

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

January 22, 2009

The Blackstone-Millville Regional District School Committee met in the library/media center of the Frederick W. Hartnett Middle School commencing at 7:07 p.m. with the following members present:

Toni M. Harvey, Chairperson
Ann M. Lesperance, Vice Chairperson
Lynn M. Landry, Treasurer
Catherine A. Robinson, Assistant District Treasurer
Michael J. Buckley, Secretary
Diane C. Robin
Charles K. Singleton
Steven J. Tringali

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.

APPOINTMENTS

Chairperson Harvey welcomed Athletic Director Sharon A. Dupre. Ms. Dupre presented the committee with data on a survey done for middle school students. She explained how a middle school cross country team would be structured next year if it was separate from the high school team.

She suggested that the data supported a middle school intramural program. There was discussion regarding what sports could be offered if having equipment already available was a consideration.

The committee asked Ms. Dupre to provide them with a cost of an intramural program next year if the activities were considered to be an after school club. The decision on a middle school cross country team was postponed to a later date.

Ms. Dupre provided an update on the meeting she attended with Mr. Porter regarding an application to the tri-valley league. She explained that the league had two openings for new schools and intended to split the new 12 team league into a lower and upper division based on school enrollment. It would give BMR a chance to enter a competitive league as opposed to staying in a league with mostly smaller schools. Ms. Dupre said on the plus side was our team successes and sportsmanship. On the negative side were our facilities and lack of golf, lacrosse, volleyball and football. She should know shortly if the BMR application was accepted.

Ms. Dupre and Mrs. Abrams provided clarification on the middle school girls' basketball intramural proposal. Mrs. Lesperance stated that she would support the proposal if it was a club with a stipend, and did not have a cost to the students. The school committee asked for some time to reflect before making a decision.

PUBLIC FORUM

Millville Selectperson John Laura updated members on the situation with water at the Millville Elementary School. A representative from Tighe & Bond will visit MES on Friday, January 23rd to give a second opinion on the system in place and future proposals that have been made regarding additions to the system.

The last set of samples taken on December 8th came back within acceptable ranges. Mr. Laura said testing would be done quarterly. If the samples remained at acceptable levels for lead and copper, the final problem to be addressed is the discoloration.

Ms. Lima clarified that Tighe & Bond's assessment and suggestions would be taken under consideration, and that no decision had been made regarding who would be engineering future work.

Motion: At 8:10 p.m., it was moved by Mr. Tringali, seconded by Mrs. Robinson and ***unanimously voted*** to recess the meeting to enter into a budget work session.

Motion: At 10:06 p.m., it was moved by Mr. Singleton, seconded by Mrs. Robinson and ***unanimously voted*** to reconvene the meeting.

The meeting reconvened without Mr. Tringali and Mrs. Robinson being in attendance.

Superintendent Tyrie reviewed the support staff contract highlights, which was ratified by the support staff on Wednesday, January 21, 2009.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mrs. Lesperance and ***unanimously voted*** to accept the 2008-2011 support staff contract.

Mrs. Landry completed the first reading of the facilities policy. There were minor changes to the wording of the policy.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Lesperance, seconded by Mrs. Landry and ***unanimously voted*** to accept the first reading of the facilities policy.

Committee Forum

Chairperson Harvey asked that the committee be updated on the number of juniors and the number of seniors who have not yet passed MCAS.

Mr. Singleton stated that he had requested that there be a presentation on MCAS scores which tracked the progress of students who were in the less than proficient categories over

time. He did not want the request to be forgotten and would be satisfied with having that presentation in the spring.

Motion: At 10:30 p.m., it was moved by Mr. Singleton, seconded by Mr. Buckley, 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 11:05 p.m., it was moved by Mrs. Lesperance, seconded by Mr. Singleton and ***unanimously voted*** to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine D. Tyrie, Ed. D.
Superintendent of Schools

ATTEST: _____
Michael J. Buckley, District Secretary