

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

May 26, 2011

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

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

Absent from the meeting were Brian T. Faulkner, Member and Alycia Dery, Student Representative.

Also in attendance at the meeting were Kimberly B. Shaver-Hood, Superintendent of Schools and Luke Perreault, Student Representative.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Tringali and **unanimously voted** to approve the Consent Agenda which includes Minutes of Meeting of May 11, 2011 and Warrants.

Luke Perreault, Student Representative and Class of 2011 Valedictorian spoke on the activities taking place for seniors. Luke stated that the humanities club wrapped up this week. Luke enjoyed the club very much. The Committee thanked him for doing a great job this year.

BMR PAC

Jennifer Dean-Wing, co-chairperson of the Special Education Parent Advisory Council spoke. She stated that the PAC has come a long way in the past few years. At this time they are concerned about the resignation of Carol Riccardi-Gahan, Student Services Director. The PAC liked Carol and are sad to see her go. They would like to be a part of the search committee for her replacement as well as for the Middle and Millville school principal search.

The PAC members are concerned with the turnover rate in recent years. They do not want the quality of service to the children compromised.

Mrs. Dean-Wing stated that the PAC meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. They hope to use the Millville Elementary School for their meetings next year. They currently have nine active members and are trying to put out a parent survey.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood stated that the posting for Student Services Director closes in a few days. At that time an interview committee will be organized. She would like to fill the position by the end of the school year. There are several qualified applicants with experience.

Ms. Dean-Wing asked that the School Committee Minutes be sent to her for each meeting at bmrpac@yahoo.com.

Presentation of Student Handbook – Elementary

Carol Brown, Principal of the JFK/AFM Complex gave the handbook updates for her school. One of the changes would be the deletion of the Title One Pre –K program from the handbook.

Mrs. Oliveira would like to see information on the program before a vote is taken on it.

Mrs. Brown stated that any information on this would come from Eileen Tetreault.

Report of the Superintendent of Schools

There were no Use of Facilities requests that required a fee or School Committee vote.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Oliveira and **unanimously voted** to accept the rubbish removal bid price from Casella Waste Service, 49 Sword Street, Auburn, MA for a total bid price of \$12,934 and extra trip price of \$260.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Tringali, seconded by Mrs. Robinson and **unanimously voted** to grant a family leave request to Shaylyn Walker to extend to November 2, 2011.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood stated that they currently have \$694,000 in unencumbered cash. She would like to take \$150,000 and use it toward the pre-purchasing of supplies for next year.

Mr. Buckley asked to get an overview of the items that will be purchased.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood stated that they are currently looking at the Math Expressions and Think Math programs. They are moving toward Think Math for a total cost of \$47,500. The Math Expressions program would cost \$90,000.

The budget book, to be used at Town Meeting has been placed in all School Committee member packets.

The search for the FWHMS principal is coming to a close. They received 15 applications and will interview 3 persons.

Mrs. Robin read the animal policy. Policies were discussed on animals in schools and admission of transfer students.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Tringali and **unanimously voted** to adopt the Animals in School Policy.

The first reading of the Admission of Transfer Students policy was read.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Eldridge and **unanimously voted** to accept the first reading of the Admission of Transfer Students policy.

The second reading will be made at the next meeting.

A list of the surplus materials was read by Ms. Shaver-Hood.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Robinson, seconded by Mrs. Robin and **unanimously voted** to deem the list of materials read by Superintendent Shaver-Hood as surplus, giving them permission to donate these items.

Ms. Shaver-Hood stated that Alicia Pickering and Derek Tata will be joining them as student representatives next year.

With the extra funds left over by the senior class they would like to use it toward lights at the tennis courts. They will also look into having these lights on a timer.

There were no items for **Public Forum**.

Committee Forum

The last day of school is June 22nd.

Mr. Buckley stated that Annual Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 31st at the BMR High School. They will be recommending the approval of the budget with an extra \$236,000 recommended by the Finance Committee.

Mr. Buckley would like to see exit interviews take place for staff who will not be returning to BMR. He feels it may help in moving forward.

The next Budget Sub-Committee meeting has been set for June 8th.

Mr. Eldridge stated that the Blackstone Finance Committee has made it clear that they want to keep the taxes down which means free cash may not be around next year.

Mr. Eldridge still proposes having the ability to move students between the Millville Elementary School and the JFK/AFM Complex when needed. He would like to have a sub-committee started for this.

Mrs. Robin thinks they need to start with a Public Forum on this and then move forward.

Mr. Singleton wants to review the Regional Agreement first and then hold the Public Forum.

Mrs. Oliveira feels they need to put together a Strategic Plan first.

Mr. Singleton likes having the student representatives and feels they are able to give good information on the ongoing student activities. He thanked both Luke Perreault and Alycia Dery for being the representatives this year and wishes them good luck in college next year.

Mr. Singleton asked that a member of the School Committee from Blackstone speak at the Blackstone Town Meeting on behalf of the School Committee. Mr. Eldridge agreed to speak.

Mr. Singleton asked that Superintendent Shaver-Hood check into getting money for recycling of paper at the schools.

Mr. Singleton stated that they will have separate seating for the families of the Valedictorian and the Salutatorian at the graduation ceremony.

Mr. Singleton asked Superintendent Shaver-Hood to take pictures with the students at graduation. He will be at the bottom of the stairs to distribute a card to each student signed by the staff.

Congratulations go out to the Class of 2011 from the BMR School Committee Members.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Eldridge and **unanimously voted** to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Monique F. Simard
Recording Secretary

ATTEST: _____
Steven J. Tringali, District Secretary