

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2015**

**The bi-monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Tuesday, February 10, 2015, in the cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street, Bristol, RI. Chairman Bento called the meeting to order at approximately 7:01 PM.**

**Present: John Bento, Chairman; Karen Lynch, Secretary; Marjorie McBride, Treasurer; William O'Dell, John Saviano, Erin Schofield and Lynn Wainwright; Mario J. Andrade, Superintendent; Mary N. Almeida, Director of Literacy and Title I; Leslie Anderson, Director of Pupil Services and Andrew Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor**

**Absent: Paul Silva, Vice-Chairman; Diana Campbell**

**OPENING BUSINESS**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**There was no public comment.**

**ACCOLADES**

**The District Holiday Greeting Card, for the past several years, has**

**been designed by a student. This year we asked Art Teacher, Marilyn Roberti, to have some students at Hugh Cole School create a design for consideration. Several students submitted their drawings; they were all very special but only one could be chosen for the card. We have a gift certificate to Don's Art shop for the artist whose drawing was used on the 2014 Holiday Card:**

**fifth grader – Rhiannon Sousa**

**Congratulations to T.J. DeSanto, Mt. Hope High School's Football Coach for being inducted into the 2015 R.I. Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame!**

**Congratulations to Susan Carlson, Mt. Hope High School's Special Olympics Coach for being inducted into the 2014 Rhode Island Track Coaches Association Hall of Fame!**

**Congratulations to the following individuals for being inducted into the Bristol Athletic Hall of Fame!**

**Warren Rensehausen, Mt. Hope High School's Girls Volleyball Coach**

**Keith Medeiros, Mt. Hope High School's Wrestling Coach**

**Christy Belisle, Athletic Director**

# **MT. HOPE HIGH SCHOOL FALL SPORTS 2014 ALL STATE**

## **CROSS COUNTRY (GIRLS)**

**Katarina Heyden All-Division**

## **CROSS COUNTRY (BOYS)**

**Bryce O'Brien All-Division**

**Riley Rancourt All-Division**

## **FOOTBALL**

**Eric Moskala 1st Team All-Division**

**Tezhan Calhoun-Massey 2nd Team All-Division**

**Samuel Forden 2nd Team All-Division & All-  
Academic**

**Alexander Francis Honorable Mention**

**Dominic Lombardo Honorable Mention**

**Jacob Ramos All-Academic**

**Jacob Lebreux All-Academic**

## **SOCCKER (BOYS)**

**Andrew Medeiros 1st Team All-Division, Division II  
& All-Academic**

**Patrick Larson 2nd Team All-Division, Division II**

**Jadon Desmarais 3rd Team All-Division, Division II**

**Travis Waleryszak Honorable Mention**

## **SOCCER (GIRLS)**

**Sarah Aubin All-Division, Division I**

**Olivia Cairrao All-Division, Division I**

**Hannah Klein All-Division, Division I**

**Kellsie Mitchell All-Division, Division I**

**Michaela Goglia 2nd Team, All-State & All-Tournament**

**Julia Hill Sportsmanship Award**

## **VOLLEYBALL**

**Rhys Webb 1st Team All-Division, Division II  
North**

**Alexia Sisson 2nd Team All-Division, Division II  
North**

**Alyssa McGreevy 3rd Team All-Division, Division II  
North**

## **MT. HOPE HIGH SCHOOL ALL STATE BAND/VOCAL SELECTIONS**

**The following Mt. Hope High School students were selected to perform in the All State Music Festival on March 22nd at the Vets Memorial Auditorium**

