

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
February 26, 2020**

A meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on February 28, 2020, in the cafeteria of Mt. Hope High School, 199 Chestnut Street, Bristol, RI. Chairperson Schofield called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 PM.

Present: Erin Schofield, Chairperson; Adam Ramos, Vice-Chairperson; Brian Bradshaw, Treasurer; John P. Saviano, Secretary; Victor Cabral, Sheila Ellsworth, Marjorie McBride, and Carly Reich; Jonathan T. Brice, Ed.D., Superintendent; Diane Sanna, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent; Tina Fogell, Esq., Chief Operating Officer; and Mary Ann Carroll, Esq., District Solicitor

Absent: John C. Bento

Guests: Edward Clarke, Director of Student Support Services; Rose Muller, Director of Information Technology

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

1. 42-46-5(a)(1) Job Performance of Individuals - Said persons have been notified in advance, in writing, and advised that they may require that the discussion be held in open session.
2. 2-46-5(a)(2) Litigation Updates

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to go into executive session at 6:32 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Bradshaw. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive session was recessed at 7:05p.m. It will resume at the end of the open session.

OPEN SESSION

Open session was called to order at 7:09 p.m.

OPENING BUSINESS

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

STUDENT ACCOLADES

No student accolades to present at this meeting; will have them at next month's meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

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. 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will be no separate discussion of these items unless a committee member requests, in which event the items will be withdrawn from the general order of business and considered in the normal sequence of the agenda. Hearing none, Chairperson Schofield announced that items A, C.1. and C.2. would be removed from the Consent Agenda and only items B and C.3. would be voted on tonight and then asked for a

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

The motion passed unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND ISSUES

Recommendation #2020-09 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the request of two (2) families to homeschool their children for the 2019-2020 school year.

MOTION: Mr. Bradshaw made a motion to approve the homeschool request; seconded by Mr. Cabral.

DISCUSSION: Mrs. McBride stated that she would vote against the recommendation due to the request being made half way through the school year.

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

Recommendation #2020-10 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve the second reading of the Code of Conduct Policy (JFC).

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the second reading of the Code of Conduct Policy (JFC); seconded by Mr. Cabral.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ramos asked if there were additional revisions made since the first reading?

Dr. Sanna responded that there were no changes made since the first reading.

Mr. Ramos asked Dr. Sanna to refresh everyone on the genesis of this policy.

Dr. Sanna stated that work on this policy started when Dr. Brice came on board and combined numerous policies that the district had previously. One of the things that is unique about this policy is that it has a matrix that describes different behaviors and different levels of classroom supports and interventions. There are two parts to this policy - the policy itself where it guides the procedures and the matrix.

Chairperson Schofield stated that this policy is comprehensive and is replacing our outdated current Code of Discipline Policy. She thanked Dr. Brice and his administration for their outstanding work on this policy. It clearly defines student expectations and consequences.

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #2020-11 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee, approve the second reading of the Physical Restraint and Crisis Intervention Policy (JHFAA).

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the second reading of the Physical Restraint and Crisis Intervention Policy (JHFAA); seconded by Mr. Bradshaw.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Cabral stated that he hoped there would be people trained, especially at MHHS on each floor so a person would not have to come from the A building to the B building to assist with a restraint.

Dr. Brice stated that restraints are very rarely used, but in those rare instances where a student is a danger to self or others, and they are unable to be deescalated and talked down, the physical restraint becomes the best option for safety. He also stated the importance of having enough staff on all floors in all buildings trained. This staff would include paraprofessionals and special education teachers. He has been in communication with Mr. Edward Clarke, Director of Student Support Services, about training for staff.

Mrs. Reich commented that the only changes since the first reading were legal references.

Dr. Sanna stated that was correct and shared with the audience that this policy was recommended for an update by our district attorney.

Mr. Bradshaw asked about the Physical Restraint Reporting Form an Exhibit or part of the policy?

Dr. Sanna stated that the Reporting Form is an Exhibit.

Mrs. McBride stated that she was reminded by Mrs. Reich that the legal references are listed on the Exhibit and not in the policy.

Mr. Bradshaw stated to make sure that the Exhibit was updated to show these changes.

Mrs. McBride stated that the Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee can update Exhibits.

Chairperson Schofield confirmed that this will be brought to the subcommittee and the policy letters will be added to the updated Exhibit document.

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #2020-12 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, approve the Technology Special Construction Fiber Connection RFP.

