

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

May 29, 2008

The Blackstone-Millville Regional District School Committee met in the library/media center of the Frederick W. Hartnett Middle School on Thursday, May 29, 2008. The following school committee members were in attendance:

Toni M. Harvey, Chairperson
Ann M. Lesperance, Vice Chairperson
Lynn M. Landry, District Treasurer
Thomas J. Conlon, Secretary
Michael J. Buckley
Diane C. Robin
Charles K. Singleton

Catherine A. Robinson was absent from the meeting.

Also in attendance were Superintendent Herbert W. Levine, Ph.D., Assistant Superintendent Kathleen A. Montagano, Ed. D., and Student Representative Lindsay Poirier.

At 7:05 p.m., a quorum being present, Chairperson Harvey called the meeting to order.

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

Dr. Levine presented the Consent Agenda which included minutes of the meetings of April 17 and May 15, 2008, two field trip requests and one home schooling application. A motion was made by Mr. Singleton and seconded by Mrs. Lesperance to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Buckley indicated there was one error on the minutes of May 15th and requested it be corrected. The minutes indicated that Mrs. Robinson was on the John Eldridge Show but it was Dr. Montagano that was present. Following the discussion, the motion was **VOTED UNANIMOUSLY**

Chairperson Harvey thanked the citizens of both Blackstone and Millville for their support with the budget. Mr. Buckley also expressed his gratitude to the citizens.

At 7:10 p.m., Dr. Herbert W. Levine, Superintendent of Schools, gave his report.

- Dr. Levine urged members of the community to watch the town meeting on cable if they have not done so. Dr. Levine commended Jason Davis-Cook, a graduate of BMR, who spoke at the Annual Town Meeting.

- Dr. Levine talked about the surplus material that is being stored in a trailer at the high school. We currently pay \$400 a month to store the material. One trailer is full of old equipment which has already been declared surplus. Dr. Levine suggested allowing the community to view the material and put a bid on some of the equipment rather than brining it all to the dump.

Following a discussion it was agreed that Dr. Levine would check with the towns of Blackstone and Millville to see if they would have use for any of the materials in the trailer before any other options are considered.

- Following a recommendation by the Department of Occupational Safety, Dr. Levine requested that a motion be made to appoint Kimberly B. Shaver-Hood as the asbestos liaison for the remainder of the school year. Mr. Buckley made a motion and seconded by Mrs. Landry that, pursuant to, and in accordance with, the provisions of 40 CFR §763.84 (g) (1), Kimberly B. Shaver-Hood be, and is hereby, designated as the person to ensure that the requirements under 40 CFR §763.84 are properly implemented by the Blackstone-Millville Regional School District. **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**
- Dr. Levine also updated the committee on the interviews for the middle school principal. The search committee feels they will successfully complete this process very shortly.

At 7:22 p.m., Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Kathleen A. Montagano, Ed. D., gave her report.

- Dr. Montagano reviewed the FY08 budget and personnel updates including the resignation of the Director of Special Education, Rachel Lawrence.
- Dr. Montagano indicated there was a packet from National Grid in the reading folder. National Grid offered to do an energy audit at the Millville Elementary School. Executive Secretary Helen Coffin has already approved the audit but Dr. Montagano wanted committee members to be aware of what is taking place.
- Dr. Montagano informed committee members about possible upgrades that have been recommended by the Division of Energy Resources. Many of the upgrades would be capital improvements. Dr. Montagano will provide members with more information at the next meeting.
- Following a brief discussion about job descriptions for support staff, a motion was made by Mrs. Lesperance and seconded by Mr. Singleton to approve the following job descriptions: special education teacher aide, English as a second language aide, financial assistant, accounts payable clerk, cafeteria aide, crossing guard, custodian, head custodian, principal's secretary, district wide secretary, student services secretary and the guidance secretary. **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**