### **RI SENIOR ALL STATE BAND:**

**Kirby Forsberg**

**Elizabeth Hennen**

**Laura Iacono**

**Nicholas Kirby**

**RI SENIOR ALL-STATE GUITAR ENSEMBLE:**

**Joshua Conti**

**Mitchell Kenna**

**Bryce O'Brien**

**Sean Silva**

**Justin Slocumb**

**Kayla Placido - Ranked Top High School Guitarist in the State**

**RI SENIOR ALL-STATE MIXED CHORUS:**

**Carl Gerhard**

**Rose Pansa**

**Sara Slusarski**

**Alexandra Brassard - Ranked Second Soprano Vocalist in the  
State**

**RI SENIOR ALL-STATE ORCHESTRA:**

**Michael Contente**

**RI JUNIOR ALL-STATE ORCHESTRA:**

**Samantha Machado**

**The following Mt. Hope High School Students were accepted to the  
URI**

## **Southern New England Honors Band.**

**Emma Camara**

**Caleigh Duffy**

**Nicholas Kirby**

**Jonathan Medeiros**

**Justin Lares**

**Chairman Bento thanked Mr. Simmons and the facilities crew for ensuring that the schools were running and operational during the numerous snowstorms.**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Pursuant to Open Meetings Laws 42-46-5 (a)(1)(2) an Executive Session will be convened to discuss the following:**

- 1. Personnel Recommendations #S2015-01**
- 2. Layoffs/Notices of Non-Renewals**
- 3. Superintendent's Goals**
- 4. Legal Advice: re: State Testing**
- 5. BWEA Contract Update**

**Chairman Bento stated, for the record, that no action will be taken during the executive session.**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:19 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Saviano. The motion passed unanimously.**

**MOTION:** Mrs. McBride made a motion to adjourn the Executive Session at 8:01 p.m.; seconded by Mrs. Wainwright. The motion passed unanimously.

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

All items listed with an asterisk on the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the School Committee and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a committee member requests, in which event the items will be withdrawn from the general order of business and considered in the normal sequence of the agenda.

**MOTION:** Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded by Mr. Saviano.

The motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** Mrs. McBride made a motion to seal the executive session minutes of the December 8, 2014 School Committee Regular Business Meeting; seconded by Mrs. Lynch.

The motion passed unanimously.

**S2015-1 A-I: CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL**

**A. APPOINTMENTS:** That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the positions of Elementary Speech/Language Pathologist and two Secretaries as listed below:

**1. Jennifer L. Carota Speech/Language Pathologist – Hugh Cole**

**Effective: January 20, 2015, for the remainder of the 2014-15 school year, pending satisfactory completion of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy (Resignation – A. Maccarone)**

**Funding: Operational Budget (7th Step/Masters)**

**2. Jean Coelho Secretary (10 months) – Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: Immediately**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

**(Retirement – J. Pimenta)**

**Funding: Operational Budget**

**3. Lisa F. Medeiros Secretary (10 months) – Mt. Hope  
High**

**Effective: Immediately**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy  
(Resignation – E. Maney)**

**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. Courtney P. Kaufman Child Care Provider (Part Time)**

**Effective: Immediately, for the  
remainder of the 2014-15 school  
year, pending satisfactory completion**

**of pre-employment requirements**

**Reason: To fill a vacancy**

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

**2. Leigh A. Briggs Senior Child Care Provider (Part Time)**

**Effective: Immediately, for the remainder of the 2014-15 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 2014-15 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs):**

**WINTER COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH**

**Sport Position Coach**

**1. Indoor Track (Girls) Head Coach Ryan McCormack \***

**2. Indoor Track (Girls) Asst. Coach Kerri Ferreira**

**SPRING COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH**

**Sport Position Coach**

**3. Baseball (Boys) Head Coach Michael Mazzearella \***

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

**4. Wellness Supervisor (Second Quarter) Thomas DelSanto**

**5. Wellness Supervisor (Third Quarter) Thomas DelSanto**

**6. Wellness Supervisor (Fourth Quarter) Thomas DelSanto**

**\* 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. Ashley R. Gaule Mathematics**

**2. Rachel Jean D. Penengo General Subject Matter**

**3. Jenna L. Quirk Elementary**

**4. Joan E. Veltri Registered Nurse**

**E. 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. Laurie E. D’Arcangelo**

**2. Jane A. Pimenta**

**TEACHER ASSISTANT**

**3. Manuel S. Canario**

**CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE**

**4. Paulo R. Dutra**

**5. Jason G. Pimentel**

**F. LEAVES OF ABSENCE:** That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant a leave of absence for a Middle School English Teacher as follows:

