

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

August 21, 2008

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
Ann M. Lesperance, Vice Chairperson
Lynn M. Landry, District Treasurer
Catherine A. Robinson, Asst. 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. and Assistant Superintendent of Schools Kimberly B. Shaver-Hood.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Tyrie reviewed the Consent Agenda.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Lesperance and seconded by Mrs. Landry to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was ***unanimous to accept the use of facilities requests and the minutes of the meetings of July 15 and August 7.***

The executive session minutes from 2007 were approved 5 in favor, 3 abstained (Michael Buckley, Diane Robin and Charles Singleton).

It was agreed that the warrants would be voted on at the end of the meeting

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Asbestos Update

Dr. Tyrie stated that the several people from the Department of Occupational Safety were at the high school on Tuesday. It is anticipated that the work will be complete by the middle of October or November.

Opening Day for Staff

Dr. Tyrie invited school committee members to attend Orientation Day on September 2nd. There will be a light breakfast in the cafeteria followed by a meeting in the auditorium. Please notify Dr. Tyrie if you will attend.

Millville Energy Audit

An energy audit is being conducted at the Millville Elementary School. Mrs. Tetreault anticipates that this energy audit will be for the community as well as the district. Mrs. Tetreault will attend the school committee meeting of September 11th to review the audit.

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

Personnel Update

Ms. Shaver-Hood reviewed the personnel updates including several openings at the high school, an aide at JFK and a substitute teacher for 4th grade. Ms. Shaver-Hood also requested approval to appoint the new Interim Director of Student Services.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Singleton, seconded by Mrs. Landry and ***unanimously voted*** to appoint Patricia Connolly as the Interim Director of Student Services.

Fuel

Ms. Shaver-Hood stated that on September 4th French River will be opening bids for fuel. Members will have the option to lock into a fixed rate. Ms. Shaver-Hood stated that before the bids are open, she must state if the district will lock-in to a fixed rate. It was the consensus of the members that the fixed rate is the safest.

District Brochure

Ms. Shaver-Hood distributed a brochure that will be distributed to all staff on Orientation Day. There was positive feedback regarding the brochure from school committee members.

Sewer Project

Progress is being made with the sewer project. An electrical line was hit at the Early Village and one building was without power. Ms. Shaver-Hood offered to compensate them for any food they lost but has not heard from them. It was also stated that the soccer games will be played at the middle school.

OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Tyrie stated that a representative from the emergency management team and Fire Chief Sweeney would like to talk to school committee members about using the schools in case of an emergency. Members felt they need to have more discussions regarding this matter.

NEW BUSINESS

Desks at Millville Elementary School

Dr. Tyrie stated that Mrs. Tetreault has ten old desks and would like to dispose of them.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Lesperance, seconded by Mr. Singleton and ***unanimously voted*** to allow Mrs. Tetreault to dispose of the desks.

403b

Dr. Tyrie met with Jay DiLibero of MetLife to discuss 403b. There will not be a cost to the district; it will be passed onto the investor. Representatives from MetLife will be in the district on September 11th and 24th to be available to staff for any questions they may have. They will be our provider as of January 1st.

Arbitration

Dr. Tyrie sent information to Esther Cote indicating the amount teachers will be paid following the arbitration award. They will receive the payment in a payroll in December.

Sub Committee Reports

Communications

Mrs. Lesperance submitted an update to the schools for their newsletters.

Policy

Chairperson Harvey presented members with a policy that was drafted by Attorney Gould. The policy regards early release for athletic coaches. Chairperson Harvey requested forgoing the three readings due to the time of year and open coaching postings.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Lesperance, seconded by Mrs. Robinson and ***unanimously voted*** to waive the three readings and add a number five to the policy stating that this policy will be attached to all postings for coaches.

Committee Forum

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Landry, seconded by Mr. Singleton and ***unanimously voted*** to approve the warrants.

Mr. Singleton asked if the captains for the JV basketball team will be allowed to have captain's practice. Mr. Singleton was advised that the boys should ask the building principal.

Chairperson Harvey stated that she met with Suzan Cullen regarding curriculum lead teachers. The school committee approved the appointment of teachers at MES, AFM, the middle school and one for special education. Mrs. Cullen informed Mrs. Harvey that there is not a need for one for special education because regular education and special

education work together. Mrs. Cullen also feels that one is not needed at the middle school but strongly feels there is a need for one more at the Complex.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Lesperance, seconded by Mrs. Landry and ***unanimously voted*** to add a second curriculum lead teacher at the complex and withdraw the positions from the middle school, high school and the special education department.

Ms. Shaver-Hood stated that she would like to work with Mrs. Lesperance on Communication to get more PR for the school district.

Dr. Tyrie is seeking people to work with her on Policy. Mrs. Landry and Mr. Singleton agreed to work on Policy and Mrs. Robin would like to work as an observer.

Motion: At 8:25 p.m., it was moved by Mrs. Landry, seconded by Mr. Singleton and ***unanimously voted*** to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Robinson
Recording Secretary

Michael J. Buckley
District Secretary