**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL**

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Monday, January 28, 2019**

The bi-monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, January 28, 2019, in the cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street, Bristol, RI. Chairperson, Erin Schofield, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:02 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 Reich, ; Mario J. Andrade, Superintendent; Diane Sanna, Assistant Superintendent; Mary Almeida, Director of Literacy and Title 1; Leslie Anderson, Director of Pupil Personnel Services; Raquel Pellerin, School Business Administrator; and Andrew Henneous, Esq., District Solicitor

**OPENING BUSINESS**

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

**ACCOLADES**

The following students and staff members were honored by the School Committee:

Eighth grade students in the Underwater Robotics class at KMS learned about ocean exploration and build underwater robots called ROVs (remotely operated vehicles) through an international program called SeaPerch. Students discover how the engineering design process can be used to develop and revise their ROV designs to perform tasks underwater. Upon successful completion of their ROV, students are given the opportunity to participate in local competitions.

The Southeastern New England SeaPerch Derby kicked off the first regional event of the year with the new “Fitness Challenge”. The Southeaster New England SeaPerch derby took place at New Bedford High School in Massachusetts with a excellent turnout of young engineers who competed with their SeaPerch remotely operated underwater vehicles.   
  
Participants competed in middle school, high school and open classes and each team excelled at their own particular skills.   
   
Judges included NUWC Division Newport engineers, volunteers from the Undersea Science and Engineering Foundation Inc., as well as retired Rear Admiral Wisecup. All of whom were able to provide sound advice and expert feedback on SeaPerch designs.  
  
10 students from KMS participated in the Southeastern New England SeaPerch Derby at New Bedford High School on Saturday, December 15, 2018. Otto Kallfelz and Evan Daniel won first place in the middle school division and will be advancing to the International SeaPerch Derby in Washington, D.C. in June of 2019. The other students did very well and are planning on attending the spring derby for another chance to earn a spot at internationals. Below are all the student participants:  
  
Otto Kallfelz RoseMarie Jordan Joshua Davis Griffin Berardo  
Evan Daniel Umme Maryam Sage Gamon   
Devonte Cheek Salvatore Gentile Ian McLellan

A special THANK YOU to Ms. Kerri Krawczyk and Mr. Jim Paiva, retired engineer, who volunteers almost every day to help out with SeaPerch!   
  
Congratulations to Suleman Baig, grade 6, who received recognition from Empower/Achieve 3000 reading program for the Make the Break holiday reading contest. Out of the thousands of students in Rhode Island, his name was drawn as the state-wide winner in recognition of the hard work he put in over holiday break to complete activities in the Empower/Achieve3000 program. His prize was Singsation 5-in-1 karaoke system.  
Kickemuit Middle School’s winter holiday contest was launched to encourage students to continue using Achieve3000 solutions over the holiday break and maintain the growth they worked so hard to achieve over the first semester.   
  
Achieve3000® is the leading literacy platform in today’s blended learning programs, with differentiated solutions serving nearly 3 million students worldwide and customized for Rhode Island.

50 schools nationwide named State Winners in the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow Contest for their creative proposals to address real-world issues using STEM learning. The below students have applied academic skills to solve a real world community problem. Specifically, they engineered solutions to make crosswalks safer for both pedestrians and motorists along the East Bay Bike Path.   
  
As a result, the students have earned $20,000 for technology at Mt. Hope High School. Students created a community service project to increase safety while doing a community service for their school by assisting with school budgetary purchases of technology.   
  
Odin Gaudreau Allyson Devine Chelsea Goodman Jacob Perry  
Kristiana Cabral Alice Grantham Abigail Heroux Mikayla Ricks  
Mikayla Hudon Aditi Mehta Rebecca Oliver Eva White

Mary Cabral, STEM teacher at MHHS, came forward to announce that she received certificates from Governor Raimondo for the students who participated in the Solve for Tomorrow Contest.

Ms. Cabral shared a three minute presentation which will be submitted for the next phase of Samsung’s Solve For Tomorrow Contest where the contest prize equals $30,000. The video showcased a 3D crosswalk designed and traffic studied by the students.

Ryder T. Ferris was selected by the American Legion to represent RI at Boys Nation in Washington, D.C. during July 19-27, 2019. Two representatives from each of the 49 Boys States represent their state at Boys Nation in Washington, where the young leaders receive an education on the structure and function of federal government. At the event, each delegate acts as a senator from his Boys State. The young lawmakers caucus at the beginning of the session, then organize into committees and conduct hearings on bills submitted by program delegates.  
Also he was recognized for his essay on 89.3 NPR The Public’s Radio “This I Believe”.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Tom Fullen, MHHS Unified Basketball Team Coach, came forward to publicly thank the School Committee members for the jackets that were given to the MHHS Unified Basketball Team. He personally invited each of the School Committee members to attend their home games, and once again, thanked the School Committee members for their support.

