

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

December 16, 2010

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

Charles K. Singleton, Chairman
Ann M. Lesperance, Vice Chairperson
Catherine A. Robinson, District Treasurer
Diane C. Robin, Assistant District Treasurer
Steven J. Tringali, District Secretary
Michael J. Buckley, Member
John J. Eldridge, Member
Lisa C. Oliveira, Member

Also in attendance at the meeting was Kimberly B. Shaver-Hood, Superintendent of Schools and Student Representatives, Alycia Dery and Luke Perreault.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Robinson (**seven in favor, Mr. Buckley abstain from vote on A. Minutes of Meeting as he was not present at the last School Committee Meeting**) to approve Consent Agenda A which includes Minutes of Meeting of November 18, 2010, Warrants, four field trip requests which include student representatives attending the Youth Leading Everywhere – Abstaining from Drugs at MIAA Headquarters, Youth Lead Conference at MSSAA, 6th grade field trip to IMAX Theatre and Student Council Leadership Conference.

Student Report

Luke Perreault gave a band update. Luke spoke on the Humanities Club which visited Stonehill College last week. It was an interesting trip. Students had the opportunity to tour the college and speak with college professors.

Alycia Dery stated that Student Council is getting ready for the upcoming Pep Rally and Spirit Week. The National Honor Society is sponsoring the Hats and Mittens Drive. The Advisor/Advisee program is adopting a family this year.

BMEF

Mrs. Lesperance recently had the pleasure of presenting BMEF grants in the amount of \$4,000. Staff members in the District can apply for these grants. BMEF committee members choose the recipients of the grant funds. They were able to fund this through the

BMEF golf tournament held this past summer. Mrs. Lesperance congratulated the following winners:

Jeanne Desjardins, Roy Liard, Deborah Petrozzi, Maureen Tessier, Kendra Baldini, Tracey Ducharme, Sloan Rielly, Barbara Mignanelli, Edie Faulkner, Christina Ranieri, David Isenberg, Kathleen Waterman and Jonah Smiley.

Report of the Superintendent of Schools

Information from DESE will be given on Tuesday, December 21st @ 5:30 p.m. at Worcester State.

Special Education will undergo a Coordinated Program Review (audit). It will be an on line version where the Director will input data in early spring. This data will be analyzed and the visit will be sometime next year. It should be a much cleaner and thorough audit which should provide the District with more information.

In April the State of MA will audit our school lunch program. Bellingham recently underwent this audit.

There is no action to be taken this evening on Use of Facilities since there were no requests for waiver of fees.

Paul Simpson and Marisa Olivo would like to volunteer to help out the indoor track team. Recent graduate Stephanie Drewniak would like to volunteer to help out the cheerleaders.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Lesperance, seconded by Mr. Buckley and **unanimously voted** to allow Paul Simpson and Marisa Olivo to volunteer to help out indoor track and for Stephanie Drewniak to volunteer to help with cheerleading, provided that all receive updated CORI checks.

The Bullying Plan is on the website for the School Committee members and citizens of the Community to review. Superintendent Shaver-Hood is looking for comments and feedback.

Brad Monroe, Technology Director has a proposal for the purchase of Apple iPads. The cost to purchase 120 iPads, cases, cameras, connections would be \$83,000. They are also looking for approval of 14 Smart Boards for grades 1 and 2. This would deplete the technology account.

Member Lisa Oliveira questioned whether we should put off spending this money now and hold onto it for next year.

Chairman Singleton feels we are lacking in technology and is glad to see this.

The District will need to look into increasing the bandwidth (the amount of data that can be passed along a communications channel in a given period of time). They may have a

problem with this in the future.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Lesperance and **unanimously voted** to purchase the new iPads and Smart Boards for a total of \$83,000 with the stipulation that Mr. Monroe verifies that the Bandwidth is sufficient.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood stated that on January 6th at 6:00 p.m. the members of the School Committee will meet to discuss upcoming Teacher's Association Contract Negotiations.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood received an email from Governor Patrick regarding a program that he will run on January 8th called Project 351. Project 351 is a quest to explore the state of MA and share discoveries. One 8th grade student will be nominated to go and be part of a dialogue session. Allison Daneault and Brennan Stefanik were nominated (1 student from Blackstone and 1 from Millville).

The Budget Sub-Committee will meet on January 4th to review the FY11 and FY12 budgets. Superintendent Shaver-Hood met with all Directors to come up with the FY12 budget. Principals have been instructed to cut the FY12 budget to level funded. They need to look at the direction they are moving in and set priorities for services they are not willing to lose. All salaries have been taken out of grants and placed in the regular budget since they may be losing certain grants next year. They are anticipating the loss of the ARRA and possibly Kindergarten grants.

The current budget is completely frozen with the exception of technology.

It has been determined that lighting at the Middle School uses quite a bit of energy. Superintendent Shaver-Hood has received a proposal to change all lights except for the library and cafeteria. It is estimated they would save \$11,000 per year. The cost to the District to implement this plan would be \$14,685 (15% saving by paying upfront). They would like to have this done during the February vacation.

Mr. Eldridge would like to find a way to track the savings.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Lesperance and **unanimously voted** to approve the proposal to change all lighting at the Middle School except for the library and cafeteria for a cost of \$14,685 to be paid up front.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood is looking at solar panels to be installed on the flat roof at the Middle and High School. They have been in contact with schools who have done this. They will need to check the warranty on the roof to be sure there are no exclusions on it. If work is done on the roof which voids the warranty it will not benefit the District.

Public Forum

Paulette Boyko, publisher of the Blackstone Enlightener asked for the use of the High School parking lot to park cars for the Civil War Reenactment to be held on June 11 and 12, 2011.

Mrs. Boyko also stated that they have published the Minutes of the Meeting in the last Enlightener and have received positive response to it from the Community. She would like to continue doing this.

There were no items for Committee Forum.

Happy Holidays were sent from all School Committee Members to the Community.

Chairman Singleton wants to bring to the Committee's attention that he has requested that all School Committee member emails go to .net website and not .org. There is a problem with this due to the fact that .org is not managed by the District. If we continue in this manner we may be in violation. Emails need to be placed back to .net which is managed by the School District. Members currently do not have email access but have been given a temporary password.

Motion: At 8:25 p.m. it was moved by Mrs. Lesperance, seconded by Mr. Eldridge and **unanimously voted** to adjourn the School Committee Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Monique F. Simard
Recording Secretary

ATTEST: _____
Steven J. Tringali, District Secretary