**1. Melissa L. Bernard English Teacher – Kickemuit Middle**

**Effective: April 16, 2015, for 6-8 weeks**

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

**G. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS:** That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignations of Kathleen S. Dwyer from the position of Secondary Art Teacher, Steven R. Brown from the position of Elementary Teacher, Jane A. Pimenta from the position of Secretary and Almerinda Sa and Wendi L. Thomas from the position of Teacher Assistant and John M. McDonough from the position of Athletic Coach as listed below:

**1. Kathleen S. Dwyer Art Teacher – Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: December 30, 2014**

**Reason: Retirement**

**2. Steven R. Brown Grade Three Teacher – Hugh Cole**

**Effective: End of the 2014-15 School  
Year**

**Reason: Personal**

**3. Jane A. Pimenta Secretary – Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: December 31, 2014**

**Reason: Retirement**

**4. Almerinda Sa Teacher Assistant - Rockwell**

**Effective: January 30, 2015**

**Reason: Retirement**

**5. Wendi L. Thomas Teacher Assistant – Hugh Cole**

**Effective: End of the 2014-15 School  
Year**

**Reason: Retirement**

**6. John M. McDonough Head Basketball (Boys) Coach – Mt. Hope High**

**Effective: January 23, 2015**

**Reason: Dismissal**

**H. TERMINATION OF NON-CERTIFIED SUPPORT STAFF: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to rescind the vote of October 27, 2014 of the following listed auxiliary school personnel and appoint the listed personnel to the position indicated:**

**Name Anticipated Assignment**

**1. Lynne Abendroth Teacher Assistant (Part Time)  
(Effective February 2, 2015)**

**I. SUSPENSION, NON-RENEWAL AND/OR TERMINATION OF CERTIFIED PERSONNEL: The Superintendent recommends to the School Committee the termination/non-renewal, effective the end of current assignment and/or the last day of the 2014-15 school year, whichever occurs first, of the following listed teachers due to the return of teachers from leaves of absence and/or the non-renewal of**

**the limited contracts:**

**1. Stephanie D. Pedro**

**RECOMMENDATION #S2015-02**

**That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, accept the FY14 Audit Report.**

**MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the FY14 Audit Report; seconded by Mrs. McBride.**

**DISCUSSION: Dr. Andrade commended Mrs. Silva, Director of Finance & Administration and the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee for a clean audit report for the tenth year in a row.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**RECOMMENDATION #S2015-03**

**That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, approve awarding the Guiteras Field Bid.**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Superintendent and the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee to award the Guiteras Field Bid to JH Landscaping to**

include the alternate add-on amount for the irrigation system; seconded by Mr. O'Dell.

**DISCUSSION:** Mrs. Wainwright asked clarifying questions pertaining to the bid amounts submitted. She also asked for clarification concerning the maintenance history of Guiteras field and concerning the proposal for maintenance moving forward. Mr. Simmons answered Mrs. Wainwright's questions.

Mr. Simmons outlined the work specification details for the Guiteras Field project which would entail predominantly field work for the purpose of renovation and ongoing maintenance.

Mr. Saviano believes that the School Department is obligated to accept the lowest bidder, Yardworks. Mr. Simmons stated that, to his knowledge, Yardworks does not have baseball field work experience involving local public schools. Mr. Simmons has made several attempts to contact the company to verify their work experience, but without success.

Chairman Bento stated, for the record, his reasons for making the recommendation of JH Landscaping to complete the work on the Guiteras Baseball Field. The Subcommittee felt it was in the best interest of the students to move forward with a bidder that Mr. Simmons has experience with to ensure timely completion of the baseball field project before baseball season commences.

