

Blackstone-Millville Regional District School Committee
Minutes of Virtual Meeting
April 7, 2022
6:00 p.m.

School Committee Members in attendance:

Erin P. Vinacco
Tammy A. Lemieux
Keri L. Gaudette
Tara L. Larkin
Jane C. Reggio
Charles Dunton
Daniel Keefe

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was recited.

Also in attendance were Jason DeFalco, EdD, Superintendent of Schools and Matthew J. Ehrenworth, Assistant Superintendent.

Report of the Student Representatives

Madison Marchand and Kyleigh Sacco

- Softball team beat Bellingham
- Baseball had their first win
- Track and Tennis first meets this week
- Prom ticket sales are going well
- There will be tomato soup, chicken soup and cornbread at the Empty Bowl supper.

Election of officers:

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Reggio, seconded by Mrs. Larkin to nominate Erin P. Vinacco as Chairperson. The motion was followed by a roll call vote. Unanimous vote.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Reggio, seconded by Mrs. Gaudette to nominate Tammy A. Lemieux as Vice Chairperson. The motion was followed by a roll call vote. Unanimous vote.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Lemieux, seconded by Mrs. Reggio to nominate Tara L. Larkin as District Secretary. The motion was followed by a roll call vote. Unanimous vote.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Reggio, seconded by Mr. Keefe to nominate Keri L. Gaudette as the District Treasurer. The motion was followed by a roll call vote. Unanimous vote.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Keefe, seconded by Mrs. Reggio to nominate Ron-Pierre Louis as Assistant District Treasurer. The motion was followed by a roll call vote. Unanimous vote.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Reggio, seconded by Mrs. Gaudette to nominate Long and DiPietro as district legal counsel. The motion was followed by a roll call vote. Unanimous vote.

School Committee Members after elections:

- Erin P. Vinacco, Chairperson
- Tammy A. Lemieux, Vice Chairperson
- Keri L. Gaudette, District Treasurer
- Tara L. Larkin, District Secretary
- Jane C Reggio, Temporary Member (until replacement is found)
- Charles Dunton, Member
- Daniel Keefe, Member

Consent Agenda A

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Larkin, seconded by Mrs. Gaudette 5 in favor - 2 abstain (Mr. Keefe and Mr. Dunton) to approve Consent Agenda A which includes Warrants and the Minutes of February 17, 2022 and March 24, 2022.

School Committee Items:

Statement of Interest for MSBA Project

Action required straight from the MSBA document they are working from.

Vote on the language as stated from the packet this evening.

Mr. Ehrenworth asked to strike Priority 1 from this language. Recent review of the statement of interstate shows there is nothing of immediate danger from having the students in the building at this point.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Larkin, seconded by Mr. Keefe and unanimously voted to approve the statement of interest as follows:

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on April 7, 2022, prior to the SOI submission closing date, the Blackstone-Millville Regional District School Committee, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated April 2022 for the Blackstone-Millville Regional High School located at 175 Lincoln Street, Blackstone, MA 01504 which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category (s) for

which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future:

Priority 5 - Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility.

Priority 7 - Replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirement;

and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Blackstone-Millville Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

End of 21-22 School Year Calendar

Updated school calendar for FY22. No vote necessary. This is just for information as shown on the updated calendar in the school committee packets. The calendar shows June 22nd as the last half day of school for Elementary and Middle School students and June 23rd as the last ½ day of school for the High School students.

Busing is confirmed for June 22nd and 23rd.

Report of the Superintendent **Jason DeFalco, EdD**

Blueprint 2.0 Strategic Plan Update

The Steering Committee is working on the new strategy.

Direct feedback from students in grade 9-12 to take a good look at our strategy and see if we are on the mark.

May 15th District of One family event

Held at the BMR High School from 1:00 -4:00 p.m.

- Opportunity to get our school community together.
- Opportunity for different events.
- Student groups will run craft tables and play yard games.
- The school band will perform and student athletes will be there.
- Ice cream will be served to all students.
- The Boosters may want to sell pizza or other food items.
- Welcoming fire and police departments.

Report of the Business Office - Mr. Ehrenworth

Total Revenue report. Fund code 30 medicaid program. Already \$90,000 over in that area.

All grants have been coming in and drawn down regularly.

General fund expenditure report. Maintenance of Building and Benefits and Insurance in the red.

