

**BLACKSTONE-MILLVILLE REGIONAL
DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING**

January 20, 2011

The Blackstone-Millville Regional District School Committee met in the School Committee Meeting Room of the Frederick W. Hartnett Middle School commencing at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Charles K. Singleton, Chairman
Ann M. Lesperance, Vice Chairperson
Catherine A. Robinson, District Treasurer
Diane C. Robin, Assistant District Treasurer
Steven J. Tringali, District Secretary
Michael J. Buckley, Member
John J. Eldridge, Member
Lisa C. Oliveira, Member

Also in attendance at the meeting was Kimberly B. Shaver-Hood, Superintendent of Schools, Eileen Tetreault, MES Principal and Student Representative, Alycia Dery. Student Representative Luke Perreault was absent from meeting.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Eldridge and **unanimously voted** to approve Consent Agenda A which includes Warrants and Minutes of Meeting of January 6, 2011 less item C. Field Trip Requests (there were none to approve).

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Eldridge and **unanimously voted** to make the following changes to the Minutes of December 16th as requested by Paulette Boyko:

Paulette Boyko, President of Daniels Farmstead Foundation Inc. asked for the use of the High School parking lot to park cars for the Daniels Farmstead Civil War Reenactment to be held on June 11 and 12, 2011.

Mrs. Boyko is also the publisher of the Blackstone Enlightener stated that they have published the Minutes of the Meeting in the last Enlightener and have received positive response to it from the Community. She would like to continue doing this.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Lesperance, seconded by Mr. Eldridge, **6 in favor, 2 opposed (Mr. Buckley and Mr. Singleton)** to approve Consent Agenda B which includes a home schooling request by Derek and Rebecca LaMonte.

Student Report

Alycia Dery, Student Representative spoke on the Empty Bowl Project. This is a fundraiser held every year at the BMRHS Cafeteria. Proceeds will go to the Blackstone Food Pantry. Students are busy making ceramic bowls to be raffled at the fundraiser.

This Saturday evening a ceremony will be held at the Milford hockey game in honor of the dedicated individuals who helped BMR student Tyler Symes. This will start at approximately 6:45 prior to the 7:00 game at the New England Sport Center in Marlboro, MA.

MES Smartboard Presentation

Millville Elementary School 5th grade teachers Edie Faulkner and Christina Ranieri gave a very informative Smartboard presentation to the School Committee. They opened with a thank you to the School District for allowing them to have Smartboards in their classrooms. It is very spontaneous and engaging for the students and captures their attention. The teachers can pull up short video clips to show the class. Students love to draw on the Smartboard. It is a very interactive learning experience for them.

Report of the Superintendent of Schools

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Lesperance and **unanimously voted** to grant a maternity leave request to Lauren Keefe for up to twenty four days beginning on or around May 16, 2011.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood reviewed the Boys and Girls Club transportation situation. The Boys and Girls Club currently pays \$20 per day, per student to Tellstone Bus Company to transport students who attend their after school program. The Boys and Girls club asked the School Committee to look into the possibility of somehow assisting them with this concern due to the rising cost of this transportation. There will be a cost increase next year for The Boys and Girls Club by Tellstone Bus Company. Mr. Buckley questions the validity of the School District getting involved since this is not something that we have ever been involved with. The School District cannot afford to add another bus run for a cost of \$23,760 per year.

The District currently buses students to Little People's Day Care in Blackstone. However, this is part of a run and not a special trip taken by Tellstone Bus Company. Mrs. Oliveira questions if we are currently using an extra bus each year to transport students to Little People's Day Care. This is an area that Superintendent Shaver-Hood will investigate.

Chairman Singleton does understand the concern but stated that the bus dropping off at the Boys and Girls Club actually goes into the parking lot, drops off the students and turns around. It is out of the way for the bus. The drop off at Little People's Day Care is only a stop on the road which is not out of the way for the buses.

The School Committee will take no action at this point. Superintendent Shaver-Hood will gather additional information and report back to the School Committee at a later meeting.

The Budget Sub-Committee will meet for an FY12 Budget Workshop on Thursday, January 27th at the BMR High School in the Superintendent's Conference Room at 6:30 p.m.

The Board of Selectman and Finance Committee Members will be invited to meet with the Committee on February 16th at 7:00 p.m. at the FWH Middle School in the Media Center.

Brad Monroe, Technology Director recently placed an order for thirty iPads to be used by Mr. Curran, History Department Head at the BMR High School. Mr. Monroe ordered less than originally planned. He received a better discount than they were quoted. Mr. Monroe is concerned about the need for other supplies in the future. If things work out they will order additional iPads at a later date. If they do decide to place another order they will first pass it by the School Committee for their approval.

Phil Toupin has been busy updating our technology plan. He is also working on wiring the computers to the copy machines in the District. This will provide unlimited toner, service and copies at a savings to the District.

Mr. Monroe is currently researching fiber optics to improve the computer speed at the Middle School and the JFK/AFM Complex.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood is happy with how the technology department has stepped up to the plate and helped out tremendously. They are looking into the possibility of allowing students the use of their own personal laptops in the schools in the future. This would mean less devices the School District needs to supply.

Mr. Eldridge would like Mr. Monroe to meet with the Committee members in the near future.

Tonight is Jack Carroll, videographers last meeting. He is retiring from this position. It will now be filled by Justin Hebert, videography student at New England Technical School. Jack was presented with a gift and a thank you for a job well done by the School Committee members.

Jack thanked the Committee for treating him well through the years. He is thankful that they were able to buy video equipment and build a video lab for the students. Jack believes that people have no idea how important their School Committee is. He is thankful to them for their hard work and dedication.

Committee Forum

Mr. Tringali has been asked by members of the community why we are paying for a student to attend the Tri-County Vocational Technical School in Franklin when we do not have an arrangement to send our students to this school. The question was raised if the reason the student is going to this school is due to the fact that the program they are studying is not offered at Blackstone Valley Technical School. Chairman Singleton stated that the School District received a bill from Tri County which they sent to the town of Millville. Millville refuses to pay the bill stating they were not told of this expense when developing the budget for this year. They are looking for answers from us as to why this student was allowed to attend the school. Millville is asking us to give them a point of clarification on this matter since we do not have an agreement with Tri-County to send our students there. This will be investigated further.

Mrs. Lesperance asked for the School Committee updates by the end of the week.

Chairman Singleton reminded the Committee they will meet on February 9th with Mass. Association of School Committees to review their self evaluations.

The Committee needs to meet with Attorney Gould regarding negotiations. They will give him March 1, 2 and 8 as possible meeting dates.

Chairman Singleton wanted to remind the Community that they can easily read the Minutes of all School Committee meetings on the BMR Website as follows:
Go to [www. bmrtd.net](http://www.bmrtd.net), go to District heading on the District homepage, go to School Committee and Minutes of Meeting.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood will be given her first review by the members of the School Committee soon.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Buckley at 8:52 p.m. to adjourn the School Committee Meeting. The motion was followed by a roll call vote that resulted in a **unanimous vote**.

Respectfully submitted,

Monique F. Simard
Recording Secretary

ATTEST: _____
Steven J. Tringali, District Secretary