**Mr. O'Dell commented that the initial amount proposed for the Guiteras Baseball Field Project was much higher than the current amount. He believes that the current proposed cost has been "whittled down" to a favorable amount. Mr. O'Dell said he will support the recommendation to award the bid to JH Landscaping for the Guiteras Baseball Field work.**

**Chairman Bento added that the initial proposed cost for work at Guiteras Field was six digits. The current proposed bid, which is much less, focuses on the basics to make the field presentable and safe.**

**Mr. Saviano paraphrased past comments made by the Superintendent regarding the importance of directing spending toward educational expenses. Mr. Saviano commented that the total cost of the recommended bid amount equals half the cost of a teacher for an entire year. Mr. Saviano prefers to spend money on education rather than to fix a field.**

**Dr. Andrade stated that he supports the recommendation of JH Landscaping's bid with the alternate add-on for irrigation. Dr. Andrade commented that he was just researching Yardworks online and found that their company does mostly stone work. That being the case, he was not confident Yardworks would be capable of doing the type of work requested for Guiteras field.**

**Mr. Saviano questioned whether the bid includes new netting in light of complaints about broken windows due to balls coming from the field. Dr. Andrade responded that there was a limited incidence of broken windows. Dr. Andrade added that after weighing liability issues, it was determined that safety issues at Guiteras field should take priority. Chairman Bento commented that the netting could be looked into at a later date after the proposed work is completed.**

**The motion passed with a 6-1 vote; Mr. Saviano dissenting.**

#### **RECOMMENDATION #S2015-04**

**That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, approve the addition of a Technology Technician to the Technology Department.**

**MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the addition of a Technology Technician to the Technology Department; seconded by Mr. Saviano.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **RECOMMENDATION #S2015-05**

**That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy & Curriculum**

**Subcommittee, approve the first reading of the Human Capital Management Policy (GCAA).**

**MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the first reading of the Human Capital Management Policy (GCAA); seconded by Mrs. Lynch.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**RECOMMENDATION #S2015-06**

**That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve the removal of Professional Staff Recruiting Policy (GCC-GCCA); Professional Staff Hiring Policy (GCD); Professional Staff Hiring Policy (GCD-R); Personnel Policies Goals Policy (GA); Educational Philosophy/School District Goals and Objectives Policy (AD/AE) due to obsolescence and/or redundancy.**

**MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the removal of the policies as listed; seconded by Mrs. McBride.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**RECOMMENDATION #S2015-07**

**That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request of (1) family to home school**

**their children for the 2014-2015 school year, adhering to all requirements as set forth by the Bristol Warren Regional School District.**

**MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the home school request; seconded by Mr. O'Dell.**

**DISCUSSION: Mrs. Lynch questioned why a homeschool request would be submitted in February. Dr. Andrade responded that due to a previous miscommunication, and the cancellation of several School Committee meetings, the homeschool request is being presented at this time. He commented that the family has been very compliant with all requests.**

**The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **RECOMMENDATION #S2015-08**

**That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, accept the 2015-2016 Program of Studies.**

**MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the Program of Studies; seconded by Mrs. McBride.**

**DISCUSSION: Mrs. Wainwright read a prepared statement, directed to students, encouraging them to take advantage of the many enriching courses offered in the BWRSD Program of Studies, and spurring**

**students on to explore all avenues afforded to them post-graduation.**

**Chairman Bento reported that he and members of the School Committee recently conducted school visits. Chairman Bento stated that valuable discussions took place at the high school regarding many of the items Mrs. Wainwright addressed in her prepared statement, such as military opportunities, community college, and college funding. Chairman Bento spoke with the principal about his desire to conduct a survey of students regarding their level of preparedness post high school.**

**Mrs. Schofield expressed concern about the new elective offering, Strength Training and Conditioning, to the Program of Studies. She believes that an elective should have an educational component to it. She is concerned that the course would only be tailored to a specific group of students.**

