

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2012**

The bi-monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, October 22, 2012, in the cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street, Bristol, RI. In the absence of the Chairman, Vice-chairman Silva called the meeting to order at approximately 7:02 PM.

**Present:** Paul Silva, Vice-chairman; Karen A. Lynch, Secretary; Denise Arsenault, (7:04) Marjorie McBride, Bill O'Dell, Susan Rancourt, John 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:** John Bento

**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. Saviano motioned to approve the Consent Agenda; Mrs. McBride seconded. The motioned passed by a vote of 8-0.**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride motioned to seal the minutes to the September 24, 2012 and October 9, 2012 Executive Sessions; Mrs. Campbell seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 0.**

## **ATHLETIC DIRECTOR PRESENTATION**

**Ms. Belisle introduced the following goals for the Athletic Department: 1.) Coaches to understand where limits of competition are, and 2.) Teach students about leadership and how to balance academics. Her vision is to see the coaching staff become unified, and as a whole, that students, parents, faculty and coaches are unified as well.**

**Ms. Belisle presented the following new initiatives that she is implementing: Progress Reports which allow faculty to give feedback. These reports will be collected once between the two report cards; Sportsmanship Pledge which outlines the students, parents and coaches role at sporting events and is to be signed by those respective individuals; Parent Implementation, and Game Day Programs. (These historically were only done for football events, but**

**now will be provided for any sporting event that draws a crowd.)**

**Ms. Belisle spoke on the new online registration feature which has streamlined the process of parents registering children for sports. It is done through our district's website and only has to be completed once by the parent with just a quick click for any additional sports participated in by their children.**

**The following items were highlighted as part of the Husky Program: Nutrition – a nutritionist came in to speak to the boys separately and then to the girls; Pre-season training – which is being provided by Olympic PT; College Night (to include trade schools as well) which prepares students for life after high school with guidance on preparing applications by defining what sports gave them; and the Leadership initiative which is under development. Coaches will be taught first and then students will be taught as well in areas such as captain leadership.**

**Ms. Belisle highlighted the following points of Boosters & Development: community relations, outreach to new businesses, inter-team fundraising and recruiting parents to serve.**

**Ms. Belisle stated that she would like to see the coaches handbook updated, viable study hall practices for this community, strengthening of the coaching community, revamp of coaching evaluation, addressing safety equipment for concussion standards**

and upgrading field conditions. She is hoping to have these addressed by next fall.

School committee members thanked Ms. Belisle for her presentation and stated they were very impressed with the goals she is putting forth and the standards being set.

## **JOINT FINANCE BUDGET TASK FORCE UPDATE**

Vice-chairman Silva stated that he would be moving the Joint Finance Budget Task Force Update out of order from its placement on the agenda to accommodate Mr. Paul LaBonte.

Mr. Silva introduced the chairman of the Joint Finance Budget Task Force, Mr. Paul LaBonte. Mr. Silva and Mrs. Rancourt were part of this task force as well.

Mr. LaBonte began by stating that the Joint Finance Budget Task Force was made up of members from both the Bristol and Warren Town Councils, school committee members, administration members and members of the community. The charge of the subcommittee is to analyze unfunded mandates to see how they can be streamlined or eliminate these costs; review of budget process; find efficiencies between the towns and Bristol Warren Regional School District to manage costs. Mr. LaBonte highlighted some things that are working well within this subcommittee such as a more cordial demeanor with those involved, more in-depth participation by chair, more

engagement from JFC membership, and education of the community. Mr. LaBonte reviewed the timeline of the annual budget process for the town of Bristol, town of Warren and the Bristol Warren Regional School District stating the following recommendations for changes of this timeline: that the Joint Finance Committee would hold quarterly meetings along with at least three meetings dedicated to the budget vote, and that there would be participation at UCOA (Uniform Chart of Accounts) presentation by members of Joint Finance Committee which would be necessary for members to understand how BWRSD compares with other districts in regard to spending. Mr. LaBonte stated that the following items are for consideration requiring action from other entities: revision of the funding formula; making the case that the Regional Bonus should be reinstated; altering the status of the BWRSD to become an independent taxing entity; and review of the enabling legislation for funding equity and makeup of the JFC. Mr. LaBonte believes this task force has helped to facilitate an environment for people to speak freely between towns at school and town level. He then highlighted some points about shared efficiencies mentioning new meetings between towns/district, towns exploring new buying options and capital funding. Mr. LaBonte closed by highlighting the following items to be the “next steps” in the process: Unfinished business – proposal for altering funding formula timeline, re-instatement of the Regional Bonus, altering the BWRSD to a Taxing Entity, Review of the Enabling Legislation, How do we hardcode new processes?; Sub-Committee Lifespan/Charge – Will you re-authorize?; what would you like to see accomplished? Mr.