Chairperson Schofield thanked Mr. Fullen for his leadership of the MHHS Unified Basketball Team.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

1. Personnel Recommendations #S2019-01

There were no requests to enter into executive session.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairperson Schofield stated that all items listed with an asterisk on the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the School Committee and will be enacted by one motion.

Mrs. Schofield stated that E8 will be pulled from the Consent Agenda

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

The motion passed unanimously.

**S2019-01 A-H: CONSENT AGENDA – PERSONNEL**A. APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the positions of Guidance Secretary, PPS Secretary, Teacher Assistant (Part Time) and three Custodians as listed below:  
  
1. Christine E. Francis Guidance Secretary (Level II) – Mt.

Hope High  
   
 Effective: Immediately  
  
 Reason: To fill a vacancy  
 Funding: Operational Budget  
   
2. Madlyn M. Waskiewicz PPS Secretary (Level II) - Oliver  
   
 Effective: January 9, 2019  
  
 Reason: To fill a vacancy  
   
 Funding: Operational Budget  
  
3. Ashley A. O’Blenis Teacher Assistant (Part Time) –

Hugh Cole  
   
 Effective: January 7, 2019  
  
 Reason: To fill a vacancy  
   
 Funding: Operational Budget  
  
4. Maria F. Madeira Custodian – Hugh Cole  
   
 Effective: January 7, 2019  
  
 Reason: To fill a vacancy  
   
 Funding: Operational Budget  
  
5. Michael J. Payne Custodian – Colt Andrews  
   
 Effective: January 7, 2019  
   
 Reason: To fill a vacancy  
   
 Funding: Operational Budget  
  
6. John M. Milhomens Custodian – Guiteras  
   
 Effective: January 7, 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. Yamilex Rodriguez 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. Eliza Adkins 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  
  
3. Laura Deal 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  
  
 Funding:Parent Fees/Self-

Sufficient  
  
C. ATHLETIC EVENT SUPERVISORS/TIME CLOCK KEEPERS/TICKET TAKERS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following individuals for the remainder of the 2018-19 school year only as Athletic Event Supervisors, Time Clock Keepers or Ticket Takers for the Bristol Warren Regional School District (pending certification, funding and sufficient activities):  
  
  
 Name Position  
1. Neale Ross Time Clock Keeper/Ticket Taker  
  
D. GCAA APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the Superintendent's appointment of the following applicants to the extracurricular positions listed below for the 2018-19 school year only in accordance with Section GCAA of the School Committee Bylaws as follows:  
  
 FALL COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH  
 Sport Position Coach  
1. Football Asst. Coach Tanor Costa  
  
 WINTER COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH  
 Sport Position Coach  
2. Track (Indoor) Asst. Coach Kylie McPherson  
3. Gymnastics (Girls) Asst. Coach Courtney L’Heureux  
4. Hockey (Boys) Asst. Coach Merrick Villeneuve  
5. Basketball (Boys) Volunteer Michael Delmage  
  
 WINTER COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE  
 Sport Position Coach  
6. Basketball (Boys) Asst. Coach Tyler Barbosa  
  
E. 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 2018-19 school year only (pending certification, funding and sufficient sign-ups to warrant running these programs):  
  
 SPRING COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH  
 Sport Position Coach  
1. Lacrosse (Boys) Asst. Coach James Olson \*  
2. Volleyball (Boys) Asst. Coach Kenneth Viera  
3. Baseball Asst. Coach Henry Cabral\*  
4. Baseball Asst. Coach Ryan Swarz\*  
5. Track (Outdoor) (Girls) Head Coach Neale Ross\*  
6. Track (Outdoor) Asst. Coach Kylie McPherson  
7. Trach (Outdoor) (Boys) Head Coach Dale Remillard\*  
  
 CLUB COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE  
 Sport Position Coach  
9. Lacrosse (Boys) Head Coach Benjamin Godfrey\*  
  
 ADVISORS – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE   
10. Science Olympiad Baylee DiMarco   
  
 \*reappointment  
   
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. Kathryn E. Figliolini Reading Specialist   
   
  
2. Christina A. Nicini Elem Grs. 1-6   
3. Sydney G. Beck General   
   
4. Charles A. Carpenter Elem Grs. 1-6   
5. Brian A. Young General   
   
6. Jessica E. Medeiros Elem Grs. 1-6   
7. Brittany N. Bouchard Elem Grs. 1-6 Unit G  
   
8. Kristen N. Cordeiro General

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:  
  
 CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE  
1. Jonathan C. Coelho   
   
H. LEAVES OF ABSENCE: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant a leave of absence for an Administrative Assistant as follows:  
  
1. Adrienne Burke Administrative Assistant to the  
 Superintendent  
   
 Effective: January 11, 2019 through

April 15, 2019, pending release

from physician  
  
 Reason: Leave in accordance with

Article 21 of the Master Agreement

**SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES**Recommendation #S2019-02 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve the second reading of the Evacuation and Lockdown Drills Policy (EBCB) {formerly Fire Drills Policy (EBCB)}

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the second reading of the Evacuation and Lockdown Drills Policy (EBCB); Mr. Bradshaw seconded.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ramos asked if there were any changes made since the first reading. Mrs. Reich responded that no changes were made to the policy since the first reading.

Mr. Ramos asked for clarification that the Evacuation and Lockdown Drills Policy (EBCB) is in accordance with Rhode Island General Law. Mrs. Reich responded that the policy is in accordance with Rhode Island General Law.

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #S2019-03 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve the second reading of the Crisis Management and Communication Policy.

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the second reading of the Crisis Management and Communication Policy; seconded by Mr. Bento.

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #S2019-04 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve deleting Safety Program Policy (EB)

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to delete Safety Program Policy (EB); seconded by Mr. Bento.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ramos asked for clarification that the Safety Program Policy was being deleted due to redundancy. Mrs. Reich responded that that was correct. Chairperson Schofield further clarified that any policies that are deleted are reviewed to ensure any relevant content is absorbed into a revised or new policy.

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #S2019-05 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve deleting Crisis Manual Policy (EBC)

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve deleting Crisis Manual Policy (EBC); seconded by Mr. Bento.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ramos clarified that this policy is being deleted because it is being absorbed into the Crisis Management and Communication Policy.

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #S2019-06 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve the second reading of the Staff/Student Relationships Policy (GBH)

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the second reading of the Staff/Student Relationships Policy (GBH) ; seconded by Mr. Bento.

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Reich highlighted the policy item that was amended.

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #S2019-07 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve the first reading of the Bullying Policy (which will replace the RI Statewide Bullying Policy (JFCK))

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the first reading of the Bullying Policy; seconded by Mr. Bradshaw.

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Reich clarified that the Bullying Policy for the District is based off of the State’s Bullying Policy. She commented that the Subcommittee will be looking at the Bullying Policy further and may make further changes prior to the second reading.

Mr. Ramos explained that the District is not changing the State’s bullying policy, but has incorporated the State’s bullying policy into the District’s bullying policy.

Dr. Andrade clarified that the Bullying Policy before the School Committee this evening is verbatim to the State’s bullying policy. Dr. Andrade read the paragraph that was changed within the policy.

Mr. Ramos reiterated that the District’s bullying policy is in compliance with Rhode Island’s State Policy on bullying.

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #S2019-08 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve the first reading of the Anti- Discrimination/Anti-Harassment Policy & Grievance Procedure (AC)

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the first reading of the Anti- Discrimination/Anti-Harassment Policy & Grievance Procedure (AC); seconded by Mr. Bradshaw

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Reich stated that the Anti-Discrimination/Anti-Harassment Policy & Grievance Procedure (AC) is a brand new policy that was brought to the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee by the District’s legal counsel.

Mr. Henneous, attorney for the District, stated that this policy gives a much more comprehensive review and investigation process. He added that the policy has been vetted through the Office of Human Rights.

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #S2019-09 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, approve the FY18 Audit Report

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the FY18 Audit Report; seconded by Mr. Bradshaw.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Bradshaw stated that the FY18 Audit Report was initially brought to the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee in draft form during their December meeting. Mr. Connors, from the District’s accounting firm, presented the audit report to the Subcommittee.

Mr. Bradshaw read highlights from the audit report summary page.

Ms. Pellerin shared a top level breakdown providing explanations of the annual financial audits, single audit, agreed upon procedures for the Uniform Chart of Accounts (UCOA) and the Municipal Transparency Portal.

Mrs. Schofield clarified that audits are required of every school district within the State of Rhode Island.

Mrs. Pellerin stated that there was nothing remarkable to report.

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #S2019-10 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve attendance at the National School Board Association (NSBA) Conference that may be expected to benefit the public schools, and the amount of expenses eligible for reimbursement per School Committee member.

MOTION: Mr. Bradshaw made a motion to approve attendance at the National School Board Association (NSBA) Conference that may be expected to benefit the public schools, and the amount of expenses eligible for reimbursement per School Committee member; seconded by Mr. Bento.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ramos explained that the NSBA Conference is an opportunity for School Committee members to learn from experts on the best ways to move the District forward to improve outcomes, close achievement gaps and ensure that everyone’s needs are being met.

Mr. Saviano expanded more about all the learning opportunities that are available to School Committee members at the NSBA Conference.

Mr. Ramos stated that School Committee policy requires that in order for School Committee members to take part in Professional Development, the Professional Development must be approved by a majority of the School Committee.

Mr. Ramos explained the cost breakdown for each School Committee member and the total cost for all those who will be attending the NSBA Conference.

