

**Blackstone-Millville Regional District School Committee**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**Frederick Hartnett Middle School**

**June 10, 2021**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Introduction of Members:**

Jane C Reggio, Chairperson  
Keri L. Gaudette, District Treasurer  
Tara L. Larkin, District Secretary  
Tammy A. Lemieux, Member  
Tim Howell, Member  
Amanda D. Guilmain, Member

Mrs. Vinacco and Mrs. Williams were absent from the meeting.

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 of Schools.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Howell, seconded by Mrs. Gaudette and unanimously voted to approve Consent Agenda A which includes Warrants and Minutes of the May 26, 2021 meeting.

**Recognition of Retirees**

2021 BMR retirees chose a book to be donated to the library of the school they worked in.

**Sue Levitre** - Administrative Assistant at Hartnett Middle School- worked in the District for 20.5 years. Volunteered here when her children were young and then subbed. " *A Good Kind of Trouble*" was the name of the book she chose. She was looking for a book geared toward what children are dealing with at this time.

Mrs. Reggio was always greeted by Sue with a friendly smile and a hello.  
Mrs. Lemieux and Mrs. Larkin said Mrs. Levitre was always helpful to her when she was on the PTO and volunteered for events.

**Louise Chase** - teaches 3rd grade at the Complex. The book she chose is "*The Day you Begin*."

Dr.DeFalco has visited her class. She has kids in six places and runs her classroom so well.

**Janice Torvi** - Reading Teacher for her career. The book she chose is "*We are Water Protectors.*"

She is a supporter of the environment. If children believe in what they are writing about they will write well.

Mrs. Torvi collaborated with Mrs. Doyle on a book about Blackstone years ago and Mrs. Doyle wrote a letter on what a pleasure it was to work with Mrs. Torvi.

Mrs. Lemieux thanked Mrs. Torvi for how many families and students she has helped over the years as a Reading Specialist.

### **Representative Michael Soter**

Representative Soter is here to issue a citation to the retirees from the Commonwealth of Mass. and the House of Representatives.

Sue Bourassa was also honored and the citation presented to her husband, Wally Bourassa.

**Michael Dudek** - beginning a new endeavor in Vermont.

Mr. Dudek is leaving the BMR School District. The Superintendent chose a book for Mr. Dudek to donate to the BMR library. Mr. Dudek stated that Mrs. Bourassa took care of him in the cafeteria. He was so proud of the fact that they were able to give \$3,000 to three students with scholarship funds raised in honor of Mrs. Bourassa. He appreciates Blackstone-Millville and the faculty and students here.

Mrs. Lemieux has appreciated Mr. Dudek's creative thinking in getting things done on a small budget.

He was given gifts from the Committee and the leadership team.

There were no items for the **Public Forum**.

### **Report of the Superintendent**

Dr. DeFalco presented a series of job descriptions. They are the Facilities Director, Groundskeeper and Early Intervention Specialist.

Mr. Ehrenworth gave information on the job descriptions.

### **Groundskeeper**

The groundskeeper position may not be a 12 month position due to weather, etc. This is a stand alone position and not part of the A.D. position. Mr. Ehrenworth will fix the notes from the last meeting from a request by Mrs. Lemieux.

Mr. Ehrenworth stated they are looking to professionalize all support staff and funding some staff development for them.

They do expect the person chosen to properly take care of the grounds. Mr. Howell would like this person to have specific training in this area.

Mrs. Reggio stated they are afraid that they may keep some individuals away if they need certain degrees and certification and due to the pay scale it may not be feasible.

Former Groundskeeper and head custodian at the HMS, Scott Hebert stated that without irrigation systems you will never get the fields to look like a golf course. The football field and soccer field have irrigation. True Green is used to fertilize the soccer and football fields.

It would be directly and entirely maintaining the High School and Middle School. They are looking for this person to have collaboration with the Towns on the Town owned schools which are the Complex and the Millville Elementary School.

### **Facilities Director**

The contracted, administrative 12 month Facilities Director oversees all buildings and grounds and would report to the Assistant Superintendent and oversee the work of all grounds and custodial staff. They could be a part of the MSBA projects. There is work as far as the licensing of the building, mechanical and electrical systems that they will oversee.

Mrs. Lemieux was not for the Facilities director at first but changed her mind due to the many upcoming projects.

### **Early Childhood Coordinator**

This individual will coordinate all preschool types of referrals as well as Early Intervention referrals. They would do initial evaluations on essential readiness skills. They have expanded preschool this year for a total of 67 students. They have done about 30 evaluations through E.I. and they are still going. They would like to eliminate a wait list in the future and get all of the kids in. They are looking to use this person about 2 or 3 afternoons per week. It will be a Unit A position.

The funding for these positions will come from leases they will buy out and will free up the money for next year's budget.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mrs. Lemieux, seconded by Mrs. Guilmain and unanimously voted to approve the position of Groundskeeper as presented by Mr. Ehrenworth.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mr. Howell, seconded by Mrs. Guilmain and unanimously voted to approve the position of Facilities Director as presented by Mr. Ehrenworth.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mrs. Larkin, seconded by Mr. Howell and unanimously voted to approve the position of Early Intervention Specialist as presented by Mrs. Pilla-Gallerani.

