**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL**

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Monday, May 13, 2019**

The bi-monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, May 13, 2019, in the cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street, Bristol, RI. Chairperson, Erin Schofield, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 PM.

Present: Erin Schofield, Chairperson; Adam Ramos, Vice-Chairperson; Brian Bradshaw, Treasurer; John P. Saviano, Secretary; John C. Bento, Victor Cabral, Sheila O. Ellsworth, Marjorie J. McBride, and Carly N Reich ; Mario J. Andrade, Superintendent; Diane Sanna, Assistant Superintendent; Leslie Anderson, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Raquel Pellerin, Director of Finance and Operations; and Mary Ann Carroll, Esq., District Solicitor

Guests: Christine Homen, KMS Principal; Nicole Daniello, KMS Special Educator; Bonnie Pansa, KMS Special Educator; and Dana Osowiecki, Ph.D., Center for Psychology and Learning, LLC

**OPENING BUSINESS**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Caitlin Caldwell, Warren, RI*

Mrs. Caldwell raised concerns about what she believes is Hugh Cole School teachers unwillingness to meet with parents for parent teacher conferences. Mrs. Caldwell shared her own experience and frustration with trying to schedule a parent teacher conference. She also mentioned her dismay of how the teacher conference was handled once it did take place and those who were involved in that meeting.

Mrs. Caldwell shared about the circumstances behind a lawsuit that was raised against her family that she believes is unjustified.

Mrs. Caldwell closed by stating that she is wondering how she could still keep her children in the school system.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the April 22, 2019 meeting minutes; seconded by Mrs. McBride. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the May 1, 2019 meeting minutes; seconded by Mrs. McBride. The motion passed unanimously.

**AGENDA FOCUS**

1. Multi-tiered Systems of Support Presentation - Dana Osowiecki, Ph.D.

Chairperson Schofield introduced Dana Osowiecki, Ph.D., and thanked her for coming to present about Multi-tiered Systems of Support. Chairperson Schofield added that Dr. Osowiecki will be helping the Bristol Warren Regional School District (BWRSD) to implement multi-tiered systems of support.

Dr. Osowiecki introduced Nicole Daniello and Bonnie Panza, KMS Special Educators, who will be participating in tonight’s presentation. Dr. Osowiecki also introduced Christine Homen, KMS Principal, who will be reporting about her experiences in the field.

Dr. Osowiecki began her presentation by sharing how the different parts of the brain works as it relates to student learning.

Dr. Osowiecki stated that BWRSD already has multi-tiered supports and initiatives in place which will now be implemented on the behavioral side using the existing framework.

Dr. Osowiecki stated that there has been a lot of disregulation where people are feeling disregulated when behaviors happen in the classroom. She added that it is important to consider the big picture moving forward.

Dr. Osowiecki stated that Professional Development is changing the lens in which teachers are seeing behaviors through. Dr. Osowiecki shared that there have already been several opportunities at KMS for Professional Development to teach instructors how to help students regulate themselves. She described aspects of the Professional Development.

Dr. Osowiecki provided a handout to School Committee members on Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Systems of Best Practices. She expanded upon several points.

Dr. Osowiecki described the differences between Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions. She also described strategies for “resetting” students so that children can regulate themselves.

Nicole Daniello described her experience with direct instruction of students in the reset room and how well received it has been by the students. She stated that afterward the students have been willing to return to the mainstream room to complete the task.

Bonnie Pansa described her experiences in the reset room and how students have opened up allowing the instructors to talk them through and to help the student by showing the student there is a different way to act which is appropriate.

Christine Homen spoke about her use of Google Hangouts to stay in communication with issues at the school. She added that since the new systems have begun to be implemented, the “temperature” in classrooms has gone from 120 degrees to a very comfortable temperature. Ms. Homen stated that the amount of success in a short period of time has been incredible. She shared some positive student experiences she has witnessed.

A draft copy of the Connections Behavior Support Program Manual was distributed to the School Committee members. Dr. Osowiecki expanded upon the Connections Behavior Support Program.

School Committee members asked questions about the Connections Program which were answered by the presenters.