They will be covered. New number in the red. Textbook line 2410. Shows \$60,000 in the red and P.D.line because they started pre-purchasing the math materials from that line.

The district is in a fine place and will not expend all of the budget.

There is no actual line for E&D so it comes out of the general fund.

OPEB is officially funded now. He would be willing to sit down with anyone to discuss the function codes. You can also email Mr. Ehrenworth.

Mrs. Vinacco stated as long as the total numbers are not in the red don't panic when you see the red on certain lines.

Grant fund expenditure report. We can't over or under expend our grants.

Personnel changes in packets.

Facilities Updates

- Baseball and softball fields are still moving along. Infields have been raked, baselines edged and rottilled.
- Dugout roof has not been installed yet.
- Infields are coming along nicely. Ordered additional topsoil for the 3rd baseline.
- Nothing new on the tennis courts. Temperatures must be above 50 degrees at night for the finishing coat to be applied by Premier Sealcoating & Striping.
- HS rebuild circulator pump. Other pump is running. Industrial Burner looking for replacement parts right now. They will cost a few thousand dollars. They are going with repairing the pump since the wait time for a new pump would be much longer.
- Hartnett Middle school waiting for the kit to arrive. Following up with Riverdale Plumbing regularly.
- Pothole problem at Middle School - During the April break Scott Hebert will repair the potholes. Not a permanent fix. Permanent repair will be part of discussions with our newly formed CIP Work Group.
- MES fire pump failed inspection on March 23, 2022. There is a separate smaller pump that would feed smaller sprinkler heads. It is not enough to keep the entire sprinkler system running. They currently have a 24 hour watch on the building. Should be taken care of by next week.

Dr. DeFalco attended the Blackstone Finance Committee meeting and showed the slide show we put together.

It went very well. Thorough and concise plan with steps that need to be taken.

Mr. Ehrenworth showed it virtually at the Millville Finance Committee meeting and received positive feedback.

Reach out to Mr. Ehrenworth if you need an electronic copy.

Mrs. Lemieux wants to know when the tennis courts will be painted.

Mr. Ehrenworth stated the cracks have an initial seal on them and once weather permits there will be a complete seal over the entire court and painting will take place. Must be confident that evening temperatures will remain above 50 degrees to finish the last seal and painting.

Circulator pump - we are waiting for the new pump.

Parts he spoke about are for the MES pump.

Fire pump - all alarm systems are working. Mr. Ehrenworth thanks his custodial crew for doing the watch at MES.

Asbestos cleaning must take place continually at the High School.

Baseball and softball fields are ready. Varsity teams are playing on our fields. Going forward with work during the season. Dugouts can be done in evenings or weekends when no kids are on the field.

Use of Facilities Request

There is currently a Use of Facilities Request in the packets of the School Committee Members. It is a request for using the field at the Hartnett Middle School for the Blackstone Millville Youth Soccer Organization.

Mrs. Lemieux feels it looks like there is a conflict with the football schedule.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Reggio, seconded by Mr. Keefe and unanimously voted to approve the Blackstone Millville Youth Soccer Organizations request for use of facilities pending no conflict with the football league.

According to Mrs. Gaudette, Parks and Recreation told the soccer league the fields at the Complex are not ready yet.

Mr. Ehrenworth will have Scott Hebert find out about any possible conflict.

Dr. DeFalco feels they must have already worked this out. All principals have the master calendar.

School Committee Forum

Jane Reggio - still sitting on the committee. They have a failure to elect in Blackstone and Millville. Mrs. Reggio opted to remain in the position until they find someone. They will seek out people to hold the position. There is Mrs. Guilmain's position which will run until next year's election along with Mrs. Reggio's position. It is important to have a full school committee. Mrs. Reggio is happy to help out until a replacement can be found.

Mrs. Vinacco will follow up with Jennifer Gill from Millville on activity for a replacement.

Mrs. Lemieux welcomed our new members.

Mr. Keefe - worked with all members of the School Committee in the past with a positive experience. He looks forward to serving with them now..

Empty Bowl BMRHS next Wednesday, April 13th from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. and put on by the National Honor Society.

Next School Committee Meeting - April 28th at HMS.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Reggio, seconded by Mr. Keefe and unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Monique F. Simard
Recording Secretary

ATTEST:


Tara L. Larkin, District Secretary