**Dr. Andrade responded that the PE Department believes this type of elective is needed. He stressed that the Strength Training and Conditioning elective would not be a PE class and would not just be focused toward athletes. It will be an opportunity for students who are interested in pursuing sports medicine or kinesiology to gain knowledge in how the body and muscles work. Dr. Andrade stated that the Strength Training and Conditioning elective is just an offering. If there is little interest in the elective, it won't run. He added that it is revenue neutral without the need for an additional**

**teacher.**

**Mrs. Schofield responded that she will vote in favor of the Program of Studies, but will do further research into the Strength Training and Conditioning elective.**

## **Subcommittee/School Committee Reports & Initiatives**

### **Budget/Facilities Subcommittee**

**Mrs. McBride reported that the KMS building permit has been obtained for the KMS auditorium project. She also reported that the MHHS field project has been moved forward for DEM approval.**

**The main focus of the next Budget/Facilities Subcommittee meeting, to be held on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 at 5:30 p.m., will be the FY16 budget. Another meeting will be held prior to the School Committee Meeting, on Monday, February 23, 2015 at 6 p.m., for further FY16 budget discussions. The FY16 budget will then be presented to the School Committee for approval at the February 23, 2015 School Committee Meeting.**

**To aid Mrs. Silva's FY16 budget presentation preparation, Mrs. McBride requested that any questions related to the FY16 budget be directed to Mrs. Silva prior to the meeting.**

**Mrs. McBride apologized for the weather related cancellations which caused a compressed schedule for FY16 budget discussion meetings**

**in order to meet the budget request deadline.**

**(Mr. O'Dell left at 9 p.m.)**

**(Dr. Andrade left at 9 p.m.)**

**Mr. Bento restated that a Budget/Facilities Subcommittee meeting will be held at 6 p.m. on Monday, February 23, 2015 to answer any FY16 budget related questions. The public is welcome to attend.**

**(Mr. O'Dell returned at 9:02 p.m.)**

**Mr. Saviano expressed concern about the trend of School Committee meetings being held earlier in the evening possibly making it difficult for members of the public to attend. Mrs. McBride responded by saying that the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee elected to have the budget meetings at 5:30 p.m. to accommodate the schedule of a subcommittee member.**

**Chairman Bento stated that if the public still had FY16 budget request questions, they could attend the Joint Finance Committee meetings.**

### **Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee**

**Mrs. Schofield reported that during the January Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee meeting, more policies were consolidated due to obsolescence and/or redundancy. Mrs. Schofield stated that future**

**discussions of the Subcommittee will be regarding the National Honor Society Policy at the high school level and to look into establishing a National Honor Society Policy at the middle school level. Other discussions scheduled include: need for a Student Discipline Subcommittee; Bring your own Technology Device Policy; Comprehensive Assessment System, and Graduation Requirements Policy.**

**(Dr. Andrade returned at 9:06 p.m.)**

#### **Personnel/Contract Negotiations Subcommittee**

**Mrs. Lynch reported that the Council 94 negotiations have started. A C94 meeting will be held tomorrow evening, Wednesday, February 11, 2015 and again on Wednesday, February 25, 2015. Mrs. Lynch stated there was nothing new to report.**

#### **Wellness Subcommittee**

**Mrs. Wainwright reported that the next meeting of the Wellness Subcommittee will be held on Thursday, February 26th at 4 p.m.**

**Mrs. Wainwright stated that the three areas of focus for the Wellness Subcommittee are: mental wellness, bullying and nutrition. Mrs. Wainwright stated that the Wellness Subcommittee viewed the Bully Project movie and will be discussing how to apply principles learned at the school level during Wellness Week.**

**Mrs. Wainwright shared several other wellness initiatives.**

**ADJOURNMENT – 9:11 PM**

**MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. McBride motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 PM; seconded by Mr. Saviano. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Karen A. Lynch, Secretary**

**/kd**