**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL**

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Monday, August 27, 2018**

The bi-monthly meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, August 27, 2018, in the cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street, Bristol, RI. Chairperson, Paul Silva, called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 PM.

Present: Paul Silva, Chairperson; Erin Schofield, Vice-Chairperson; Marjorie J. McBride, Treasurer; William M. O’Dell, Secretary; John C. Bento, Brian Bradshaw, Diana Campbell, Adam M. Ramos, and John P. Saviano; 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.

Chairperson Silva commented that he had the pleasure of attending Staff Orientation, and received excellent feedback from the staff members regarding the orientation day.

He thanked the Administration for putting together a great event.

**PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC FORUM**

Diane Swire, Bristol, Rhode Island, shared the following statement:

*Good evening
 I am here today because my son was assaulted on the last day of school at KMS– June 18—with 1 hour left in the school day. He was punched in the face and brought to the emergency room, sustaining a broken nose and a laceration requiring 6 stitches. There were 4 boys involved in what they called a “game” of tapping, taunting, mimicking and name calling. My son did not think it was a game. Not one of the boys were punished or suffered consequences as a result of the assault. My son is scarred physically and emotionally, and lost the first few weeks of his summer due to the trauma, police visits, school interviews, and doctors visits. Over the past 3 years of middle school, my son has endured verbal abuse from many different student.
 Since June, our family has had the opportunity to engage in dialogue with school administrators and members of the community regarding bullying in the BW school district. Tonight I would like to take the opportunity to share what we have learned and what we feel will make this district a better place to learn.
First…briefly…What is Bullying?*  *Bullying is unwanted verbal, written, electronic or physical behavior from a person with either a real or perceived imbalance of power; in school that power can be from a bigger kid, a group of kids, a richer kid, a more athletic kid, a better dressed kid. It is not rudeness and it is not conflict.
 Bullying does not need to be a repeated behavior or action but it often is. Kids who bully feel good about what they are doing. It gives them a sense of power. Synonyms are: persecute, oppress, tyrannize, harass, intimidate. Think about those words. Now think about a teenager going through so many changes – think about how YOU felt as a teenager. Think about just wanting to fit in and having others taunt you every day about how you are different – short, tall, fat, skinny, nerdy, gay, too athletic, not athletic, Asian, Hispanic, autistic….. the list goes on.
 Kids who are targets of bullies are prone to increased anxiety, depression, self-mutilation and cutting, promiscuity, drug and alcohol abuse, social isolation, and sadly these kids are 9x more likely to commit suicide than kids who are not bullied. And no one wants to think about the consequences of kids with antisocial tendencies who eventually plot their revenge. How many times have we seen people say “I never thought it would happen here”?
 Kids who bully are exhibiting a behavior that can be changed with correct, consistent interventions from school staff, peers, and community. Most teens who bully are at greater risk for engaging in delinquent behaviors, including vandalism, as well as violence inside and outside of school. They are also at risk of substance abuse and dropping out of school. Effectively addressing bullying will benefit the targets of bullying as well as the children who bully.
 A few facts:
 10 million kids a day are bullied
 160,000 kids a year Skip School just to AVOID BEING BULLIED

In our own school district, the most recent data from 2014 shows KMS students reporting that 64% of them experienced some type of bullying, but only 1/3 of them reported it. However, when they did report it, the bullying stopped 60% of the time. Of the kids who didn’t report it, more than half of them believed it would not have been taken seriously and 46% of them didn’t think telling would make it stop. WE need to change this.
 If there is less bullying in schools, then the test scores will rise; kids will want to be at school and their learning will improve when they feel safe.
Bullying cannot be tolerated in any form. The following are things that Adults in our school system have said to children and parents involved in incidents;
 1-Just ignore that kid – he’s just a pain and says that all the time
 2-Get thicker skin – you will hear that all year
 3- We can’t do anything about that incident because the kid involved is from a prominent family in the community.
 4. Boys will be boys – they will fight – it’s nothing
 5. Sorry my hands are tied – there is nothing I can do about it
By using these statements – the Kid who is doing the Bullying is given Power and the kid being bullied is
made to feel insignificant and belittled. They feel like their claims of being bullied
are not being heard or substantiated, this is why they stop reporting it.

