

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

September 8, 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 Mrs. Robinson and **unanimously voted** to approve Consent Agenda A which includes Minutes of Meeting of August 25th and Warrants.

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

A presentation to track star Brett Buskey was made by Mr. Porter, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Maloney. The presentation was initiated by Mr. Eldridge who took a recent photo of Brett from a newspaper article and had it framed to present to him this evening.

Brett was the undefeated indoor track star and the outdoor track State champion and New England champion. He broke school records and had a fabulous season.

Along with being a great athlete he is also scholastically accomplished and will be attending Dartmouth College this fall.

Brett stated that he played basketball all his life but wanted to pursue track. He contributes much of his success to the positive role models in his life.

Mr. Johnson spoke as the Athletic Director and gave a summary of the athletics at BMR. He gave the sports highlights to the Committee. He would like to generate more enthusiasm in the sports at BMR. He believes that intramurals would help a great deal.

Mr. Porter feels there are more distractions now. Many kids decide they don't measure up athletically and decide not to try out. He feels they need to build their confidence at a younger age. He also believes that a successful program draws kids in.

Mr. Singleton stated that they lost the athletic boosters a few years ago. It would be nice to have this up and running again. He believes that parents and students are happy with Mr. Johnson's performance as athletic director.

Mr. Johnson would like to see the addition of girls volleyball which may be an inexpensive sport to start up. It is an opportunity for kids to get involved in sports. The Committee wants to hear what the start up costs would be for both volleyball and golf.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Robinson and seconded by Mrs. Robin and **unanimously voted** to approve volunteer coaches Gary Dowrey and Brian Saulnier as requested by Mr. Johnson.

Two new student representatives were introduced. They are Derek Tata and Alicia Pickering. They will be the Committee's eyes and ears to the student population. The Committee welcomes them.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Robin and **unanimously voted** to approve a Unit C negotiations team to consist of Superintendent Shaver-Hood and Chairman Singleton.

Report of the Superintendent

Superintendent Shaver-Hood stated that teachers and staff did a wonderful job with the opening of school.

The work at the JFK/AFM complex has been completed with the exception of painting.

Bids were accepted for the BMR High School generator. One company submitted a bid.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Robin and **unanimously voted** to award the BMR High School generator bid to Fall River Electrical Associates in the amount of \$103,283.

There are many leaks at the BMR High School. The insurance company was called to have someone inspect the leaks.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Eldridge and **unanimously voted** to have a field inspection in the amount of \$3200.00 on the BMR High School roof to photograph the conditions and develop an opinion of the cost and options to repair it.

The Middle School principal Mr. Cameron is currently looking for Dept. Heads at the Middle School instead of the Team Leaders which they have had in the past. This would need to go to Impact Bargaining since it is not currently in the teacher contract. Mr. Buckley would like to know more about this and why there is a reluctance to keep team leaders and why they are having trouble getting teachers to take these positions.

The master calendar will be on the website and they have a person to keep up with this.

There are insurance changes that came about recently. It will be mandatory to move the retirees to Medex and Medicare through Section 18 if they qualify. The School District will be sending out letters to 65 and older retirees to attend a meeting on September 28th at 9:00 a.m. The goal is to have them ready to switch by November 1, 2011. By law they must move by January 1, 2012. Former Superintendent's Aldo Cecchi and Fred Hartnett have offered to help with this move. If they qualify these retirees will no longer be able to stay on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield plan.

Life insurance rates jumped dramatically this year. The District has gone with another company and locked in for three years.

The Millville Elementary School ran into complications and they do not have drinking water available yet.

There were no items for Public Forum

Committee Forum

There will be a strategic planning meeting on Monday. They are moving along and will have information on strategic planning on the agenda once a month.

Mr. Buckley introduced a technology proposal for the school committee members. There is a product called dropbox.com. It is an effective strategy to support the operation of the BMR School Committee. He is presenting it for their consideration. It is easy to set up and to manage. The cost is set not to exceed \$540 per member paid for by the members themselves. It is an opportunity for members to get on the same platform. The member would be charged for the case and I-pad and the District would pay for the software.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mr. Eldridge to adjourn the School Committee meeting at 9:13 p.m. This was followed by a role call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Monique Simard
Recording Secretary

ATTEST: _____
Steven J. Tringali, District Secretary