

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

Monday, December 14, 2020

The virtual meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Committee was held on Monday, December 14, 2020, via ZOOM Video Conferencing. Chairperson McBride called the meeting to order at approximately 7:01 p.m.

**Present:** Marjorie McBride, Chairperson; Tara Thibaudeau, Vice-Chair; Sheila Ellsworth, Treasurer; Victor Cabral, Secretary; Carly Reich, Erin Schofield, Karen Cabral, Nicky Piper, and Sarah Bullard; Jonathan T. Brice, Ed.D., Superintendent; Diane Sanna, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent; Tina Fogell, Esq., Chief Operating Officer; Edward Clarke, M.Ed., CAGS, Director of Student Support Services; Mary Ann Carroll, Esq., District Solicitor; and Kathryn Brown, Recording Secretary

**OPENING BUSINESS**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Mrs. Carly Reich, parent and School Committee member,* asked the School Committee Leadership and Subcommittee Chairs to consult their calendars prior to scheduling future School Committee Meetings in regards to holidays. Mrs. Reich stated that she cross checked the proposed School Committee Meeting dates that were sent out for the upcoming year and noticed that only one date, April 26, 2021 falls on a holiday, Jewish Second Passover, and asked the Committee to consider moving the meeting date as individuals in our communities should not have to choose between attending a meeting and observing a holiday with their families.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairperson McBride stated that all items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be 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will be no separate discussion of these items unless a committee member requests, in which event the items will be withdrawn from the general order of business and considered in the normal sequence of the agenda.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 McBride asked for a motion.

- A. Approval of School Committee Virtual Meeting Minutes
  - a. December 7, 2020
- B. Approval of three (3) homeschool requests for the 2020-2021 school year

MOTION: Mrs. Schofield made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Mrs. Reich.

The motion passed unanimously.

**DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION**

- A. Approval of Bus Contract

District Solicitor Carroll explained this bus contract is the same one that the school committee approved the bid for in June, 2020. The change in the contract is in regards to what would be paid to the bus company when school buses did not run. Mrs. Fogell and District Solicitor Carroll negotiated with the bus company that the district would pay 50% on the days that the buses would not run based on the statewide calendar.

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MOTION: Mr. Cabral made a motion to approve the bus contract based on the amount of days on the statewide calendar; seconded by Mrs. Ellsworth.

DISCUSSION:

Mrs. Ellsworth asked for more information on what the district pays for bus monitors and an estimated payment amount for the year would be for payment of all bus monitors.

Mrs. Fogell stated that the district only pays when the bus monitors ride the bus and would look into this and share the requested information.

Mr. Cabral asked if it is a state law to put monitors on all buses.

Mrs. Fogell said it is an unfunded mandate. There was a state law passed requiring monitors on all buses with elementary students following a student death many years ago.

District Solicitor Carroll stated that the only exception to having a monitor on the bus is if door to door service is offered for elementary students.

The motion passed with a vote of 8-0, with Mrs. Thibaudeau abstaining.

B. Update on COVID Response

Dr. Brice presented the plan for the school district in regards to the COVID 19 response and the distance learning plan for schools based on the statewide calendar and guidance released by the Governor and the Rhode Island Department of Education for December 21, 2020 through January 11, 2021.

Discussion ensued.

No action was taken.

C. List of meeting dates for 2021 (If Monday is a holiday the meeting becomes Wednesday)

MOTION: Mr. Cabral made a motion to approve the list of School Committee meeting dates for 2021; seconded by Mrs. Thibaudeau.

DISCUSSION:

Chairperson McBride thanked Mrs. Reich for taking time away from her family during their holiday tonight and for her comments earlier in the meeting regarding the proposed School Committee meeting dates for the upcoming year.

Chairperson McBride announced that the School Committee meeting listed for Monday, April 26, 2021, will be moved to Wednesday, April 28, 2021, in observance of the Monday holiday.

Mrs. Thibaudeau asked if topics for the workshop meetings could be scheduled ahead of time.

Chairperson McBride responded that she will discuss scheduling the topics of the workshop meetings with Dr. Brice.

Chairperson McBride stated that there is a plan to have a School Committee retreat in late January and all will be advised of that date well in advance.

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AMENDED MOTION: Mr. Cabral made a motion to amend the list of School Committee Meeting dates for 2021 to include Wednesday, April 28, instead of Monday, April 26; seconded by Mrs. Reich.

The amended motion passed unanimously.

The vote on the original motion to approve the list of School Committee Meetings made by Mr. Cabral, along with the approved amended motion made by Mr. Cabral passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT – 8:30 p.m.**

MOTION: There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Cabral made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.; seconded by Mrs. Thibaudeau.

The motion passed unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Victor Cabral, Secretary*  
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