacher Assistant – Colt Andrews

Effective: June 21, 2012

Reason: Retirement

4. Ann Marie DeLucia Teacher Assistant - Rockwell

Effective: June 20, 2012

Reason: Retirement

Mrs. Arsenault requested item B.1. be removed for a separate vote so she can recuse herself.

MOTION: Mrs. McBride motioned to approve the remainder of the recommendation; Mr. O'Dell seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 0.

Recommendation S2012-23, B. 1.

MOTION: Mrs. Campbell motioned to approve item B. 1.; Mr. O'Dell seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7 to 0 with Mrs. Arsenault recused.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT

MOTION: Mr. O'Dell enthusiastically motioned to award the Superintendent a 3-year contract, with no salary increase for the first year but to include a performance-based bonus, with years two and three to be negotiated to contain a performance based stipend. Mrs. Arsenault seconded.

The motion passed by a vote of 7 to 0 with Mr. Saviano abstaining.

Mrs. Thies expressed appreciation to the Committee, accepted the 3-year contract and respectfully deferred the performance-based bonus for this year. Mrs. Arsenault added it has been stated on numerous occasions we feel we have the best superintendent in the state and Mrs. Thies has risen above so many challenges; she thanked the Superintendent for choosing this District.

POTENTIAL LITIGATION INVOLVING JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE APPROVED BUDGET FOR 2012-2013 AND TOWN OF WARREN

MOTION: Mrs. Campbell motioned to authorize our solicitor to commence whatever legal action is required on behalf of the Regional School District and / or Regional School Committee against any parties necessary to seek to require the Town of Warren and its

Treasurer to pay the Regional District the correct amount for FY 2012-2013 as required by the Joint Finance Committee pursuant to the duly enacted Enabling Legislation. This includes but is not limited to sending any required notices in advance of said litigation. Mrs. McBride seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7 to 0 with Mr. Saviano abstained.

FY 13 BUDGET

Superintendent Thies and Mrs. Silva explained the cuts necessary to balance the budget. These along with reductions in projected expenditures resulted in a \$54,034,707 budget utilizing the allocations provided by Joint Finance. Mrs. Arsenault thanked Mrs. Silva and her staff, Mrs. Thies and Mr. O'Dell for all their work in balancing the budget. Mrs. McBride and Mr. Bento echoed Mrs. Arsenault's sentiments.

Chairman Bento thanked all the retirees and teachers of the year, as well as the Kickemuit Middle School staff for allowing the Committee to hold their meetings there; this will be the last one at Kickemuit. Starting on June 25th the School Committee meetings will return to the Mt. Hope High School Cafeteria.

ADJOURNMENT – 9:54 PM

MOTION: At 9:54 PM Mrs. Campbell, seconded by Mrs. Arsenault,

motioned to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Lynch, Secretary

/c