

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

*October 11, 2007*

The Blackstone-Millville Regional District School Committee met in the Media Center of the Frederick W. Hartnett Middle School on Thursday, October 11, 2007. The following school committee members were in attendance:

Ann M. Lesperance, Vice Chairperson  
Mark J. Almquist  
Joanne R. Forbes  
Ann M. Lesperance  
Lynn M. Landry  
Catherine A. Robinson

*Toni M. Harvey and Robert J. Kluchevitz were absent from the meeting.*

Also in attendance were:

Superintendent Herbert W. Levine, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent Kathleen A. Montagano, Ed. D., MES Principal Eileen M. Tetreault, JFK/AFM Principal Everett B. Campbell, Director of Technology Bradford A. Monroe, Director of Student Services Rachel A. Lawrence and other interested parties.

At 7:00 p.m., a quorum being present, Vice Chairperson Lesperance called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States followed.

Dr. Levine presented the Consent Agenda. A motion was made by Mrs. Landry and seconded by Mr. Almquist to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

**UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**

At 7:10 p.m., Vice Chairperson Lesperance welcomed Millville Elementary School Principal Eileen M. Tetreault. Mrs. Tetreault showed members a quilt that was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Slozak to the Millville Elementary School to display. The quilt depicts the town of Millville. A motion was made by Mrs. Robinson and seconded by Mr. Almquist to allow the Millville Elementary School to accept this donation.

**UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**

Mrs. Tetreault said they had a very smooth opening. She reviewed staff changes and Open Circle. Mrs. Tetreault also reviewed focus clubs that are sponsored by MESPA.

At 7:15 p.m., Vice Chairperson Lesperance welcomed JFK/AFM Principal Everett B. Campbell and Assistant Principal Bradford A. Monroe. Mr. Campbell reported on the

opening of the school year which included new staff members, a review of his goals for the upcoming school year and upcoming activities.

Mr. Monroe feels that things have been going smoothly at the Complex. He and Mr. Campbell commended both Mrs. Breault and Mrs. Sawyer for the great job they do.

Mr. Monroe reported on the opening of school with regards to technology. He reviewed updates on staffing, hardware and upcoming projects. Mr. Monroe thanked Mrs. Hannon for working on the EPIMS report during the summer. The technology department is also working on TestWiz, Reading Pilot and Reading A-Z accounts.

At 7:45 p.m., Vice Chairperson Lesperance welcomed Director of Student Services Rachel A. Lawrence. Mrs. Lawrence did a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Special Education Budget for FY08. (See attached)

At 8:30 p.m., Vice Chairperson Lesperance asked if there were any issues for the Public Forum. There was no response.

At 8:30 p.m., Dr. Kathleen A. Montagano, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, gave her report.

- Dr. Montagano stated that Harper's is working on a program that will help project the encumbrances.
- An update of personnel was reviewed which included some resignations and new vacancies.
- Dr. Montagano reviewed job descriptions for the bus monitor, matron and library paraprofessional. Mr. Conlon asked about the *associate's degree requirement* for the library paraprofessional. Dr. Montagano will change it to *associate's degree preferred*. A motion was made by Mr. Conlon and seconded by Mrs. Landry to approve job descriptions with the one change. **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**
- A current concern with the FY08 budget is the oil because they budgeted at \$1.90/gallon and today's price is \$2.33/gallon. The expenditure ledger was also reviewed.
- A new student attending the John F. Kennedy School requires a one to one aide. The position will be funded by the entitlement grant. A motion was made by Mrs. Forbes and seconded by Mrs. Landry to approve Dr. Montagano's request to advertise for this position. **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**
- The current physical therapist position is a .5 FTE but it is not enough time; Mrs. Lawrence requests an increase to a .6 FTE. The position will be funded by the salary account. A motion was made by Mrs. Landry and seconded by Mrs. Robinson to change the physical therapist to a .6 FTE. **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**

At 8:40 p.m., Dr. Herbert W. Levine, Superintendent of Schools, gave his report.

- Dr. Levine will make a presentation regarding MCAS scores at the meeting of October 25<sup>th</sup>.
- There are desks at the high school that have been in storage and should be declared as surplus. A motion was made by Mr. Almquist and seconded by Mrs. Forbes to declare the desks at the high as surplus. **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**
- Town Administrator Kenneth Bianchi has requested that the school district cost share pay approximately \$400 for new signs for the JFK/AFM Complex. A motion was made by Mrs. Landry and seconded by Mr. Almquist to pay approximately \$400 to share the cost of the signs. Following a brief discussion revolving around the fact that the town owns the roads where the signs are posted, why should the district be responsible to pay any money towards the sign, it was agreed that Dr. Levine will put this on hold and look further into it.
- Dr. Levine informed members that he has had requests to fund the annual dues to the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce. He informed the organization that we can pay half of the tuition (\$2,300). This organization funds money directly back to the students and they also provide opportunities to do internships for our students throughout the valley. Dr. Levine feels that we need to offer this opportunity to our students. This organization is looking for a home and he is looking into allowing this organization to use a room at the middle school and to see if it can be an exchange for dues. A motion was made by Mrs. Landry and seconded by Mr. Conlon to approve payment of \$2,300 to the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce from the revolving account. **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**

At 9:00 p.m., Vice Chairperson Lesperance asked if there were any subcommittee reports to be made at this time.

Following the first reading of “File KF: Community Use of School Facilities”, a motion was made by Mrs. Landry and seconded by Mrs. Robinson to accept the first reading of said policy as presented by Mr. Almquist. **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**

Following the first reading of “File KF-R: Community Use of School Facilities”, a motion was made by Mr. Conlon and seconded by Mrs. Landry to accept the first reading of said policy as presented by Mr. Almquist. **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**

Following the first reading of “File: KF-E” which replaces “File: KF-R-1”, and reviewing additional changes, a motion was made by Mrs. Landry and seconded by Mrs. Forbes to accept the first reading of said policy as presented by Mr. Almquist. **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**

At 9:15 p.m., Vice Chairperson Lesperance welcomed Student Representative Lindsey Poirier. Lindsey reported on activities taking place at school. Nine members of the student council attended the fall conference held at Wachusett, the officers of student council will attend a conference at Holy Cross, and student council will also sponsor a Halloween party for the elementary students. Members of NHS are working on completing service hours; several are working at Daniel's Farm, Because He Lives Soup Kitchen and at the Blackstone Food Pantry. The FBLA store is open to purchase BMR merchandise and snacks. This month SADD display information throughout the school with regards to dating violence. The junior class will be hosting hypnotist Frank Santos on November 14<sup>th</sup>. Lindsey also reviewed the records for all sports teams.

At 9:20 p.m. Vice Chairperson Lesperance asked if there were any issues for the Committee Forum.

Mr. Almquist asked why Mr. Monroe indicated that 38 new staff members received access to log onto computers. Dr. Montagano will look into this. Mr. Almquist would also like to know what the turn over rate is with new staff.

Mrs. Lesperance encouraged people to participate in Community Reading Day.

The first CoRE meeting will be held on Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at the middle school at 7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Forbes suggested doing walk-throughs with the CoRE group at each school while Mrs. Lesperance suggested having the CoRE meetings at different schools and they can do a walk-through prior to the meeting. Dr. Levine suggested having the principals lead the tour.

At 9:30 p.m., a motion was made by Mrs. Landry and seconded by Mr. Almquist that the Regional District School Committee **adjourn the meeting. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Robinson  
Recording Secretary

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Joanne R. Forbes, District Secretary