Mrs. Reich stated that she wanted to acknowledge publicly the amount of time those present have put into the implementation of these multi-tiered systems of support. Mrs. Reich closed by stating that she is thrilled that there is already evidence of success.

Mr. Bento requested information regarding buy-in percentages into the multi-tiered systems of support by students, teachers and administrators.

Dr. Osowiecki responded that she has attended a lot of faculty meetings where she has been incredibly impressed with the eye contact and level of engagement while these support strategies are being discussed. She added that the teachers are asking great questions and that they are expressing that they want to be part of the solution. Dr. Osowiecki believes the Behavior Support Program is off to a fantastic start.

Mr. Cabral thanked Chairperson Schofield publicly for all that she has done in bringing Dr. Osowiecki and her expertise to the Bristol Warren schools and for helping to start the process.

Mr. Cabral thanked Dr. Osowiecki and her team for their passion and commitment.

Mr. Ramos thanked Dr. Osowiecki and her team for the good and positive work that is being done in the area of social and emotional supports.

Mr. Ramos asked if there is anything the School Committee can do to further support these initiatives. He added that if there is nothing now that is needed from the School Committee, to please let the School Committee know if there is a way to be of support in the future.

Dr. Osowiecki thanked the School Committee and Administrators for their support. Dr. Osowiecki stated that she feels their passion and commitment. Dr. Osowiecki added that she appreciates the trust that has been placed in her abilities. She commented that the work is really being done by the teachers and administrators, and that she is helping. Dr. Osowiecki stated that she has great partners and it is truly a collaborative effort.

Chairperson Schofield asked a question regarding the difference between evacuation at the middle school and at the elementary school level. Dr. Osowiecki responded with an explanation.

Chairperson Schofield thanked Dr. Osowiecki and her colleagues for their great efforts. She commented that the School Committee, Superintendent and administrators are all dedicated to put these systems in place to make the Bristol Warren school better academically and emotionally.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Pursuant to Open Meeting Laws 42-46-5 (a)(1) for the following:

1. Personnel Recommendations #S2019-36
2. Administrator Job Performance - *person has been noticed*

MOTION: Mr. Ramos made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:53 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Bradshaw. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Bradshaw made a motion to adjourn the executive session at 8:34 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Ramos. The motion passed unanimously.

**OPEN SESSION RECONVENED AT 8:36 p.m.**

*Motion to seal the executive session minutes*

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to seal the executive session minutes; seconded by Mrs. McBride. The motion passed unanimously.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES**Recommendation #S2019-36 - Personnel

A request was made to pull A2 from the personnel recommendations for a separate vote.

MOTION: Mr. Ramos made a motion to approve the remainder of the personnel recommendations; seconded by Mr. Bradshaw. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Andrade introduced Alicia Pereira who was just voted in as the new Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent. Dr. Andrade shared about Mrs. Pereira’s 20 year history with the District and shared about her commitment and passion for the District.

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve A2 of the personnel recommendations; seconded by Mr. Ramos.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Cabral stated that he will be voting against this recommendation saying that he believes the position should be absorbed. He stated that he has nothing against the person.

The motion passed with a 7-1 vote; Mr. Cabral dissenting.

S2019-36 A-G: - PERSONNEL

A. APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the positions of Confidential Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Custodian as listed below:

1. Alicia M. Pereira Confidential Administrative

Assistant to the Superintendent

Effective: May 14, 2019

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Operational Budget

2. Alex J. Santos Custodian – Hugh Cole School

Effective: March 18, 2019

Reason: To fill a vacancy

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. Rachel C. Hamel Child Care Provider (Part Time)

Effective: Immediately, for the

remainder of the 2018-19 school

year, pending satisfactory

completion of pre-employment

requirements

Reason: To fill a vacancy

Funding: Parent Fees/Self-

Sufficient

2. Janette E. Truchon Child Care Provider (Part Time)

Effective: Immediately, for the

remainder of the 2018-19 school

year, pending satisfactory

completion of pre-employment

requirements

Reason: To fill a vacancy

3. Jasmin L. Cardoza Child Care Intern (Part Time)

Effective: Immediately, for the

remainder of the 2018-19 school

year, pending satisfactory

completion of pre-employment

requirements

Reason: To fill a vacancy

4. Ella E. Rozea Child Care Intern (Part Time)

Effective: Immediately, for the

remainder of the 2018-19 school

year, pending satisfactory

completion of pre-employment

requirements

Reason: To fill a vacancy

C. ESL/READING TUTORS/EXTENDED DAY SUPPORT: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following individual for the remainder of the 2018-19 school year only as a Reading Tutor contingent upon grant funding:

