

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

January 20, 2009

The Blackstone-Millville Regional District School Committee met in the library/media center of the Frederick W. Hartnett Middle School commencing at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Toni M. Harvey, Chairperson
Catherine A. Robinson, Assistant District Treasurer
Diane C. Robin
Charles K. Singleton
Steven J. Tringali

Ann M. Lesperance, Lynn M. Landry and Michael J. Buckley were not present.

Also in attendance were Superintendent Christine D. Tyrie, Ed. D., Assistant Superintendent Kimberly B. Shaver-Hood, and other interested parties.

A quorum being present, Chairperson Harvey called the meeting to order which was followed by the pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States.

PUBLIC FORUM

Chairperson Harvey asked if there were any concerns for public forum; there was no response.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT – Christine D. Tyrie, Ed. D.

Stimulus Funding Proposals

Dr. Tyrie stated that the district submitted two proposals for stimulus funding. The proposals were for the renovation of athletic fields and an abatement of spray-on asbestos. Dr. Tyrie has been notified that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has accepted the proposals.

Asbestos

Dr. Tyrie updated members on a meeting she attended with the Department of Occupational Safety regarding asbestos. All non-compliance issues have been addressed. Chairperson Harvey commended the central office for the work that has been completed with the asbestos situation.

Repair/Renovation of High School

Dr. Tyrie distributed a letter she received from Michael McKeon, Vice President of KBA. Dr. Tyrie met Mr. McKeon to discuss the feasibility study he completed for the middle school; she would like to have it updated. The letter included the cost to upgrade the high school portion of the feasibility study. A brief question and answer period followed.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Singleton, seconded by Mr. Tringali and ***unanimously voted*** that Dr. Tyrie will send a letter to SBA to seek reimbursement and to have the feasibility study updated.

Expense Ledger

Dr. Tyrie reviewed the expenditure ledger for January.

Stimulus Grant

Dr. Tyrie distributed information provided by Mr. Hartnett regarding the possibility of receiving financial assistance to replace the boiler at the high school. She also reviewed the details of accessing the \$208,610 that was awarded to the district through the Department of Energy Resources.

Director of Student Services

Dr. Tyrie reviewed her plan for team chairs and special educators for the remainder of the school year.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Singleton, seconded by Mrs. Robinson and **unanimously voted** to approve the plan as presented by Dr. Tyrie provided that this is done in the best interest of the students.

Support Staff Contract

A copy of the support staff contract was distributed to members. The ratification vote will be held tomorrow, January 21st.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT – Kimberly B. Shaver-Hood

Personnel Update

The personnel update was reviewed which included retirements for the upcoming year.

Sewer Project

Early Village has been connected to the Town of Blackstone's septic system. The high school has been placed on hold due to the cold weather but it will be connected next week. Ms. Shaver-Hood thanked everyone at Early Village, the highway department, Tetreault & Sons, and District Counsel Harold D. Gould, Jr.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Singleton and **unanimously voted** to approve the third reading of the MRSA Policy.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Shaver-Hood reported on the middle school being used as an emergency shelter. She will have more information in the near future.

Mrs. Robin requested approval for her niece from Germany to attend the high school for approximately three weeks.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Singleton, seconded by Mr. Tringali and **voted 4 in favor, 1 abstained (Mrs. Robin)** to approve the request to allow Irina Scherübl to attend the high school for approximately three weeks.

Dr. Tyrie distributed a copy of Principal and Superintendent Performance Standards. Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that Dr. Tyrie will bring the existing evaluation instruments to members at the next meeting.

Ms. Shaver-Hood reviewed the proposal from MIIA for building insurance. They are proposing a decrease of 5% for FY10 and a flat payment for FY11. If it is paid in full we also receive an additional 5% savings.

Members agreed with the proposal but would also like to research insurance companies for FY12.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Tyrie presented Consent Agenda “A” which included the minutes of the meeting of January 8, 2009, field trip requests and the warrants. She also presented Consent Agenda “B” which included a home schooling request from Mr. and Mrs. Torrey of Blackstone.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Singleton, seconded by Mr. Tringali and **voted unanimously** to approve both Consent Agendas “A” and “B”.

DISTRICT COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Shaver-Hood stated that facilities subcommittee will research the possibility of buying products in bulk and also “going green”.

COMMITTEE FORUM

Chairperson Harvey would like to form a subcommittee that would meet one hour before the school committee meetings to address the situation of what students will receive in place of a graduation diploma. The first meeting will be held on January 29th at 6:00 PM.

Motion: At 8:25 p.m., it was moved by Mr. Singleton, seconded by Mr. Tringali, to go into executive session for the purpose of contract negotiations and the Committee would come out of executive session for the purpose of adjourning the meeting. The motion was followed by a roll call vote that resulted in a **unanimous vote**.

Motion: At 9:00 p.m., it was moved by Mrs. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Singleton and **unanimously voted** to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Robinson
Recording Secretary

ATTEST: _____
Michael J. Buckley, District Secretary