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #S2019-11 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, assign student equity categorical fund balance to offset expenditures for School Committee travel and conference expenditures.

MOTION : Mrs. McBride made a motion to assign student equity categorical fund balance to offset expenditures for School Committee travel and conference expenditures; seconded by Mr. Bradshaw.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ramos asked the Superintendent to explain the Student Equity Line item concerning how it is normally used and why it would be appropriate for use for School Committee Professional Development.

Dr. Andrade responded that historically, the student equity line item was provided to each school district in the form of legislative funds to be used to close achievement gaps through developing policies, researched based curriculum, etc. In 2010, with the implementation of the funding formula, those funds ceased. Since 2011, the student equity line funds have only be used for one time expenses. Those funds have not been used for curriculum nor have they been earmarked for anything else.

Dr. Andrade further explained that using the funds will not take away from any programs for our students. It is set aside to be used as a one time expense to close achievement gaps. The key role of the School Committee is to develop policy to help close achievement gaps. Dr. Andrade stated that use of the student equity line item for the School Committee’s Professional Development fits into the intent of the funds. Dr. Andrade stated that currently no money is set aside for School Committee Professional Development. The District will plan on creating a Professional Development line item next year.

Dr. Andrade stated that it will be the responsibility of the School Committee to report out their findings from the NSBA Conference and how it will be used to develop future policy.

The motion passed unanimously.

**SUBCOMMITTEE/SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS & INITIATIVES**

*Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee*

Mrs. Reich reported that the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee will be relooking at the Bullying Policy to ensure no students fall through the cracks. A concussion protocols policy will be looked at soon.

Mrs. Reich stated that she is excited to be a part of the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 4, 2019 at 6 p.m. in the Oliver Administration Building.

*Budget/Facilities Subcommittee Meeting*

Mr. Bradshaw stated that PAR Engineering Representatives will be present at the next meeting to discuss phase 3 of the water mitigation MHHS field project. Mr. Bradshaw stated that the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee will also be discussing additional Priority 1 projects, current FY19 budget status, and preparations to finalize the FY20 budget looking toward the JFC meeting. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 18 at 6:30 p.m. at the Oliver Administration Building.

*Personnel/Contract Negotiations Subcommittee Meeting*

Mr. Ramos stated he had nothing to report at this time.

*Wellness Committee*

Mrs. Reich stated that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 30 at 4 p.m. in the Oliver Administration Building.

Mrs. Reich stated that the committee is working hard to develop goals for wellness. She stated that she and Mr. Ramos have drafted a mission statement that will be shared with the Wellness Committee.

Mrs. Reich stated that student representatives from each of the schools are being invited to participate in the next meeting. The Committee is also hoping to invite a pediatrician to be part of the Wellness Committee.

Mrs. Reich stated that they will be taking another look at the School Committee’s Wellness Policy.

Mrs. Reich stated that they are working with Kate Mills, Technology, to develop a Health & Wellness page for the District’s website.

*Chairperson’s Initiatives*

*School Committee Goals*

Chairperson Schofield reminded the School Committee to submit their personal goals for the School Committee for the purpose of developing a collective set of goals to be presented to the Superintendent describing the School Committee’s vision for the District.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (8:28 PM)  
 Pursuant to Open Meeting Laws 42-46-5 (a)(4) for the following:   
 1. Discussion: two investigation reports related to student/parent complaints

MOTION: Mr. Ramos made a motion to enter into executive session at 8:28 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Bradshaw

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Ramos made a motion to adjourn the executive session at 10:46 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Bradshaw.

The motion passed unanimously

*Open Session reconvened at 10:47 p.m.*

Mrs. Schofield asked for a motion to seal the executive session minutes.

MOTION: Mr. Bradshaw made a motion to seal the minutes for tonight’s executive session meeting; seconded by Mrs. Reich.

DISCUSSION: Mrs. McBride expressed her concern regarding sealing the executive session minutes before they have been read. Mr. Henneous responded explaining the guidance from the Attorney General’s office regarding the new Open Meetings Laws. Mr. Henneous stated that the Attorney General has issued a letter stating their concern with how the statute is written. Mr. Henneous concluded that for now, the minutes are sealed in this manner.

Mrs. McBride responded that she will go along with the lawyer’s recommendation, but is extremely uncomfortable with doing it this way.

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Ramos made motion to direct legal counsel to draft determinations regarding both student/parent complaints consistent with the direction to be provided to him based on the discussion held in Executive Session by the School Committee; Mr. Bradshaw seconded.

The motion passed with a 6-2 vote; Mr. Cabral and Mrs. Ellsworth dissenting.

**ADJOURNMENT – 10:51 PM**

MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Ramos motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:51 PM; seconded by Mrs. McBride. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

John P. Saviano, Secretary

/kd