Name Type/School(s)

1. Linda A. Oliveira Tutor Title I Reading/Private

School

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. Angela J. Barra Elem Gr. 1-6

Elem Gr. 1-6 Spec. Ed.

2. Scarlette I. Schultz n/a

E. LEAVES OF ABSENCE: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant leaves of absence for one Art Teacher, one Secretary and one Special Education Resource Specialist as follows:

1. Shelby G. Marum Art Teacher – Mt. Hope High

School

Effective: October 2, 2019, for up to

13 weeks

Reason: Maternity leave in

accordance with Article 21,

Section M1 of the Master

Agreement

2. Taylor Jenkins Secretary – Mt. Hope High School

Effective: September 11, 2019, for

up to 13 weeks

Reason: Non-paid leave in

accordance with

Article 18.1 of the Master

Agreement

3. Michelle M. Cordeiro Special Education Resource

Specialist

Effective: September 3, 2019,

through December 23, 2019

Reason: Non-paid leave in

accordance with Article 21, Section

M3 of the Master Agreement

F. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignations of Alfred J. Rezendes from the position of Secondary Social Studies Teacher, Lindsey Pineo from the position of Middle School Psychologist and Cindy L. Giroux from the position of Elementary Principal as listed below:

1. Alfred J. Rezendes Social Studies Teacher – Mt. Hope

High School

Effective: June 14, 2019

Reason: Retirement

2. Lindsey K. Pineo School Psychologist – Kickemuit

Middle

Effective: June 14, 2019

Reason: Retirement

3. Cindy L. Giroux Principal – Hugh Cole School

Effective: June 30, 2019

Reason: Personal

G. SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT: Cindy L. Giroux

Recommendation #S2019-37 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the School Department Services Agreement with Dana Osowiecki, Ph.D., service provider, of the Center of Psychology and Learning LLC

MOTION: Mr. Bradshaw made a motion to approve the School Department Services Agreement with Dana Osowiecki, Ph.D., service provider, of the Center of Psychology and Learning LLC; Mrs. McBride seconded.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Bradshaw stated, for the record, acknowledgment of the great things that Dr. Osowiecki and her team are doing at Kickemuit Middle School and are planning to do at Hugh Cole School. Mr. Bradshaw commented that he is wholeheartedly in favor of this recommendation.

The motion passed unanimously.

Chairperson Schofield stated that she will be rearranging the order of business.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION 8:42 p.m.**

Pursuant to Open Meetings Laws 42-46-5 (a)(4) for the following:

1. Re: Legal Advice: Pending Litigation
2. Superintendent’s Evaluation

MOTION: At 8:42 p.m. Mr. Ramos made a motion to go into executive session; seconded by Mrs. McBride. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: At 9:51 p.m., Mr. Ramos made a motion to suspend the policy stating that meetings must end at 10:00 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Bradshaw.

The motion passed with a 7-1 vote; Mrs. McBride dissenting.

MOTION: At 10:43 p.m., Mr. Saviano made a motion to adjourn the executive session; seconded by Mrs. Ellsworth. The motion passed unanimously.

**OPEN SESSION RECONVENED AT 10:45 p.m.**

*Motion to seal the executive session minutes*

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to seal the executive session minutes; seconded by Mr. Bento. The motion passed unanimously

Recommendation #S2019-38 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the services of Gregory Piccirilli as Conflict Attorney for a pending investigation.

MOTION: Mr. Bradshaw made a motion to approve the services of Gregory Piccirilli as Conflict Attorney for a pending investigation; seconded by Mr. Cabral. The motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT – 10: 46 PM**

MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Saviano motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:46 PM; seconded by Mr. Bradshaw. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

John P. Saviano, Secretary

/kd