Next I would like to present to you recommendations that have come from our research and parent work groups.
Education should be offered repetitively, just like fire drills
School Staff need more education in how to identify bullying, what the school policy is, who to report it to, what to say to the students involved. This includes all staff from administration to bus drivers and everyone in between. It is not OK to brush off the kids with comments like the ones I’ve already mentioned. When bystanders intervene, bullying stops within 10 seconds 57% of the time. Let’s give them the tools to do this.
Student education should follow along the same guidelines as for the staff. What is bullying, what should you do if you see it and what if it is happening to you?
Family and Community education – recognize the signs, role model respectful behavior at home and in community activities
Bullying Liaison – There needs to be one clear individual hired to handle all reports of bullying. This person would be educated in the policy and how to handle the reports – he/she would gather all documentation on all of the bullying reports and would also be the one to follow up on all of the claims. This will allow for dots to be connected when there may be a pattern of behavior that is not picked up if reports of one child’s behavior are going to several different people/places. He/she will also be able to monitor how targets of bullying are doing, particularly if they are the target of several different kids who bully. He/she would decide and enforce the consequences when appropriate. The kids being bullied could also go directly to the liaison, knowing that their claims will be heard and followed up on. It would be clear to all, that this is the person to go to for bullying issues.

I went to a presentation given by Scott Sullivan in Portsmouth. He is a retired police officer and was the bullying liaison for Portsmouth for many years. He is able to be contacted with any questions and is also available for presentations.

With the next budget, and each future budget, we must consider how to fund more mental health professionals in our schools. Education to school personnel can only go so far in teaching how to handle the difficult situations and socio-emotional struggles of our schoolchildren. There is a need for additional professionals to manage these difficult topics and teach the children how to learn empathy, conflict resolution, and handle stress and frustration. The mental health professionals in our school system are already spread too thin to provide effective services for our children.
Alternative consequences. Zero tolerance policies (i.e., suspension and expulsion) are not successful at reducing bullying and, in fact, may have negative consequences. A promising approach is the use of restorative justice, where those who bully make amends for their behavior and are taught more prosocial ways of interacting. Community service would be a good way to teach kids some respect for others and do some good in the community at the same time. Opportunities abound:
Volunteering at a nursing home
Parks/Recreation – cleaning up the park or streets
Library – shelving books/sorting out bins
Food Pantry
School system
There could be a student led counsel to address bullying consequences and impart the consequence.
Finally, we are asking that the district’s “180 day rule” be revoked. If a child breaks a school rule on the last day of school, there must be a way to impart the consequences on the child, even though there are no more days of school in that year.
We hope that this is a turning point to re-commit this district’s intent to address bullying. It will take a long term commitment of time and resources. Parents, students, school staff, and other adults in the community can help prevent bullying by talking about it, building a safe school environment, and creating a community-wide bullying prevention strategy.
Thank you for your time and attention.*Chairperson Silva thanked Ms. Swire for coming and speaking to the School Committee. He mentioned that Ms. Swire had met with the Superintendent who apprised Ms. Swire of action steps being taken within the District that will address her concerns. Chairperson Silva asked Ms. Swire if she found those satisfactory. She responded that the steps being taken are satisfactory.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION - 7:12 P.M.**

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

1. Personnel Recommendations #S2018-61

Chairperson Silva asked if there was a need for an executive session. There were no requests made for an executive session.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES**

**RECOMMENDATION #S2018-61:**

Chairperson Silva 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. 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. There were no requests for a separate vote.

Chairperson Silva stated that he would be recusing himself from the Consent Agenda vote and turned the meeting over to Vice-Chairperson Schofield.

Vice-Chairperson Schofield asked for a motion.

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

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to seal the July 23, 2018 executive session minutes; seconded by Mr. Saviano.

