

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

August 7, 2008

The Blackstone-Millville Regional District School Committee met in the library/media center of the Frederick W. Hartnett Middle School commencing at 7:10 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
Charles K. Singleton
Steven J. Tringali

Diane C. Robin was not present.

Also in attendance were:

Superintendent Christine D. Tyrie, Ed., D., Assistant Superintendent of Schools Kimberly B. Shaver-Hood, Paula Ryan, Millville Police Chief Ronald Landry, and other interested parties.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Landry and seconded by Mr. Buckley to accept the Consent Agenda which consisted of Minutes of the Meeting of July 15, 2008 and the warrants. It was ***unanimously voted*** to approve the Consent Agenda but to hold the Minutes of the Meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

Chairperson Harvey welcomed Paula Ryan. Mrs. Ryan, President of the Andrew Bibeault Memorial Fund, was requesting approval to have a dedication ceremony at the JFK/AFM playground in memory of Andrew Bibeault. The ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, September 13th at 10:00 AM. Mrs. Ryan is also scheduled to meet with the selectmen from Blackstone to get their approval to have a sign placed on the playground.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Lesperance, seconded by Mrs. Robinson and ***unanimously voted*** to accept Mrs. Ryan's proposal.

Chairperson Harvey welcomed Millville Chief of Police Ronald Landry. Chief Landry would like to install four surveillance cameras at the Millville Elementary School. The cameras would be used after school hours and week-ends. Chief Landry intends to

write a grant so there should be no cost to the school. They are going to hire a company to give them advice as to where to place the cameras. The cameras can be monitored live at the police department.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Lesperance, seconded by Mr. Singleton and ***unanimously voted***, to accept Chief Landry's request to install cameras at the Millville Elementary School with the contingency of speaking with the technology staff at BMR as well as returning to a school committee meeting to update members on the implementation of the program.

Chairperson Harvey welcomed Ann Lesperance, President of BMEF. Mrs. Lesperance reviewed a proposed raffle for the staff to supplement the funds raised at the BMEF Golf Tournament. The money will be used to award grants to staff members in the district in November. BMEF members would like to set up a table on orientation day and also have one staff member at each school available to sell raffle tickets.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Singleton to approve the BMEF Proposed Staff Raffle. The vote was ***6 in favor, 1 abstained (Mrs. Lesperance)***

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

NEW BUSINESS

Bee Sting Allergy Policy

It was agreed to remove this item from the Agenda.

Parent Request

Dr. Tyrie stated that she received a request for a student to attend school in the district as a tuition-in student. According to the per pupil expenditure, the tuition should be \$9,361.00 for one year.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Lesperance, seconded by Mr. Buckley and ***unanimously voted*** to approve the request.

Authorization to Accept 2008/2009 Grants

Dr. Tyrie reviewed the grants she would like to have authorized.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Landry, seconded by Mr. Singleton, to accept the grants presented and any grants that come forth in the future.

Student Insurance

Dr. Tyrie reviewed the student insurance policy that the District purchased through Gaudette Insurance. The consensus of the committee was that before the contract is signed next year, it will be reviewed by the committee.

Norfolk Bus

Dr. Tyrie explained that member towns of BICO need to appoint a procurement officer to be able to bid on services such as transportation to Norfolk County Agricultural High School. Dr. Tyrie recommended that the committee appoint Dr. Patricia Ruane, Superintendent of Hopedale Schools.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mrs. Lesperance and ***unanimously voted*** to appoint Dr. Patricia Ruane the Procurement Officer of the Collaborative.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT – Dr. Christine D. Tyrie

Staff Survey

Dr. Tyrie explained that a survey was mailed to all staff and she will provide members with the results of the survey in September.

Director of Student Services

There is an application in the reading folder for a candidate to work as a part time Interim Director of Student Services. Dr. Tyrie was very impressed and feels a lot will get accomplished with this candidate during the three or four days per week that she is available. She will be paid per diem. Members agreed to have Dr. Tyrie move forward with this candidate

Life Skills/Language Based Program

The rooms at the high school for the Life Skills and Language Based Programs are ready. The parents will be at the school tomorrow to meet with Dr. Tyrie, Ms. Shaver-Hood, Mr. Porter, Mrs. Harvey and Mrs. Pilla-Gallerani. They will discuss the program, freshmen orientation, curriculum, etc.

Website

The website is being updated at this time.

Asbestos

Representatives from Tighe & Bond reviewed the preliminary findings with Dr. Tyrie. The air is clean, the HVAC is ducted, and the visual inspection showed the material is not in bad shape. The quotes are coming in much higher than expected. Dr. Tyrie has contacted Frank Kramarz to see if this situation can be considered an emergency. If they do approve this as an emergency, she can move forward. Dr. Tyrie will talk to DOS tomorrow to get their input.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT - Kimberly B. Shaver-Hood

Sewer Project

The work has started on the sewer project. On August 14th they will begin tying in. This project should be completed prior to the start of school with the exception of the pump station. They will switch over on a Saturday so there will be no disruption with the school.

Facilities Committee

Ms. Shaver-Hood explained the newly formed Facilities Committee and reviewed the projects they are working on now and upcoming plans.

Personnel Update

Ms. Shaver-Hood reviewed the personnel updates including the remaining openings. There were questions regarding the LPN that is needed on the bus. Ms. Shaver-Hood is having a difficult time finding someone for this position.

OLD BUSINESS

High School Improvement Plan

The high school improvement plan was discussed. Mr. Buckley stated that he is not completely satisfied with the improvement plan. The plan does not include students at all. A discussion revolved around stipend positions. There is not an advisor for the Future Teachers of America Club.

It was agreed that the members are not comfortable at this time with the improvement plan to approve it.

Dr. Tyrie explained this is the work of the principal and the parent advisory council. She also stated that there will be an Administrators' Retreat where additional goals will be discussed and brought to the school committee.

Chairperson Harvey recommended that this be tabled; there is too much disagreement.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Harvey, seconded by Mr. Singleton, and ***unanimously voted*** to table the approval of the High School Improvement Plan.

Sub Committee Reports

Communications

Mrs. Lesperance would like you to send her any suggestions you may have.

Submit information for the district calendar to Betty Ganis.

Committee Forum

Mr. Singleton asked if there will be a list of supplies listed on the website that are needed at each school. It was explained that was done by Ms. Shaver-Hood at the middle school; not all schools provide a list.

Bus routes are done with the exception of the kindergarten route; Ms. Shaver-Hood is waiting for information from the bus company.

Mrs. Harvey explained that the recipient for one of the scholarships given out last year will not be using the money. It was agreed that this money will be returned to their account and used next year.

Motion: At 9:25 p.m., it was moved by Mrs. Lesperance, seconded by Mrs. Robinson, 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***.

Chairperson Harvey discussed the proposal that would be made to support staff at their August 13th session.

Motion: At approximately 10:10 p.m., it was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mrs. Lesperance, to come out of executive session. It was passed ***unanimously***.

Motion: At 10:10 p.m., it was moved by Mrs. Lesperance, seconded by Mr. Singleton, to adjourn the meeting. It was passed ***unanimously***.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Robinson
Recording Secretary

Michael J. Buckley
District Secretary

Approved: