

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, November 14, 2022

The meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held in person on Monday, November 14, 2022 at Mt. Hope High School in the Cafeteria located at 199 Chestnut Street, Bristol, RI 02809.

Present: Marjorie McBride, Chairperson; Tara Thibaudeau, Vice Chairperson; Victor Cabral, Secretary; Erin Schofield, Nicky Piper, Carly Reich, and Sarah Bullard; Ana Riley, Superintendent of Schools; Diane Sanna, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent; Anthony Ferrucci, Chief Financial Officer; Frank Caliri, Director of Facilities; Lisa Colwell, Director of Student Support Services; Mary Ann Carroll, Esq., District Solicitor.

Guests: Michelle King, Principal, Mt. Hope High School and Dennis Morrell, Principal, Kickemuit Middle School.

Absent: Sheila Ellsworth, Treasurer and Karen Cabral

I. OPEN SESSION

Chairperson Marjorie McBride called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30M.

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Ms. Thibaudeau made a motion for the Committee to go into Executive Session pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5(a) (1) for the purpose of discussion of the job performance, character, or physical or mental health of a person. The motion was seconded by Mr Cabral. The motion was approved unanimously. The Committee went into Executive Session at 6:30PM.

III. RE-OPEN SESSION

Chairperson McBride re-opened the Open Session of the School Committee at 6:58 PM

IV. OPENING BUSINESS

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson McBride invited all present to join in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

V. ACCOLADES

A. Laura Deal, Commendation for Outstanding Performance on PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, 2021.

B. Benjamin Rozea, Semifinalist, 2023 National Merit Scholarship competition

C. Vic Bullard, Commendation for Selection to the National Association for Music Education's 2022 All-National Honors Ensembles

Principal King presented certificates to Mt. Hope High School students Laura Deal, Benjamin Rozea, and Vic Bullard to honor them for their national recognition for their academic and musical achievements.

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairperson McBride moved the Public Comment portion of the meeting to before the Presentation, then she opened up the meeting for Public Comment.

Mr. Hewett, Bristol, congratulated the newly elected School Committee members and thanked the members that were leaving the committee for their service. He went on to address the necessity of Social Emotional Learning as part of the District curriculum.

Committee member, Ms. Schofield, Warren, made a statement reflecting on her tenure with the School Committee. She started by thanking the community for “having me” and for trusting her with their concerns, personal stories, triumphs, and challenges over the past eight years. She thanked her husband and family for their understanding and support. She congratulated the newest members of the Committee and encouraged the new committee to put their personal goals and agendas aside and to invite students into the passenger seat - a meaningful one – and to not just presume to know what the kids need, but to ask them what they need. She closed by thanking the community and stating that it’s been an honor to serve.

VI. PRESENTATION

A. Appreciation Presentation for Outgoing School Committee Members and Current School Committee Chairperson

Chairperson McBride moved this item to later in the agenda.

B. District Assessment (RICAS and SAT/PSAT) Presentation

Assistant Superintendent presented the results of the District’s RICAS and SAT/PSAT assessment scores. She noted that the scoring of the tests was made more rigorous last year and that this was the first year with a new ELA curriculum.

She explained that nationally, RI and MA experienced a slight decrease in reading and a slight increase in math. She also noted that nationally, the effect of COVID-19 showed that younger students were more affected than older students, who are less able to self-regulate. She added that there were some highlights to celebrate in BW but that there is still much work to do to reach the Strategic Plan goal of 75% proficiency by 2027.

Assistant Superintendent continued to present the achievement levels for elementary and high school students on assessments for ELA, Math, and Science. She added congratulations for those schools that demonstrated increases, especially the MHHS SAT increase of 24%, which was the highest increase in the state! She concluded by reviewing strategies that the District will be implementing to accelerate learning in all subjects.

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

Discussion:

Ms. Schofield asked why the assessments were more rigorous. Superintendent Riley stated that parents wanted to see the change from pre-pandemic scores, noting that the scoring was lowered during the pandemic. The scoring was rigorous compared to during the pandemic, but similar to before the pandemic.