The motion passed unanimously.

Chairperson Silva returned to the open session.

**S2018-61 A-N – PERSONNEL**

A. APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the positions of Secondary Theatre Teacher, Secondary Science Teacher, Middle School Special Educator, Middle School ELA Teacher, Middle School Math Teacher, Elementary Special Educator, Elementary Grade Five (Bubble) Teacher, PE/APE Teacher (2/5 Time) and three Teacher Assistants (Part Time)as listed below:

1. Kaelin N. Hogan Grade Five (Bubble) Teacher –

 Hugh Cole

 1 Effective: For the 2018-19 school

 year only, pending satisfactory

 completion of pre-employment

 requirements

 Reason: To fill a new position

 Funding: Operational Budget
 (1st Step)

2. Linda Stockdale Science Teacher – Mt. Hope High

 Effective: For the 2018-19 school

 year only, pending satisfactory

 completion of pre-employment

 requirements

 Reason: To fill a leave of absence

 vacancy
 Funding: Operational Budget
 (Step 12/Masters+30)

3. Kayla A. Magee Special Educator – Kickemuit

 Middle

 Effective: For the 2018-19 school

 year only, pending satisfactory

 completion of pre-employment

 requirements

 Reason: To fill a leave of absence

 vacancy

 Funding: Operational Budget
 (8th Step/Masters)

4. Brian E. Fracassa PE/APE Teacher (2/5 Time) – Hugh

 Cole

 Effective: For the 2018-19 school

 year, pending satisfactory

 completion of pre-employment

 requirements

 Reason: To fill a vacancy

 Funding: Operational Budget
 (12th Step)

5. Heather C. Chatterley Math Teacher (One Year Only) –

 Kickemuit

 Effective: For the 2018-19 school

 year only, pending and

 satisfactory completion of

 pre-employment requirements

 Reason: To fill a vacancy

 Funding: Operational Budget
 (6th Step)

6. Erin D. Moniz English Teacher (One Year Only) –

 Kickemuit

 Effective: For the 2018-19 school

 year only, pending satisfactory

 completion of pre-employment

 requirements

 Reason: To fill a vacancy

 Funding: Operational Budget
 (3rd Step)

7. Nick R. Mendillo Theatre Teacher (One Year Only) –

 Mt. Hope

 Effective: For the 2018-19 school

 year only, pending satisfactory

 completion of pre-employment

 requirements.

 Reason: To fill a vacancy

 Funding: Operational Budget
 (4th Step)

8. Machele M. Harris Special Educator (One Year Only)

 – Hugh Cole

 Effective: For the 2018-19 school

 year only, pending satisfactory

 completion of pre-employment

 requirements.

 Reason: To fill a vacancy

 Funding: Operational Budget
 (1st Step)

9. Heather Ostrowe Teacher Assistant (Part Time) –

 Hugh Cole

 Effective: For the 2018-19 school

 year pending satisfactory

 completion of pre-employment

 requirements.

 Reason: To fill a vacancy

 Funding: Operational Budget

10. Susan DeAngelis Teacher Assistant (Part Time) –

 Colt Andrews

 Effective: For the 2018-19 school

 year pending satisfactory

 completion of pre-employment

 requirements.

 Reason: To fill a vacancy

 Funding: Operational Budget

11. Eric Rasmussen Teacher Assistant (Part Time) –

 Hugh Cole

 Effective: For the 2018-19 school

 year pending Satisfactory

 completion of pre-employment

 requirements.

