

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

***September 10, 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:

Michael J. Buckley, Chairman  
Ann M. Lesperance, Vice Chairperson, *arrived 7:07 p.m.*  
Catherine A. Robinson, Assistant Treasurer  
Charles K. Singleton, District Secretary  
John J. Eldridge  
Diane C. Robin, *arrived at 8:10 p.m.*  
Steven J. Tringali

*Lynn M. Landry was not present.*

Also in attendance were Interim Superintendent Kimberly B. Shaver-Hood, and other interested parties.

A quorum being present, Chairman Buckley called the meeting to order which was followed by the pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States. Chairman Buckley also requested a moment of silence to reflect on the 8<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the tragedy of September 11<sup>th</sup>.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Buckley presented Consent Agenda "A" which included the minutes of the meeting of August 27, 2009 and the warrants.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Tringali and ***unanimously voted*** to approve Consent Agenda "A" as presented.

Mr. Buckley presented Consent Agenda "B" which included the following requests for approval of home school applications:

Ms. Lynn Zenone, 45 Milk Street, Blackstone to home school her daughter Jenna (grade 2); Mr. and Mrs. Marc Iannuzzi, 3 Woodcrest Lane, Blackstone to home school their son Addison (grade 5) and Mr. and Mrs. James Waclawik, 46 Union Street, Blackstone to home school their children Teresa (grade 11), Sean (grade 8), Catherine (grade 6), Patrick (grade 4) and Mark (grade 2).

Mr. Singleton voiced his concerns with home schooling and stated that he will no longer approve such requests.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mrs. Lesperance and seconded by Mrs. Robinson to approve Consent Agenda "B" as presented. The vote was **four in favor, two opposed (Mr. Buckley and Mr. Singleton).**

**Chairman's Remarks**

Chairman Buckley welcomed new Student Representatives Amanda Chamberlin and Luke Perreault.

**Public Forum**

Mr. Buckley asked if there were any issues for the public forum.

Caryn D'Ascenzo of 2 Quickstream Road, Blackstone voiced her concerns about the bus stop that her first grade son has to walk to. The stop has been moved about 1,400 feet from the house and her son will have to walk by a pond. Chairman Buckley asked Ms. Shaver-Hood to contact the bus company and have her son picked up at the house like last year.

**REPORT OF THE INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT – Kimberly B. Shaver-Hood**

Ms. Shaver-Hood reviewed the letter from the athletic director from Milford who is interested in a cooperative venture for their ice hockey program. There will not be a cost to our district.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mrs. Lesperance, seconded by Mrs. Robinson and **unanimously voted** to allow our students to participate in an ice hockey program with Milford High School.

Ms. Shaver-Hood reviewed the middle school restructuring that Mrs. Abrams would like to implement. She provided a list of programs along with the cost for staff and busing. Following a review of the cost, the following motion was made:

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Singleton, seconded by Mr. Eldridge and **unanimously voted** to approve the preliminary middle school restructuring as presented by Ms. Shaver-Hood.

Ms. Shaver-Hood reviewed the opening of school. Enrollment figures are up from last year. Ms. Shaver-Hood visited all the schools and felt that everything went very smoothly.

Mr. Eldridge voiced his concerns regarding Mr. Campbell's statement that due to budgetary constraints the Complex is lacking workbooks. Mr. Buckley asked Ms. Shaver-Hood to look into this.

Information was sent home to parents regarding the H1N1 Flu. The state has informed districts that there will be pilot schools giving out vaccines. She encouraged parents to keep children home if they have a fever. She will track student and staff attendance daily.

Ms. Shaver-Hood will send a press release to local papers and cable to let them know how we are being proactive with the boards of health.

Ms. Shaver-Hood reported that the End of Year Report was submitted to the Department of Revenue and we have received notification that they have approved our E&D Account.

There are 22 classes in the high school without Smartboards. Ms. Shaver-Hood stated that the district is going to look for grants and other funding sources to be able to purchase them by the end of this school year.

### **District Committee Reports**

#### **Student Representatives**

Amanda Chamberlin and Luke Perreault reported that the freshmen have adjusted and clubs are beginning; everybody got back into the groove very quickly.

#### **Communications**

Mrs. Lesperance stated that the first update has been sent out. Mrs. Lesperance asked Ms. Shaver-Hood to remind the principals to get their news out every other week.

#### **Facilities**

Ms. Shaver-Hood reported that the Life Skills renovations have been completed.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mr. Tringali and **unanimously voted** to pay Mill City Construction in the amount of \$37,205.70 for the renovations to the Life Skills classroom.

Ms. Shaver-Hood reported that National Grid looked at the lighting in the gymnasium at the high school and we are eligible for lighting replacement. They would replace 24 fixtures and the annual savings would be approximately \$5,500.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Robinson and **unanimously voted** to approve the enhanced lighting project of the gymnasium for a total cost of \$8,173.00.

Ms. Shaver-Hood informed committee member that the high school is eligible to replace two boilers. A boiler that can use either gas or oil will be looked at as a feasible replacement. Ms. Shaver-Hood will meet on October 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss abatements for this project.

Mr. Tringali asked if any other schools are eligible for this and she stated that the complex will be one of the buildings being considered for boiler replacement.

Ms. Shaver-Hood reviewed a letter she received from Chris McNamara regarding his concern with the use of facilities fees.

## **Policy**

### **Dance Policy**

It was agreed to keep this policy on hold at this time.

### **Hiring Policy**

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Lesperance and **unanimously voted** to approve the Second Reading of the Hiring Policy.

If there are any changes please get them to Mrs. Landry. The third and final reading will be held at the meeting of October 8, 2009.

### **Storage Policy**

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Eldridge, seconded by Mrs. Robinson and **voted four in favor, three opposed (Mr. Buckley, Mrs. Lesperance and Mr. Singleton)** to approve the Second Reading of the Storage Policy.

*Mr. Buckley stated that if the committee is going to use this policy, he would like to add more language and he will work on it prior to the next reading.*

## **Committee Forum**

Mr. Singleton commented on the opening of school and thanked Ms. Shaver-Hood for keeping them informed of what is going on in the district.

Mrs. Robin contacted MASC regarding "Charting the Course". They informed her that they will come to the district and provide members with a workshop. Ms. Shaver-Hood will call Glen Koucher and get some dates, preferably late afternoon. Mr. Buckley suggested contacting surrounding schools to see if they would like to attend.

Mr. Tringali asked how the user fee works if a student cannot afford to pay. It was stated that if there is a problem the principal will meet with the parents to set up a payment plan but if the student participates in free and reduced lunch they do not pay user fees.

Mr. Buckley referred to a letter in members' folders regarding the Millville Power to Save program. There will be a kick off night on Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. He commended Mrs. Tetreault and other members for the work they have done. Mr. Buckley suggested that members attend to show their support.

**Motion:** At 8:30 p.m., it was moved by Mr. Singleton and seconded by Mrs. Lesperance to go into executive session for the purpose of collective bargaining and pending litigation 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 9:15 p.m., it was moved by Mrs. Lesperance, seconded by Mrs. Robinson and **unanimously voted** to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Robinson  
Recording Secretary

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Charles K. Singleton, District Secretary