### **Update from Athletics Director - Mr. McAnulty**

Spring sports athletes are doing very well this season. We are starting to get back to some normalcy. Kids are not wearing masks when playing outside.

### **CMASS Tournament and State Tournament 2021-2022**

Formerly known as districts will be part of the regular season with more of a playoff format. MIAA tournament will be statewide from the start with opponents still being in the same division, but from all regions.

### **Fall Sports running from 8/23/21 - 10/31/21**

- MS Cross Country
- MS Soccer
- HS Cross Country
- Boys and Girls Varsity Soccer
- Cheerleading
- J.V. and Varsity Girls Field Hockey
- Football
- Volleyball

They will use the Soccer Practice Field at the Complex and the HS Gym for volleyball practice and games.

Field hockey, football and soccer games will be held on the grass area of the track.

Down below the track is where field hockey practice will be held.

Middle School Soccer using the outdoor field and the MS gym for cheer practice.

They will co-op with Bellingham for boys hockey, Auburn for girls hockey and Grafton for swim.

### **Winter Sports**

Boys/girls indoor track  
Boys/girls MS basketball  
Boys basketball jv and varsity  
Girls basketball jv and varsity  
Co- op boys hockey  
Co-op girls hockey  
Co-op swim

They did not have boys tennis this year but more boys are expressing an interest in it.

They may use temporary fencing when needed.

They will still use Roosevelt Park when needed with Town approval for practices.

### **Facilities Repair**

Baseball Field - Dugout: complete fencing around Home and Away - \$3,000  
Dugout add tops to home and away team dugouts - \$20,000  
Baseline Fencing - \$14,000

Softball Field  
Fencing: place around both dugouts and create backstop replicating  
Baseball - \$35,000  
Baseline fencing - \$14,000  
Dugout: Add tops to home and away team dugouts - \$20,000

Tennis Court  
Resurfacing 3 tennis courts - \$30,000

Track and Field  
Repair fencing discus area - \$2,000

Mrs. Larkin stated the fields will need topsoil and we don't have this allocated in the budget.  
They need to consider what it costs to make the fields what they need to be.

They are thinking of using trailers as storage. They have relatively inexpensive storage units on site and they are looking at this as a possibility.

They are using the Parks and Recreation area this year for Soccer.

Mr. Howell wants to know what the long term plans are for the Soccer program?

They have so many sports in the fall and the Complex offers the best opportunity for soccer to be played there.

Mrs. Gaudette is trying to understand how everything will work for soccer and if they will use the BMYSO goals or bring their own.

According to Mr. McNulty they are planning on using their own goals. They will need to make a plan for this.

### **MIAA Rule changes:21-22**

- Bona Fide Team violations is now 1 game suspension for 1st offense
- 4 basketball rule changes - 4 qtrs to 6 qtrs for player per day
- 2 football rule changes trainer required home and away varsity games now
- 2 ice hockey rule changes
- 1 softball rule change
- 2 volleyball rule changes
- 1 wrestling rule change
- New sport added to MIAA for field hockey
- 5 changes to student eligibility waiver process
- rule 51 waivers are no longer permitted
- All transfer forms 200 go to MIAA

### **MIAA added boys field hockey 7V7**

- They should look into this for next year with a start up cost of \$15,000
- Issue with where they would play and who they would play?
- Look at contacting nearby schools for co-op

Our current athletic trainer is in RI and travels to our games.

Mrs. Lemieux says thank you to Mr. McNulty for attending the home games. It is very important to parents and students.

### **Business Report - Matthew Ehrenworth, Assistant Superintendent**

Total revenue - coming to the end of fiscal year we still have some grant base funds drawn down. We may receive some of those funds in July.

Revenues came in as expected. Medicaid 3rd quarter payment will bring us over what we had budgeted.

Expenses are moving as expected. We will have a detailed update towards the June 24th meeting.

Due to Covid this year we did see savings in tuition on the 9400 line.  
Also in the 3300 line transportation due to Covid from last year and this year.  
Classroom technology they anticipate spending more on.  
Security vestibules should be able to move forward due to savings at both the Complex and Millville.

The total of all expenditures we expect to be in the black about \$640,000.

The personnel report was given to the School Committee.

### **School Committee Forum**

Mrs. Lemieux said congratulations to our graduates. We look forward to this year coming to an end.

Mr. Ehrenworth said thank you to the custodians. They worked hard to make sure the graduation went off smoothly.

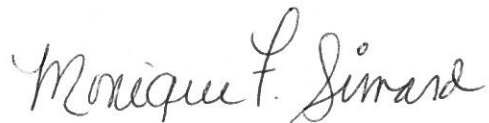
### **Dismissal times for the last day of school**

- HS is at 9:30
- MS is at 9:40
- Elementary Schools are at 10:30

The next School Committee meeting will be held on June 23, 2021.

**Motion:** It was moved by Mrs. Larkin, seconded by Mrs. Lemieux at 8:00 p.m. to enter into Executive Session and not to return to the regular meeting. This motion was followed by a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,



Monique F. Simard  
Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

  
Tara L. Larkin, District Secretary