 Reason: To fill a vacancy

 Funding: Operational Budget

B. GCD APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the Superintendent's appointment of the following applicants to the positions of Grade 3 (Bubble) Teacher and Secondary Special Educator in accordance with Section GCD of the School Committee Bylaws as follows:

1. Jessica L. Silva Grade Three (Bubble) Teacher –

 Hugh Cole

 Effective: For the 2018-19 school

 year only, pending satisfactory

 completion of pre-employment

 requirements

 Reason: To fill a vacancy

 Funding: Operational Budget
 (3rd Step/MA)

2. Lisa M. Verrette Special Educator – Mt. Hope High

 Effective: For the 2018-19 school

 Year, pending certification and

 satisfactory completion of

 pre-employment requirements

 Reason: To fill a vacancy

 Funding: Operational Budget

 (5th Step)

C. 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. Peter J. Sheil Child Care Provider (Part Time)

 Effective: Immediately, for the

 2018-19 school year, pending

 satisfactory completion of

 pre-employment requirements

 Reason: To fill a vacancy

 Funding: Parent Fees/Self-

 Sufficient

2. Elizabeth J. Schoenherr Child Care Provider (Part Time)

 Effective: Immediately, for the

 2018-19 school year, pending

 satisfactory completion of pre-

 employment requirements

 Reason: To fill a vacancy

 Funding: Parent Fees/Self-

 Sufficient

D. HIGH SCHOOL EXTENDED DAY PROGRAM: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following individuals for the 2018-19 session only of the Mt. Hope High School Extended Day Program contingent upon sufficient enrollment:

 Name Position
1. Allison M. Lewis Academic Support
2 Joseph W. Koger Science Teacher
3. Daniel C. Parks Math Teacher
4. Nicole B. Solow Co-Coordinator
5. Elizabeth G. Johnson Co-Coordinator
6. Elizabeth M. Pagano English Teacher
7. Mary L. Soderlund English Teacher

E. SPECIAL EDUCATION CONSULTANTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to re-appoint the following individuals as Part Time Special Education Consultants for the 2018-2019 school year contingent upon funding and student need:

 Name Postition Funding
1. Elizabeth Azevedo Child Outreach Screener Preschool IDEA
2. Madelyn McArdle Resource Consultant IDEA/Oper. Budget
3. Jeanne Sullivan Physical Therapist Operational Budget
4. Rachel Figueiredo Certified Occupational Therapist IDEA/Oper. Budget
 Assistant (COTA)
5. Valerie Cavanagh Certified Occupational Therapist IDEA/Oper. Budget
 Assistant (COTA)

F. KINDERGARTEN SCREENING: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following individuals as Kindergarten Screening Teachers for the 2018-2019 school year contingent upon funding and student need:

 Name
1. Susan Abilheira
2. Karen McCanna
3. Maria Grace Arruda
4. Paula Richards-Sousa
5. Kelly Servant
6. Jane Farnsworth
7. Diane Gallison
8. Angela Hawkins
9. Jessica O’Neill
10. Kimberlie Peecher
11. Jacqueline Taylor

G. NON-CERTIFIED SUPPORT STAFF: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to re-appoint the following individuals to the non-certified staff positions listed below for the 2018-19 school year only (pending adequate Federal, State and local funding and contingent upon adequate enrollment and program renewal):

 Name Program Assignment
1. Gail M. DeCosta Security Systems Technician-HS
2. Joseph F. Andrade Security Systems Technician-HS
3. Larry A. Pac Security Systems Technician-HS

H. EXTRACURRICULAR GCD APPOINTMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint the following applicants to the extracurricular positions of Football Assistant Coach, Cheerleading (Club Football) Head Coach and Soccer (Girls) Assistant Coach in accordance with Section GCD of the School Committee Bylaws as follows:

 FALL COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH
 Sport Position Coach
1. Football Assistant Coach Mark Rhynard
2. Soccer (Girls) Assistant Coach Ian Mutti
3. Volleyball (Girls) Assistant Coach Lee Ann Shaw

I. 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
1. Sport Position Coach
 Unified Basketball\*\* Head Coach Tom Fullen\*

 FALL COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH
 Sport Position Coach
2. Cheerleading (Club Football) Assistant Coach Danielle Mello\*

 WINTER COACHES – MT. HOPE HIGH
 Sport Position Coach
3. Special Olympics Co-Coach Susan Carlson\*
4. Gymnastics (Girls) Head Coach Nicole Daniello\*
5. Swimming (Girls) Head Coach Adam Dutra\*

