

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

**September 22, 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  
Steven J. Tringali, District Secretary  
Catherine A. Robinson, District Treasurer  
Diane C. Robin, Assistant District Treasurer  
Michael J. Buckley, Member  
Brian T. Faulkner, Member  
Lisa C. Oliveira, Member

Also in attendance at the meeting was Kimberly B. Shaver-Hood, Superintendent of Schools.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Tringali and **unanimously voted** to approve the Consent Agenda which includes Minutes of Meeting of September 8, 2011 and Warrants.

Student Representative Alicia Pickering spoke on the new clubs at BMR, the homecoming activities and the Marching Band homeshow.

Student Representative Derek Tata gave the athletic report.

**Introduction of New Faculty**

New faculty from the Millville Elementary School, John F. Kennedy Elementary School, Frederick W. Hartnett Middle School and the BMR High School were introduced by the building principals.

Building principal, Justin Cameron gave back to school highlights. Mr. Cameron stated that they had a successful back to school night. He spoke on the on-going activities taking place at the school. He feels they are having a great start to the school year.

Building principal, Varsha Desai spoke on Meet the Teacher Night at the Millville Elementary School.

Principal, Richard Porter spoke on opening day. He stated that the students got right to work and the freshman didn't seem to have any difficulties. The freshman tour seemed to be a big help this year.

Attorney Harold Gould and Michael McKeon spoke on the High School roof. Mr. McKeon looked at the roof for the third time. He stated that most of the problems are due to the winter and snow issues. The roof is not fixable right now in an economical manner. It is beyond the end of its life. The roof was done in 1992 and should have lasted for 15 years so it is now past its lifespan. There is 94,500 square feet of roof area to replace. It is estimated to cost \$14.15 a square foot to replace. This would be at a cost of 1.7 million dollars. It would ultimately cost approximately \$2 million dollars for everything.

During the roof replacement they may need to close the gym, auditorium and cafeteria for a short period of time. He does not see a need to shut down any classrooms. The cold weather is not an issue when replacing the roof but precipitation is an issue. He believes that if there had not been a major storm this past winter the roof would not be in the shape it is in now.

Attorney Gould stated that you will need to go through designer selection for this so it would be mid-December for starting the project.

Mr. Eldridge has a safety concern. He feels that if we get a large amount of wet snow in December and haven't moved on this sooner we could have problems. He believes that something needs to happen to stabilize the roof for the winter so that in the spring it can be replaced. They want to get an engineer on a lift up to the roof to view the roof of the gym from up above.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood is in contact with M.S.B.A. They are reviewing the information and will get back to her in the next few days. This is a possible funding source for them. The Superintendent would like MIAA to come back out and take another look at it since they think that storm damage is a big cause of the problems. She feels we should be able to bring in the insurance company to offset the costs.

According to attorney Gould, in the end the reimbursement rate could go as high as 50%. If you don't go through the proper protocols you may get the base but not all the bonus points. He feels the School Committee needs to act on this tonight.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Eldridge and **unanimously voted**, for the purposes of financing the costs of repairing and/or replacing the roofs and their appurtenant components at the Regional High School including architectural and/or engineering costs and other costs incidental and related thereto, there be and hereby is authorized, under and pursuant to chapter 71, section 16 (d) of the general laws and the district agreement, as amended, the incurring of debt on the full faith and credit of the District by the issuance and sale at one time or from time to time of bonds or notes in the aggregate principal amount of \$2,000,000.00.

**Motion:** It was further moved by Mr. Tringali, seconded by Mrs. Robin and **unanimously voted** that, within seven (7) days from the date on which the foregoing vote is adopted, the Secretary be and hereby is instructed to notify the Board of Selectman of each of the member towns of the District as to the amount and general purposes of the debt herein authorized as required by Chapter 71, Section 16 (d) of the General Laws and the District Agreement, as amended.

Mr. Buckley proposed a sub-committee to work with Superintendent Shaver-Hood to help out with this concern.

Principal Justin Cameron has two proposals to share with the School Committee. He is looking for comments from the Committee and possible support as well. He is interested in starting an after school program. He has received interest from the teachers and faculty at the Middle School. He would like to bring in clubs and intramurals. He stated that the P.T.O. is aggressively raising money for this cause but they cannot be the only source of funding. He would propose a modest user fee of \$25 for each student. Those who are on free/reduced lunch would have this fee waived.

Mr. Eldridge would like an estimated cost in order to consider taking action on this especially since funding would be needed for a late bus.

Mr. Cameron will also look into having parents pick up their children as opposed to having a late bus.

Mr. Cameron's second proposal is for department heads as well as team leaders at the Middle School. It is cost neutral and would need to go through impact bargaining.

Mr. Buckley expressed concern with the word department head which he believes is a high school term. He feels that between Mr. Cameron and the Assistant Principal Mr. Lafayette, they could be the link. He feels they need time on learning and results. They need to improve the math scores in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. He feels they need to look at structure and an action plan.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood will give Mr. Cameron the time he needs to review this and come up with a plan. He can return at a later time to revisit this.

### **Report of the Superintendent**

Superintendent Shaver-Hood stated that National Grid did a lighting proposal to make the JFK/AFM Complex more energy efficient. The cost would be a one time fee of \$18,902.59.

Mr. Buckley stated that the Town of Blackstone has put away \$40,000 for work at the Complex and wonders if they could put it towards this.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Robinson and **unanimously voted** to authorize the work at the JFK/AFM Complex to be done by National Grid for a cost of \$18,902.59.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood asked that the Executive Session Minutes of June 6, 2007 be released to Brad Monroe who is currently having difficulties with the Retirement Board.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Eldridge and **unanimously voted** to release the Minutes of the Meeting of June 6, 2007 to Mr. Bradford Monroe.

The Superintendent stated that the target date for drinking water at the Millville Elementary School is October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood would like to post for two custodians, one at the Middle School and one at the High School. The Middle School custodian would act as a rover.

Mr. Eldridge requested a job description and standards for the rover position.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Eldridge and **unanimously voted** to authorize Superintendent Shaver-Hood to post the position of High School custodian.

The Superintendent stated that the front doors at the High School are rusty and deteriorating. They received an estimate from Mill City Construction to replace only the bottom half of the doors and paint them for approximately \$2200 and not to exceed \$2500.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Oliveira and **unanimously voted** to have Mill City Construction Company replace the bottom half of the High School front doors for no more than \$2500.

Mr. Buckley requested that one School Committee member from each town be on the search committee for the High School Principal.

### **Facilities Request**

The Blackstone Masters asked to have their user fee of \$70.00 per night lowered to \$30 per night. This request was not approved by the Committee.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Buckley (**7 in favor, 1 abstained from voting – Mr. Singleton**) for the Youth Basketball League to pay only the custodial fee.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Oliveira and **unanimously voted** to approve the field trip requests this evening.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood stated that the law has changed and anyone over 65 will go to Medex as of July 1, 2012. If they do not move over they will not be able to stay on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield plan.

### **Public Forum**

Lisa Therrien, mother of former student Tyler Therrien spoke in public forum. She stated that Tyler was expelled from school last week and feels it was done wrongfully. She would like to speak with someone about her concerns.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood asked Mrs. Therrien to call her and she will listen to her concerns.

### **Committee Forum**

Mrs. Robin discussed Strategic Planning with the School Committee members.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Oliveira and **unanimously voted** to adjourn the School Committee meeting at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Monique F. Simard  
Recording Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Steven J. Tringali, District Secretary