Ms. Bullard asked if the raw data would be shared. Superintendent Riley stated that the raw data is on the website. Teachers have been trained to analyze the data and she feels that the District will see more progress over the next 2-3 years.

Ms. Schofield asked about the participation rates, specifically for Grade 8. Assistant Superintendent Sanna stated that this year there was much more effort put in to motivate students to participate. Superintendent Riley added that some students were still working remotely and were not able to take the test.

Ms. Schofield asked if the same Science curriculum is being taught across all elementary schools. Assistant Superintendent responded that it's the same curriculum, but they have noted that the number of minutes spent on the subject does vary. Professional development has been provided to teachers at the elementary level to better align the timing for each curriculum.

Ms. Thibaudeau asked about extra materials that teachers can use to supplement their class materials. Assistant Superintendent stated that the curriculum that is being used has a variety of tools and adding additional tools may not be the most effective. She added that if a teacher finds something that is beneficial, the District is willing to evaluate it, and if found to be helpful, added to the tools provided to all the teachers.

From the public, Jessica Almeida asked if achievement coaches were for the teachers or the students. Superintendent Riley responded that the coaches support the teachers.

Ms. Almeida also asked if the SAT-prep courses were always there. Ms. King responded that they were always there, but that now they are used to provide support and intervention for all students.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Ms. Piper made a motion to approve all the items on the Consent Agenda; seconded by Ms. Thibaudeau.

- A. Minutes of the October 17, 2022 meeting
- B. Homeschool Requests - 4 students from 3 families
- C. Approval of Assistant Principal, Kickemuit Middle School
- D. Approval of Assistant Principal, Kickemuit Middle School
- E. Approval of Facilities Shift Supervisor
- F. Approval of Athletic Trainer

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously.

Superintendent Riley announced that, with the Consent Agenda vote, Marco Antonio was promoted to Shift Supervisor and Kristina Keddie was appointed as the new on-staff Athletic Trainer.

Principal Morrell introduced and congratulated the two new Assistant Principals, Vincent Verardo and Lincoln DeMoura.

IX. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ITEMS

A. Approve and Seal the Minutes of the Executive Session

MOTION: Mr. Cabral made a motion to approve and seal the minutes of the Executive Session; seconded by Ms Thibaudeau. The motion was approved unanimously.

B. Standardize Monthly Financial Reports

- i. Cash Disbursements
- ii. Monthly Financial Report
- iii. Variance Analysis Report
- iv. Budget Transfer Report

Mr. Ferrucci reported that there is nothing of significance to report at this time. He noted that the maintenance of the high school fields will be an issue next year.

MOTION: Ms. Reich made a motion to approve the Budget Transfer Report; seconded by Ms. Piper. The motion was approved unanimously.

C. Approve Policy JLIF - Suicide Prevention and Policy JLIF-E - RI Model Policy on Suicide Prevention, at the recommendation of the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, for a 2nd Reading.

MOTION: Ms. Thibaudeau made a motion to approve the 2nd Reading of Policy JLIF - Suicide Prevention and Policy JLIF-E - RI Model Policy on Suicide Prevention; seconded by Ms. Piper. The motion was approved unanimously.

D. Approve Policy JLCD - Medical Marijuana Administration in Schools and JLCD-E - Procedure for Administration of Medication to Students, at the recommendation of the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, for a 2nd Reading.

MOTION: Ms. Thibaudeau made a motion to approve the 2nd Reading of Policy JLCD - Medical Marijuana Administration in Schools and Policy JLCD-E - Procedure for Administration of Medication to Students; seconded by Ms. Bullard. The motion was approved unanimously.

VI-A Appreciation Presentation for Outgoing School Committee Members and

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**

Current School Committee Chairperson

Superintendent Riley returned to Agenda Item VI-A and presented gifts to the outgoing members of the School Committee, thanking them for their service and dedication to the students of Bristol Warren. She then acknowledged and thanked Chairperson McBride for her service as Chair of the Committee for the past two years, noting that her name had been etched on the “Gavel Plaque” that is hung in the Administrative offices.

Chairperson McBride thanked the members of the School Committee and congratulated the new members on their election to the Committee.

X. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Cabral made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Ms. Schofield. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Victor Cabral, Secretary /dbc