 ADVISORS – MT. HOPE HIGH
6. Marching Band Asst. Director Kelsey Hopkins
7. Marching Band Drill Instructor Kelsey Hopkins
8. Class Advisor (Senior) Geoffrey Keegan\*
9. Class Advisor (Senior) Christopher Lambert\*

 OTHER SUPERVISORS – MT. HOPE HIGH SCHOOL
10. Wellness Supervisor (First Quarter) Roland Rodrigues\*
11. Wellness Supervisor (Second Quarter) Thomas DelSanto\*
12. Wellness Supervisor (Third Quarter) Thomas DelSanto\*
13. After School Supervisor (First Quarter) Elizabeth Pagano
14. After School Supervisor (Second Quarter) Elizabeth Pagano
15. After School Supervisor (Third Quarter) Elizabeth Pagano
16. After School Supervisor (Fourth Quarter) Elizabeth Pagano
17. Before School Supervisor Ana Xavier\*
18. Before School Supervisor Ryan Garrity\*
19. Before School Supervisor David DeMello\*
20. Before School Supervisor Jon Lawson\*

 WINTER COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE
 Sport Position Coach
21. Basketball (Girls) Head Coach Tom Fullen\*
22. Basketball (Girls) Assistant Coach Kerri Ferreira\*

 FALL COACHES – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE
 Sport Position Coach
23. Soccer (Girls) Assistant Coach Jadon Kyle

 Desmarais

 ADVISORS – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE
24. Art Club Maria Camara\*
25. Community Service Club Jeffrey Grifka\*
26. Drama Club Sally Caruso\*
27. Boat Building Stephanie Wirth\*
28. Jazz Band Jeffrey Brackett\*
29. Lego Robotics Stephanie Wirth\*
30. Mentoring Coordinator Patricia Ryone\*
31. National Junior Honor Society Melissa Labonte\*
32. Science Olympiad Kerri Krawczyk\*
33. Student Government Jane Swift\*
34. Sustainability Club (Green Team) Amy O’Donnell\*

 OTHER SUPERVISORS – KICKEMUIT MIDDLE
35. Before School Supervisor (Morning Duties) Denise Quinlan
36. Before School Supervisor (Morning Duties) Paul Castigliego\*

 \*Reappointment
 \*\*Funded by Special Olympics RI

J. 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. Erin M. Gill n/a
2. JoAnn MacPherson n/a

3. Heather A. Ray Elem Gr. 1-6
4. Lisa M. Verrette n/a

5. Elizabeth R. Saviano n/a

K. 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:

 TEACHER ASSISTANTS
1. Eden V. Donahue

 SECRETARIAL
2. Kimberly E. Averill

 CUSTODIANS
3. Isabel M. Silva

L. LEAVES OF ABSENCE: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant a leaves of absence for a Special Educator and a Grade Five Teacher as follows:

1. Christine K. (Bean) Kotuby Science Teacher – Mt. Hope
 Effective: 2018-2019 School Year

 Reason: Parental leave in

 accordance with Article 21,

 Section L2 of the Master

 Agreement

2. Michael W. McGee Grade Five Teacher – Guiteras

 Effective: 2018-2019 School Year

 Reason: Non-paid leave in

 accordance with Article 21, Section

 L3 of the Master Agreement

M. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to rescind the vote of June 11, 2018 as to the following listed teachers:

 Name Retirement Effective Date
1. Martha E. Tisdell August 31, 2018

N. RESIGNATIONS/RETIREMENTS: That the School Committee confirm the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignations of Martha Tisdell from the position of Middle School Math Teacher, Debra Marshall from the position of Middle School Social Studies Teacher, Olivia Chaves from the position of Middle School English Teacher, Britney Verria from the position of Secondary Theatre Teacher, Marissa Gagnon from the position of Elementary Special Educator, Cynthia Affronti from the position of Teacher Assistant (Part Time) and Leontina Saraiva from the position of Secretary as listed below:

