

**MINUTES OF MEETING
BLACKSTONE-MILLVILLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
DECEMBER 20, 2006
FREDERICK W. HARTNETT MIDDLE SCHOOL
MEDIA CENTER
35 FEDERAL STREET
BLACKSTONE, MA 01504**

At 7:00 p.m. the School Committee Meeting was called to order. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited.

The following members were present as follows:

Toni M. Harvey, Chairperson
Ann M. Lesperance, Vice Chairperson
Joanne R. Forbes, District Secretary
Lynn M. Landry, Member (arrived at 7:30 p.m.)
Catherine A. Robinson, Member
Robert J. Kluchevitz, Member

New Student Representative Matthew Chamberlin arrived at 8:00 p.m.

The following members were absent from the meeting:

Thomas J. Conlon, Assistant District Treasurer
Mark J. Almquist, District Treasurer

Also present at the meeting were Everett B. Campbell, Superintendent of Schools and Kathleen A. Montagano, Assistant Superintendent of Schools.

At 7:05 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Lesperance, seconded by Mrs. Forbes to accept the Consent Agenda which included Minutes of Meeting of December 7, 2006.
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

There were no items for Public Forum.

Mr. Campbell gave the Report of the Superintendent at 7:05 p.m. He stated that Mrs Judd, Food Services Director no longer has use for the two milk refrigerators in the cafeteria. Mr. Campbell would like these to be declared as surplus items.

At 7:10 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Forbes, seconded by Mr. Kluchevitz to declare the two milk refrigerators at the High School surplus equipment.
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Mr. Campbell stated that Mr. Hartnett did research on the needs at the High School and a memo was included in the Committee folders for their review. Since it is 37 years old there are areas in need of repair. Mr. Hartnett feels that an overall plan needs to be developed both short and long term for renovations to both the inside and exterior of BMR. The issue, Mr. Hartnett stated, will be money. At a later time, a presentation will be made regarding specifics of the proposed plan.

On December 13th bids for bus transportation for the years 2007 – 2010 were opened in the conference room at the BMRHS. Only one bid was received for busing which was from Clayton V. Tellstone, Jr. of Tellstone and Son. Six companies requested bid documents which was advertised in the goods and services bulletin published by the Secretary of State and in the local newspaper.

Mr. Campbell is requesting that the School Committee award the transportation contract for the years 2007-2010 to Tellstone and Son at the following rates:

Elementary total - \$1,027,080
Secondary total – 1,119,960
Kindergarten total – 324,000
For a grand total of: \$2,471,040

The bid document also invited Tellstone and Sons to bid for an additional 2 years as an option. The following are the rates for 2010-2012 as follows:

Elementary total - \$776,520
Secondary total – 838,440
Kindergarten – 223,200
For a grand total of: 1,838,160

At 7:20 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Leseperance, seconded by Mrs. Forbes to accept the transportation bid received by Tellstone and Son for the years 2007 – 2010 at a rate of \$2,471,040 and the years 2010 – 2012 at a rate of \$1,838,160.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Mr. Campbell talked about the letter to the finalists of the Knights of Columbus free throw basketball shooting contest. It involves AFM, MES and FWH school students. The event will be held at the Millville Elementary School at 6:30 p.m. on January 8th. The Millville Knights pay for the trophies for the top students. The boys and girls at each age level get to compete at the next level.

The members of the School Committee received an invitation in their packets for the swearing in of Ronald Landry who has been appointed as the new Chief of Police in Millville. The ceremony will be held on January 2, 2007 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. at the Millville Elementary School.

Matthew Chamberlin and Alexandra Graves have been recommended by the Social Studies Department to go to the inauguration of our new governor, Deval Patrick. Sharon Cusack, teacher aide at the High School will be chaperoning the two students.

At 7:40 p.m. Kathleen Montagano spoke on the budget for FY08 and any changes made to line items. Ms. Montagano stated that they are still making adjustments in Special Education. She reviewed the specifics of line items with the Committee.

At 8:00 p.m. Mr. Richard Porter, High School Principal and Sharon Dupre, Athletic Director made a presentation on behalf of the Athletic Booster Club. The Statement of Purpose has not been revised in years. The new Statement of Purpose has been written and shared with the School Committee. Mr. Porter asked that the School Committee consider accepting the final copy of the Statement of Purpose.

Mr. Campbell was looking for a motion on this item.

A motion was made by Mrs. Forbes, seconded by Mrs. Robinson to accept the new Statement of Purpose as written by the Athletic Boosters Club on September 5, 2006. **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.**

Mr. Campbell and Mr. Porter discussed the drop out rate at 8:05 p.m. The dropout rate has decreased significantly. Based on available statistics from the Dept. of Education in a report published on December 4, 2006, BMRHS's dropout rate decreased from 4.7% to 2.6%. The current average dropout rate statewide is 3.7%. Mr. Campbell feels that several factors and actions on the part of the District and the High School Administration and staff have contributed to the decrease.

Mr. Porter stated that he has challenged his staff to go the extra mile to address the needs of high risk students. In addition, he asked the staff members to work with the students' parents to attempt to resolve problems students were having academically or otherwise.

There were no items for Subcommittee Reports.

There were no items for Policy.

At 8:10 p.m. Mrs. Lesperance spoke on Communications.

At 8:15 p.m. for Committee Forum Matt Chamberlin stated that the penny war at the High School raised about \$3,000 and was headed by Mrs. Anderson, teacher at the BMR High School, and student volunteers.

Matt also stated that the basketball team had hoop night and money was raised. A pep rally will be held at the High School on Friday. Matt also informed the Committee that the Varsity Hockey team is currently undefeated and the Basketball team is 3 and 0.

Mrs. Harvey wanted to congratulate the 27 new inductees as new National Junior Honor Society members at the Middle School.

Mrs. Harvey stated that Brad Monroe, Technology Director will be putting all the School Committee Meeting minutes on the BMR Website. There will also be a site for the Community Resources for Education.

At 8:20 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Lesperance, seconded by Mrs. Landry to adjourn the School Committee Meeting of December 20th. **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Monique F. Simard
Recording Secretary

ATTEST: _____
Joanne R. Forbes, District Secretary