

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 29, 2012**

The bi-monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, May 29, 2012, in the cafeteria of Kickemuit Middle School, 525 Child Street, Warren, RI. Chairman 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, 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; 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: Diana B. Campbell

OPENING BUSINESS

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

ACCOLADES

Each year the Bristol County Water Authority holds a Water Conservation Poster and Essay Contest. First place winners receive a \$100 savings bond and second place winners receive a \$50 savings bond from the Water Authority. In addition, three students won awards for their drinking water related projects in the RI State Science Fair. Congratulations to:

Poster Contest Winners:

Reyn Ferris

Allyson Devine

Isaiah Bergmark

Benjamin Flynn

Science Fair Winners:

Burke O'Brien

Samantha Beaulieu

Cory Silvia

Congratulations to the Bristol Warren Huskies Special Olympians for their excellent performance in the recent East Bay Area Games in Middletown!!

Mt Hope athletes winning awards were:

Ryan Miranda – 3 Gold Medals

Randy Pullen – 2 Gold Medals and 1 Silver Medal

Zelinna Garcia – 2 Silver Medals and 1 Bronze Medal

Kickemuit Middle School athletes winning awards were:

Donte DaCosta – 3 Gold Medals

Justin Maturi – 1 Gold Medal, 1 Silver Medal and 1 Bronze Medal

Scott Russell – 1 Gold Medal and 1 Bronze Medal

Xavier Taylor - 1 Gold Medal and 1 Bronze Medal

Hunter Thresher – 3 Gold Medals

“It takes a village to raise a child” -- How true. The School Committee would like to recognize Bristol Fire Department member Cortney Stanford, for coordinating the presentation of the extrication exercise to the juniors and seniors of Mt. Hope High School on April 26. We thank Cortney for the enormous amount of effort she made to arrange this demonstration, a testament to her caring and concern for the safety and well-being of our students. Ms. Stanford said the exercise was a coordination of Bristol and Warren police and fire departments, students, faculty and administration and MADD; students were impressed. She thanked the District for the opportunity to bring this eye-opening experience to the students.

PUBLIC COMMENT / PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Don Levine, Co-owner of Olympic Physical Therapy and physical therapist Ms. Amy Simmons informed the Committee they will be

taking over the summer conditioning program conducted at Mt. Hope High School for 6 – 12 graders; the program is designed to prepare students to compete in higher levels and keep them conditioned over the summer; it is open to all East Bay residents; the money will go back into the Bristol Warren community. Mrs. McBride has intimate knowledge of Amy's skills as a physical therapist and said she is great and very knowledgeable; she hopes many children take advantage of this opportunity.

Mr. Ryan Garrity, Robotics Coach, reported to the Committee on the World Robotics Competition in St. Louis; it was a phenomenal opportunity for the students and the team placed 26th out of 62 teams from around the world. Their scissor lift was the tallest in Rhode Island, rising to 7 to 8 feet; the Shanghi team's went 17 feet high; the competition was tough. Unfortunately, the visit planned to the science museum had to be cancelled due to a tornado warning. Mr. Garrity said more collaboration with local machine shops is planned for next year. Mr. Silva pointed out that the competition was a mini-job fair as well, at which \$7M in scholarships were available to just the students present. Mrs. Thies and Mr. Bento thanked Mr. Garrity for the passion and inspiration he brings to the students in the program.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Mrs. McBride motioned to approve the consent agenda.

Mr. Silva seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 0.

MOTION: Mr. Silva motioned to seal the minutes to the April 23, 2012 Executive Session; Mrs. McBride seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 0.

BUDGET FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. O'Dell explained he has had much discussion with the Chair on how to proceed with the final cuts to balance the budget; events of this past week will change things. After discussion it was decided to place this discussion on the June 11 full Committee agenda with guidance from Attorney Henneous so the final balanced budget can be voted on at the June 25 meeting as required by law.

POLICY/ COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE

Mrs. Arsenault reported their next meeting is Monday, June 4, at 6:00 PM at Oliver; discussed will be the wellness policy, policy BCE-E-Subcommittees (at the request of Mr. O'Dell), and the superintendent's evaluation policy, which is stalled until School Committee goals are established. The next Policy meeting is planned for July 30. Mrs. Thies has made contact with the facilitator for the possible June 18 goals setting meeting.

PERSONNEL/ CONTRACT NEGOTIATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Saviano said the next Council 94 contract negotiation session is set for Thursday, May 31 at 6:00 PM.

WELLNESS COMMITTEE

There was no report in Mrs. Campbell's absence.

CHAIRPERSON'S INITIATIVES

School Committee Goals

Mr. Bento polled the members present for their availability for a goal-setting meeting on Monday, June 18; all appear to be available.