1. Martha E. Tisdell Math Teacher – Kickemuit

 Effective: June 30, 2018

 Reason: Retirement

2. Debra A. Marshall Social Studies Teacher - Kickemuit

 Effective: October 12, 2017

 Reason: Disability Retirement

3. Olivia M. Chaves English Teacher – Kickemuit

 Effective: August 8, 2018

 Reason: Resignation

4. Britney Verria Theatre Teacher – Mt. Hope

 Effective: August 27, 2018

 Reason: Resignation

5. Marissa A. Gagnon Special Educator – Hugh Cole

 Effective: August 21, 2018

 Reason: Resignation

6. Cynthia L. Affronit Teacher Assistant (Part Time) –

 Rockwell School
 Effective: August 24, 2018

 Reason: Resignation

7. Leontina Saraiva Secretary (10 month) – PPS

 Effective: September 5, 2018

 Reason: Retirement

**SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES**Recommendation #S2018-62 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve deletion of the RI High School Diploma System Policy (IKF-R) from the School Committee Policy Book.

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to delete RI High School Diploma System Policy (IKF-R) from the School Committee Policy Book; seconded by Mr. Bradshaw

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Schofield explained that this particular policy deletion and the next recommendation for deletion are occurring because the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee is updating and consolidating policies. She added that these policies should have been deleted last year when the new Graduation Policy was adopted.

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #S2018-63 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve deletion of the Policy for Waiver of the State Assessment Graduation Requirement Policy (IKF-E) from the School Committee Policy Book.

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the deletion of Policy for Waiver of the State Assessment Graduation Requirement Policy (IKF-E) from the School Committee Policy Book; seconded by Mrs. McBride.

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Schofield stated that the same reasoning for deletion of policy IKF-R applies to IKF-E.

Mrs. McBride commented that the new Graduation Policy does include all the pertinent information which allows policy IKF-R and IKF-E to be deleted. Mrs. McBride added that she spoke to Assistant Superintendent Sanna this evening about these policy deletions and the new graduation policy covers all the important areas that were in the exhibits.

Mr. Ramos summarized by stating that the two policies that are being recommended for deletion this evening are outdated, and the new Graduation Policy includes all elements that are still pertinent today.

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #S2018-64 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, approve Assignment of Fund Balance.

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the Assignment of Fund Balance; seconded by Mrs. McBride.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Pellerin defined “fund balance”. She added that each year the District ends with a dollar amount within the budget that is applied to the fund balance. She mentioned that appropriate uses for fund balance would be one time expenditures such as capital or to pay off debt services, ie. bonds, where there is a beginning and an end date.

Ms. Pellerin stated that she is proposing an increase to the fund balance by $177,600 to put toward paying off the bond.

Mrs. McBride stated, for the record, that the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee has spent a significant amount of time discussing the best use of applying the fund balance and were all in agreement that paying off the bond was a wise way to spend that money.

Mrs. McBride congratulated the School Committee for moving forward with solving this long-term bond issue.

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #S2018-65 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, approve Line Item Transfers for 2018.

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve Line Item Transfers for 2018; seconded by Mrs. McBride.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ramos asked for clarification that in connection with the 2018 budget, the District is assigning dollars to different areas in order to balance things out, and that there is no change to the overall budgeted amount? Chairperson Silva responded that yes, there are no changes to the overall budgeted amount.

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #S2018-66 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, and supported by the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, approve the finalized FY19 budget.

MOTION: Mr. Saviano made a motion to approve the finalized FY19 Budget; seconded by Mrs. McBride.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ramos stated that reductions and adjustments were made to the FY19 budget which were a result of receiving less than the original budget request from the Joint Finance Committee (JFC). He requested that those adjustments and reductions be shared.

Mrs. McBride responded that the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee spent three hours at their last meeting going through the reductions and consolidations.