After talking briefly about the current status of the groundskeeper, it was recommended that a bullet be added to the job description and state that duties will be assigned by the Superintendent and/or Assistant Superintendent of Schools. A motion was made by Mrs. Landry and seconded by Mr. Conlon to rectify the job description of the groundskeeper as stated above. **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**

A motion was made by Mr. Singleton and seconded by Mrs. Lesperance to accept the job description of the groundskeeper as amended. **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**

- Dr, Montagano reviewed the bids for the access ramp at the high school. A motion was made by Mrs. Landry and seconded by Mr. Conlon to award the bid to Quality Contracting, Inc., 534 Cambridge Street, Worcester, MA for \$35,988. **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.**
- Specs have been prepared for the handicap bathroom at the high school. Dr. Montagano will keep members updated on this matter.
- Dr. Montagano made a request to transfer funds to purchase the equipment for the high school asbestos areas. She requested \$1,727 be transferred from account number 01.05.505.340.4220.466.8.0 (Contract Repair Roof) and \$3,084 from account number 01.05.505.130.4230.475.8.0 (Contract Maint./Equip.) for a total of \$4,811 to be transferred to account number 01.05.505.340.4220.543.8.0 (Supplies/Repair). A motion was made by Mr. Buckley and seconded by Mrs. Lesperance. Following a brief discussion, it was **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.**

At 7:37 p.m., Dr. Levine commended Attorney Gould for gathering information for the asbestos meeting that is scheduled for Friday, May 30th at 9:00 a.m. Specs for the bid to hire a consultant have been placed on the central register and the bids will be opened on June 9th.

Dr. Levine also stated that he received paper work from Jack Delaney and Bill Walsh to consider approving the middle school as a shelter for the Red Cross. Dr. Levine does not have a recommendation at this time because Attorney Gould is reviewing the insurance portion of the application. Dr. Levine is hoping to have a recommendation by the meeting of June 12th.

At 7:40 p.m., Chairperson Harvey asked if there were any subcommittee reports to be made at this time.

Mrs. Lesperance reported that the final school committee update has been submitted to the principals and the website.

At 7:48 p.m., Chairperson Harvey asked if there were any issues for the Committee Forum.

Student Representative Lindsay Poirier reported on activities that have been taking place at the high school. STUCO held their end of year banquet; SADD is holding their

safe driving month; NHS held their induction ceremony on May 16th; “Kiss a senior good bye” is under way at this time and the senior class had their parade last Friday. The senior class banquet, awards night and graduation will be held next week; elections for class officer are taking place at this time. She also updated members on sports and music.

A motion was made by Mr. Buckley and seconded by Mrs. Landry to appoint Lindsay Poirier as the student representative for the school committee for the 2008-2009 school year. **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**

Chairperson Harvey congratulated the students that were inducted into NHS at the high school. The NJHS will have their induction ceremony at the middle school on Friday, May 30th.

There will be a work session on Saturday, May 31st for school committee members. MASC Executive Director, Glenn Koocher, will be making a presentation to members at the middle school from 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

Chairperson Harvey encouraged members to attend Awards Night at the high school on Thursday, June 5th.

Mrs. Lesperance talked about the golf tournament that is being sponsored by BMEF. It will be held on Friday, August 1st at Crystal Lake Golf Course in Harrisville, RI. She also explained that the school committee sponsored a hole last year for \$250 and asked if members would be willing to do that again this year. Checks can be made out to BMEF. The district website is updated with forms for those interested in golfing or being a sponsor.

Mrs. Harvey stated that there will be a musical celebration presented by the AFM Chorus on Wednesday, June 11th at 7:00 PM. It will be held in the Molony/Sullivan Auditorium at the high school.

At 7:55 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Buckley and seconded by Mrs. Lesperance that the Regional District School Committee **adjourn the meeting.** **UNANIMOUSLY VOTED**

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Robinson
Recording Secretary

ATTEST: _____
Thomas J. Conlon, District Secretary