**LaBonte stated that the JFC needs to reconvene to move forward on these items and that there is no meeting scheduled at this time.**

**Mrs. Campbell asked what the exact process is for extending the timeline? Mr. LaBonte responded by stating that the JFC would request resolutions of both Town Councils and then give to legislators and Department of Education for implementation of timeline. Our school committee would also need to endorse this request.**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION: In accordance with open meetings law 42-46-5(a)(2) at 7:56 p.m., Mrs. Lynch motioned to go into executive session for discussion of the Council 94 Collective Bargaining Update; Mr. Saviano seconded. The motion passed by a 8-0 vote.**

**MOTION: Mrs. Campbell motioned to adjourn executive session at 8:21 p.m.; Mrs. Arsenault seconded. The motion passed by an 8-0 vote.**

### **RESUMPTION OF MEETING – 8:24 PM**

**Mr. Silva stated for the record that for future agendas he would like “Subcommittee/School Committee Initiatives” to read as follows: Subcommittee/School Committee Reports & Initiatives.**

### **SUBCOMMITTEE/SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS & INITIATIVES**

## **BUDGET FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Mr. O'Dell reported that the Budget Focus Subcommittee had met and committed \$7,883 for increase in reserve requirement and committed \$26,709 for transfer to Capital Projects. Other items discussed at the meeting were stipends for coaches and advisors as well as Title 9 which is the gender equity campaign.**

## **POLICY/ COMMUNITY AFFAIRS SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Mrs. Arsenault reported that the Policy Subcommittee met in October. They are still working on the Health and Wellness Policy. Due to the change over that will take place at the School Committee Organization meeting, she felt it best to reschedule November's regularly scheduled first Monday of the month Policy Meeting to another date.**

## **PERSONNEL/ CONTRACT NEGOTIATION SUBCOMMITTEE**

**Mr. Saviano reported that he is waiting on admin to finish up a clerical clean-up of the new contract before presenting to Council 94.**

## **WELLNESS COMMITTEE**

**Mrs. Campbell had nothing to report**

## **CHAIRMAN'S INITIATIVES**

**Mr. Silva stated that since the Chairman was not present this evening, the Chairman's Initiatives would not be reported on.**

## **SCHOOL COMMITTEE GOALS - ACTION**

**That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the School Committee Chair, approve the updated School Committee Goals.**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride motioned to approve the updated School Committee Goals; Mr. O'Dell seconded. The motion passed by an 8-0 vote.**

**Mrs. Campbell stated that she appreciated the work that had gone into updating the School Committee Goals.**

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES**

**For the record, Mr. Silva was informed by Mrs. Thies that she would be withdrawing recommendation #S2012-46 – Policy Approval. Mrs. Thies explained that at the request of the school committee, the Health and Wellness Policy was reviewed by Mr. Henneous and there were some concerns he had with the policy. Mr. Henneous' comments will be presented at the next Policy Subcommittee Meeting. Mrs. Arsenault requested that members of the Wellness Committee be present at this meeting so that they can be advised of any legal concerns as they are presented.**

**Recommendation #S2012-44 A-E: CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL**

**A. APPOINTMENTS:** That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicant to the position of Custodian as listed below:

**1. Paul Semiao Custodian – Kickemuit Middle**

**Effective: October 22, 2012, pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy  
(Transfer-J. Cirillo)**

**Funding: Operational Budget**

**B. BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM:** That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants 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. Emily Lorenzi Child Care Site Coordinator (Part Time)**

**Effective: Immediately, for the**

**remainder of the 2012-13 school  
year, pending satisfactory completion  
of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient**

## **2. Niki L. Jannitto Child Care Provider (Part Time)**

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

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient**

## **3. Regina K. Flatley Child Care Provider (Part Time)**

**Effective: Immediately, for the  
remainder of the 2012-13 school  
year, pending satisfactory completion**

**of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**Funding: Parent Fees/Self-Sufficient**

**C. 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 2012-13 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs):

**HEALTHY HUSKIES WELLNESS CENTER/GYM AREA SUPERVISORS**

**1. Supervisor (Fall) Dori A. Venditti \***

**INTERSCHOLASTIC COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE**

**Sport Position Coach**

**2. Basketball (Boys) Coach Jack Osteen**

**3. Wrestling Coach Augustino LaScola \***

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

**D. 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. Emily N. Arthur Elementary**

**2. Katharine A. Barker Elementary/Reading Spec./  
Librarian/ESL**

**3. Julie A. Benson Elementary**

**4. Michael C. Cichon Administrator**

**5. Kelly DiGioia Elementary**

**6. Jennifer L. Durand Registered Nurse**

**7. Michele J. Ela Elementary**

**8. Mariel D. Manchester General Subject Matter**

**9. Elizabeth L. Rhynard General Subject Matter**

**10. Jessica L. Smitherman General Subject Matter**

**11. Kimberly A. Terceiro Elementary**

**E. LEAVES OF ABSENCE:** That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant leaves of absence for a Middle School Special Educator and an Elementary Special Educator as follows:

**1. Hilary Grieve-McDermott Special Educator – Kickemuit Middle**

**Effective: October 8, 2012, for 6-8 weeks**

**Reason: Maternity leave in accordance with Article 21, Section L1 of the Master Agreement**

## **2. Whitney Ruggeri Special Educator – Hugh Cole**

**Effective: January 21, 2013, for 6-8 weeks**

**Reason: Maternity leave in accordance with Article 21, Section L1 of the Master Agreement**

**Recommendation #S2012-45 – Home School Requests: That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request of one (1) Bristol family to home school their children for the 2012-2013 school year, adhering to all requirements as set forth by the Bristol Warren Regional School District.**

**MOTION: Mrs. Lynch motioned to approve; Mr. O'Dell seconded. The motion passed by a vote of 7 to 1 with Mrs. McBride opposed.**

**ADJOURNMENT – 8:34 PM**

**MOTION:** There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. McBride motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 PM; seconded by Mr. Saviano. The motion passed by an 8-0 vote.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Karen A. Lynch, Secretary**

**/kd**