MOTION: Mrs. McBride made a motion to approve the Technology Special Construction Fiber Connection RFP; seconded by Mr. Bradshaw.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Bradshaw explained the bidding award process and the services to be provided by the recommended bidder, i3 Broadband (formerly DBA FullChannel).

The recommendation from Mrs. Muller is to go with the dark fiber option with a one-time special build cost of \$189,000.00 and an annual maintenance of \$4,830.00. E-Rate funding is available to us for 50% of the cost of this project because we are a 50% eligible school district.

Mr. Ramos asked for further clarification about the bid. Chairperson Schofield asked if Mrs. Muller could explain the difference between the bids.

Mrs. Muller explained the difference between the three bids and why the bid by i3 Broadband provided the district with the best solution.

The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation #2020-13 - That the School Committee, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent and supported by the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee, approve the FY21 bottom line budget request.

MOTION: Mr. Bradshaw made a motion, seconded by Mrs. McBride.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Bradshaw stated that the Budget/Facilities Subcommittee is recommending no changes to what Dr. Brice presented at the February 10, 2020, School Committee Workshop which is FY 21 bottom line budget request which is \$57,098,862.

Mrs. McBride stated that she originally wanted to see another \$1 milling added to this budget because the first set of numbers had this budget with a million more dollars in the budget. She thanked Dr. Brice and his team for the work put into developing this budget and stated she will support this budget request.

Mrs. Reich expressed appreciation of the effort that went into the budget calculations, and stated that she will not be supporting the budget on the grounds that the million dollars should have remained in the budget request for the sake of our students.

Mr. Cabral asked Dr. Brice to look into the 3.985% increase that is being requested to be compared to the FY 2019 Budget as there were many cuts that were made to the FY 2020 Budget.

Mr. Ramos spoke to the decision to support and vote yes for the budget request.

Mrs. Ellsworth thanked Dr. Brice and his team on the budget. She spoke to the great conversations she has had on creative and cost effective ways to utilize money in the General Fund for the success of our district and supporting our students.

Chairperson Schofield thanked everyone for their time, effort and support into what went into this Budget Request process this year. She asked that everyone come out in support of the BWRSD Budget Request at the upcoming Joint Finance Committee Meeting on Wednesday, March 4th, at 7pm, here at MHHS in the Cafeteria.

The motion passed in a 7 - 1 vote, Mrs. Reich dissenting.

SUBCOMMITTEE/SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORTS & INITIATIVES

Policy & Curriculum Subcommittee

Mrs. Reich stated that the next meeting is Monday, March 2nd, 2020, at 6 p.m. at the Oliver Building on State Street. All are welcome. The agenda is not fully set but will include a discussion about the current Advertising Policy and Fundraising Policy.

Budget/Facilities Subcommittee

Mr. Bradshaw stated that the next meeting is Monday, March 16th, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. at Mt. Hope High School in the Cafeteria. Mr. Bradshaw also asked for support and everyone to attend the upcoming Joint Finance Committee Meeting that is next Wednesday, March 4th, 2020, at 7 p.m. at Mt. Hope High School in the Cafeteria.

Personnel/Contract Negotiations Subcommittee

Mr. Ramos stated that the Personnel/Contract Negotiations Subcommittee met for the third time regarding the BWEA contract last night, Tuesday, February 25, 2020. We will be beginning negotiations in the next few weeks with BWEA and will be working collaboratively on the new contract.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: There being no further open business to discuss, Mr. Ramos made a motion to reconvene into executive session at 8:00 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Bradshaw.

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Ramos motioned to adjourn the executive session at 9:45 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Bradshaw.

The motion passed unanimously.

OPEN SESSION

Open session was reconvened at 9:50 p.m.

MOTION: Mr. Ramos made a motion to seal executive session minutes at 9:50 p.m.; seconded by Mrs. McBride.

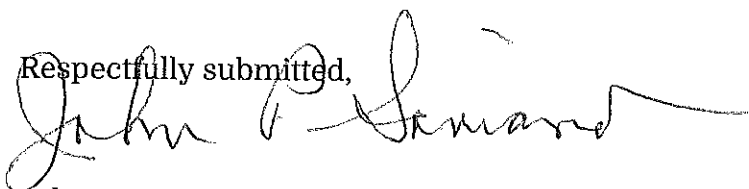
The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT - 9:51 p.m.

MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Ramos motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:51 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Bradshaw.

The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



John P. Saviano, Secretary

/kn/Amended by K. Brown (3/9/2020)