Mrs. McBride shared one of the recommendations that came out of those discussions which was to have a central warehouse for school supplies to help counter any potential waste in spending. Mrs. McBride stated that Mr. Simmons, Facilities Director, Ms. Pellerin, School Business Administrator, the Superintendent and the Principals looked at their inventories to assess how to make changes for the purpose of implementing a central warehouse.

Dr. Andrade stated that the FY19 budget revenue was increased by $177,600 using appropriation of the fund balance. He also mentioned a savings of $38,000 with the updated funding formula and increased regional transportation aid of $161,000.

Dr. Andrade stated that the District is taking a “thoughtful pause” regarding the five year plans for technology and flexible furniture which yielded a savings of $500,000.

Dr. Andrade stated that through these adjustments and reductions the $1 million budget gap was able to be closed.

Dr. Andrade stated that he along with the Administration team and building principals are confident that none of these reductions will impact the quality of education in the classroom.

Dr. Andrade stated that there has been an increase in social and emotional staff, an additional classroom, and increased staff.

Dr. Andrade stated that the District will be looking for increases next year from the JFC to continue the reimagination of the District.

Mrs. McBride stated that the budget summary is available to anyone who wishes to see it.

Mr. O’Dell reemphasized that the technology upgrades and addition of flexible furniture will still need to take place, but is being put off for a year.

Chairperson Silva thanked Mrs. McBride, Ms. Pellerin, and the Administrative staff for all their hard work in coming up with adjustments that could be “lived with” for a year. Chairperson Silva emphasized that the District will need to readjust going forward.

The motion passed unanimously.

**SUBCOMMITTEE/SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS & INITIATIVES**

Budget/Facilities Subcommittee

Mrs. McBride stated that there was nothing new to report. She added that the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee is moving right along and progressing very well. She added that Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the MHHS Athletic Fields Project is a permanent addition to the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee Meeting Agenda.

Mrs. McBride stated that the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee meets the third Monday of every month where a round table discussion is held at which time any and all questions can be asked.

Ms. Pellerin thanked Mrs. McBride for working with her to develop the new budget reporting format. Ms. Pellerin stated she believes it is a great addition for tracking finances.

Mrs. McBride encouraged School Committee members that if they have any questions regarding the new way of reporting the budget, to let Ms. Pellerin or herself know so that any adjustments can be incorporated into the new graphs.

Mrs. McBride thanked the School Committee for passing the FY19 budget. She publicly welcomed Ms. Pellerin aboard as the new School Business Administrator.

Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee

Mrs. Schofield reported that the next Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting will be held 6 p.m. on Tuesday, September 4, 2018 at the Oliver Administration Building on State Street in Bristol.

Mrs. Schofield stated the Subcommittee will be continuing work on the Student Dismissal Policy and the Crisis Management Policy which is more a policy about communication with families during a crisis situation.

Mrs. Schofield closed by stating that everyone is welcome to attend the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee meetings.

Chairperson Silva asked Mrs. Schofield to keep the bullying policy on the radar for any changes that need to be made related to additional steps being implemented by the District.

Personnel/Contract Negotiations Subcommittee

Chairperson Silva stated that there was nothing new to report at this point in time.

Wellness Committee

Mr. Ramos stated that there was not a lot to report. He commented that the meeting schedule is being developed for this year which will feature meeting less frequently, but with hopefully more informal gatherings.

Mr. Ramos mentioned that on October 9th the Rhode Island Healthy Schools Coalition Breakfast will take place. He described the event.

Mr. Ramos stated that this year the Wellness Committee will continue to focus on physical wellness, and will also be focusing on bringing mental health wellness programs into the schools.

Chairperson’s Initiatives

Chairperson Silva reminded everyone that the first day of School is Wednesday, August 29th and encouraged the School Committee members to make time in the early morning to visit at least one school during the start of the day. He added that it is remarkable to see the excitement of the kids for the first day of the school year.

**ADJOURNMENT – 7:33 PM**

MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. McBride motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 PM; seconded by Mrs. Campbell. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

William M. O’Dell, Secretary

/kd