

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
BUDGET / FACILITIES - SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, February 24, 2019**

A meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, February 24, 2020, in the Cafeteria of Mount Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street, Bristol, RI. Subcommittee Chairperson, Brian Bradshaw, called the meeting to order at approximately 6:39 p.m.

**Present:**

**Subcommittee:** Brian Bradshaw, Chairperson; Sheila Ellsworth, John Bento

**School Committee and Administration:** Jonathan Brice, Ed.D., Superintendent; Tina Fogell, Esq., Chief Operating Officer; George Simmons, Director of Facilities; and Rose Muller, Director of Information Technology

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Mrs. Ellsworth made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2020, meeting; seconded by Chairperson Bradshaw.

The motion passed unanimously.

**FY 20 BUDGET DISCUSSION**

**FY 20 Budget Dashboard**

Discussion took place regarding the FY 20 Budget Dashboard. Mrs. Ellsworth inquired about substitutes.

**Current Fund Balance**

Dr. Brice discussed the current fund balance and reviewed each account. Chairperson Bradshaw requested Dr. Brice to expand on this during the upcoming School Committee Regular Business Meeting on Wednesday, February 26, 2020.

**FY21 BUDGET DISCUSSION**

Enrolment and how it affects the budget.

Dr. Brice reminded subcommittee members that enrollment numbers affect the budget. BWRSD may see a decline in enrollment in coming years based on projections provided by NESDEC. Dr. Brice stated one way to help to mitigate the decline in enrollment would be to create programs to keep students in the district.

Mrs. Ellsworth requested a breakdown in the decrease in enrollment numbers.

Dr. Brice stated that as of December 31, 2019, the district saw a decrease in enrollment of 55 students and a decrease in 126 students receiving free and reduced lunches.

Mr. Bento talked about per pupil cost.

Dr. Brice stated that he is working with his administrative team to build programs that will keep our students in the district. Attracting new students would be a plus as well.

B. Bradshaw asked for clarification about the Tech Refresh Plan.

Dr. Brice responded that 276K is to establish the refresh cycle, 1,000 Chromebooks on lease, per year for 4 years.

Mrs. Ellsworth stated that a 2 or 4 year plan should be considered to support the needs of students in our district.

Dr. Brice stated that he will provide a Tech Refresh Plan Memo from Mrs. Muller, Director of Information Technology.

Dr. Brice acknowledged the importance of teachers in teaching and learning of our students in the district; technology supplements our curriculum as an important tool.

Chairperson Bradshaw asked Dr. Brice to state the importance in asking for funding for our district to assist our efforts and goals on becoming a Top 5 in 5 years School District.

Dr. Brice said that we need to invest in high quality teaching and learning in each classroom. One question he asked is if teachers have enough time to refine their teaching skills? Teachers need more time to learn their curriculum and produce meaningful learning for their students.

Chairperson Bradshaw asked could we use fund balance this year to enhance teaching and learning this year?

Dr. Brice stated that one way to do this is to increase the hours of staff professional development days from 5 hours/day to the 6 ½ hours/day as it would be in alignment with the hours of teaching in a school day (6.5 hours/day).

Dr. Brice also mentioned the option of looking into grant opportunities.

Mr. Bento stated the need to think about supports for students' social/emotional needs/impact for future discussions.

Chairperson Bradshaw requested to examine and report on what we are currently spending/budgeting with Fund Balance during the April, 2020, Subcommittee Meeting. Discussion ensued.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **FY21 Budget Recommendation to the Full School Committee**

**MOTION:** Mr. Bento made a motion to approve the FY 21 Budget Recommendation to the full School Committee of \$57,098,862; Mrs. Ellsworth seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

Special Construction Fiber Connection RFP

*Mrs. Muller explained the Special Construction Fiber Connection RFP and the recommendation to go with the bid from i3.*

MOTION: Mr. Bento made a motion to approve the bid to I3; Mrs. Ellsworth seconded.

The motions passed unanimously.

**SUPERINTENDENT REMARKS**

School Dude and Spiceworks monthly updates

Dr. Brice reviewed and explained School Dude and Spiceworks monthly updates.

**ADJOURNMENT - 7:19 p.m.**

MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mrs. Ellsworth made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:19 p.m.; seconded by Chairperson Bradshaw.

The motion passed unanimously.

**Brian Bradshaw, Chair  
Budget/Facilities Subcommittee**

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