School Committee Meeting Location

Mrs. McBride respectfully asked that the School Committee meetings be moved to the high school cafeteria for the summer where it is air conditioned. Mr. Bento will oblige.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES

Recommendation # S2012-19 A-J: CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL

A. 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. Nicole Abendroth Child Care Provider (Part Time)

Effective: Immediately, for the 2012-13 school year, pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient

B. HIGH SCHOOL EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following individuals for the 2011-12 session only of the Mt. Hope High School Extended Day Program contingent upon sufficient enrollment:

Name Position

- 1. Caitlin Booth Strategies for Math Success**
- 2. Kristin Carbone Strategies for Math Success**

C. ELEMENTARY SUMMER 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 Elementary Summer Program contingent upon sufficient enrollment:

Name Position

- 1. Linda Bruno Site Coordinator (Colt Andrews)**
- 2. Margaret DeFelice Site Coordinator (Hugh Cole)**
- 3. Meredith Astrologo Teacher**
- 4. Michael Bento Teacher**
- 5. Sarah Coute Teacher**
- 6. Diane DaSilva Teacher**
- 7. Vanessa Estrella Teacher**
- 8. Melissa Gendreau Teacher**
- 9. Jamie Hawkins Teacher**
- 10. Donna Larson Teacher**
- 11. Paula Richards-Sousa Teacher**
- 12. Elise Saccoccio Teacher**
- 13. Kristen Silvia Teacher**
- 14. Kristina Tomkinson Teacher**

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. Karen McCanna Coordinator**
- 2. Ashley Armstrong Special Educator**
- 3. Amanda Berard Special Educator**
- 4. Kristin Cormier Special Educator**
- 5. Erin Gill Special Educator**
- 6. Amanda Giorgi Special Educator**
- 7. Jennifer Lesperance Special Educator**
- 8. Jill Marshall Special Educator**
- 9. Madlyn McArdle Special Educator**
- 10. Katelyn McCanna Special Educator**
- 11. Bonnie Pansa Special Educator**
- 12. Josh Womelsdorf Special Educator**
- 13. Jasmin Desmarais Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant**
- 14. Elizabeth Rego Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant**
- 15. Ellen Estrella School Nurse/Teacher**
- 16. Chris Kinder Social Worker**
- 17. Deborah Allen Speech/Language**
- 18. Jean Terry Speech/Language**
- 19. Jennifer Winsor Speech/Language**
- 20. Emily Spinard Substitute Special Educator**
- 21. Joann Bernard Teacher Assistant**

- 22. Cheryl Cabral Teacher Assistant**
- 23. Donna Crowell Teacher Assistant**
- 24. Nancy D'Addio Teacher Assistant**
- 25. Virginia DePasquale Teacher Assistant**
- 26. Paula Gabriele Teacher Assistant**
- 27. Denise Goodman Teacher Assistant**
- 28. Maryann Gustafson Teacher Assistant**
- 29. Lori Kauffman Teacher Assistant**
- 30. Debra Lopes Teacher Assistant**
- 31. Lynda Squillante Teacher Assistant**
- 32. Corinne St. Pierre Teacher Assistant**
- 33. Linda Staudinger Teacher Assistant**
- 34. Joanne Vales Teacher Assistant**
- 35. Patricia Cappucci Substitute Teacher Assistant**

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. Theresa Brodd H.S. Guidance/Substitute**
- 2. Bethany Balzano H.S. English**
- 3. Patrick Merrigan * H.S. English**
- 4. Kristen Carbone H.S. Mathematics**
- 5. Emily Hausman * H.S. Mathematics**

6. Jason Wilkinson * H.S. Mathematics
7. Jacqueline Reynolds H.S. Mt. Hope Plus/Substitute
8. Brian Camara H.S. Physical Education/Health
9. Kimberly Perschau H.S. Physical Education/Health
10. Paula Faria H.S. PBGR Coordinator
11. Kevin Murphy H.S. Science
12. Shara Norton H.S. Science
13. Brad Rodrigues H.S. Social Studies
14. Dayna Achilli M.S. Language Arts
15. Lisa Scagos M.S. Language Arts
16. Sabrina Antonelli M.S. Mathematics
17. Stephen Piette M.S. Science
18. Michelle DaSilva M.S. Substitute
19. Sally Caruso M.S. Substitute
20. Gregory Arruda M.S. Substitute
21. Patricia Ryone 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 application for a certified substitute pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

CERTIFIED

Name Area/Level

1. Paul W. Graham 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 applications for classified substitutes pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements:

SECRETARIAL

1. Christine E. McGovern
2. Marilyn Pellerin

TEACHER ASSISTANTS

3. Christine E. McGovern

CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE

4. Joshua N. Braga
5. Erick J. Durand

H. LEAVE OF ABSENCE: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant a leave of absence for an Elementary Teacher as follows:

1. Vanessa M. Cronan Grade Five Teacher - Guiteras

**Effective: Upon completion of Maternity Leave
through the end of the 2011-12
school year**

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

I. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignations of Myra Z. Webster from the position of Child Opportunity Zone/Family Center Coordinator, Gary E. Dion, Martha F. Genovesi and Dona M. Paull from the positions of Elementary Teacher, Marilyn McFadden from the position of Reading Specialist/Consultant Marcia J. Welch from the position of Middle School Science Teacher and Joao M. Germano from the position of Maintenance as listed below:

- 1. Myra Z. Webster Child Opportunity Zone/Family Center Coordinator
Effective: June 30, 2012
Reason: Retirement**

- 2. Gary E. Dion Grade Four Teacher – Guiteras
Effective: End of the 2011-12 School Year
Reason: Retirement**

- 3. Martha F. Genovesi Grade Four Teacher – Hugh Cole
Effective: June 29, 2012
Reason: Retirement**

- 4. Dona M. Paull Grade Two Teacher – Colt Andrews
Effective: August 31, 2012
Reason: Personal**

5. Marilyn McFadden Reading Specialist/Consultant – Colt Andrews

Effective: June 30, 2012

Reason: Retirement

6. Marcia J. Welch Science Teacher – Kickemuit Middle

Effective: June 30, 2012

Reason: Retirement

7. Joao M. Germano Maintenance

Effective: June 29, 2012

Reason: Retirement

J. 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 13, 2012 as to the following listed teachers and appoint the listed teachers to the positions indicated:

Name Anticipated Assignment

- 1. Jessica Bagley To Be Determined Through Posting**
- 2. Carol Cappadona Elementary Librarian (2/5 time)**
- 3. Amanda Giorgi To Be Determined Through Posting**
- 4. Nichole Mitchell To Be Determined Through Posting**
- 5. Kelly Servant To Be Determined Through Posting**

Recommendation #S 2012-20: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Budget/ Facilities Subcommittee, award the bid for audit services for FY 12, 13 and 14 to Braver for the amount of \$18,000 plus \$3,500 AUP per year

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

Recommendation #S 2012-21: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Budget/ Facilities Subcommittee, award the bid for actuarial services to Nyhart for the amount of \$6,000

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

Recommendation #S 2012-18: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, adopt new textbooks for two Mt Hope High School classes:

- Science Grades 9–12 — Biology by Miller & Levine; 2010**
- A.P. Biology – Campbell Biology AP Edition by Campbell; 2011 9th Edition**

MOTION: Mrs. McBride motioned to approve; Mrs. Arsenault seconded. Mr. O'Dell reviewed the textbooks and at first was impressed. Mr. O'Dell had researched Albert Einstein and made reference to the experience of the Russian cosmonauts' in the 1950s and remarked, the books leave no opportunity to discuss any kind of theory other than evolution; he feels it would be shameful not to provide the opportunity to explore different possibilities.

Mrs. Arsenault believes textbooks are not the final say; she would encourage questions and debate in the classrooms, knowing this book is one source created by a limited number of human beings. Mrs. Arsenault trusts the teachers' judgment on this selection and trusts the students to bring up controversies; she will approve.

Mr. Saviano also reviewed the books and was impressed with the graphics but agrees with Mr. O'Dell that options should have been included; we must offer more critical thinking, if alternatives are not introduced students won't develop. Mr. Saviano feels other books should be sought; more suitable books are available through Texas publishing companies.

Mr. Bento agrees there should be some discussion and that many books look at the separation of church and state; although teachers facilitate discussion, if alternatives are injected, how do you encompass all the alternatives. Mr. Bento favors the idea of discussion in the classroom; this book is science focused, rather

than artistic.

The motion to approve passed by a vote of 6 to 2 with Mr. O'Dell and Mr. Saviano opposed.

Recommendation #S 2012-22: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy/Community Affairs Subcommittee, approve the revised School Committee Policy AFC, AFC-1 (also GCN, GCN-1) Educator Evaluation System and remove Exhibit GCN-E Teacher Evaluation Handbook (First Reading)

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION – 8:08 PM

MOTION: In accordance with open meetings law 42-26-5(a)(2), at 8:12 PM Mr. O'Dell motioned to go into Executive Session for a discussion of the Council 94 Collective Bargaining Update, the Superintendent's Contract and the Warren Town Council/ FY 13 Budget; Mrs. Arsenault seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bento stated no vote will be taken during Executive Session or when open session resumes other than to adjourn.

Mr. Bento thanked Matthew Silva on behalf of the School Committee for coming out to help with the meetings.

RESUMPTION OF MEETING – 10:00 PM

Mr. Bento reported that no action was taken in Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT – 10:00 PM

MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. McBride, seconded by Mr. O'Dell, motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 PM. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A. Lynch, Secretary

/c