

School Committee Meeting
September 5, 2018
6:00 p.m.
Frederick Hartnett Middle School

The Blackstone Millville Regional District School Committee met in the library of the Frederick W. Hartnett Middle School at 6:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Jane C. Reggio, Chairperson
Erin P. Vinacco, Vice Chairperson
Tara L. Larkin, District Secretary
Tammy A. Lemieux, Member
Jack R. Keefe, Member
Bethany B. Dunton, Member
Sarah E. Williams, Member

Caryn Vernon was absent from the meeting.

Also in attendance was Dr. Jason DeFalco, Superintendent of Schools and Matthew E. Ehrenworth, Assistant Superintendent of Schools.

The two student representatives, Danielle Catalano and Jenna Castelluccio gave a report on Academics, Activities and the opening days of school in the District.

There were no items for Public Forum.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Lemieux, seconded by Mr. Keefe and unanimously voted to approve Consent Agenda A which includes Warrants and Minutes of August 8, 2018.

Report of the Superintendent

Dr. DeFalco urges all to log onto our web page. It highlights how incredible our communities are. The focus is on curriculum, supporting the whole child and being a "District of One".

We could not open the AFM school right away. It is open today to staff and students. He checked in on the kids and all were in great spirits.

Update on the **budget items** that the school committee voted to restore:

Elementary teachers 1 at JFK and 1 at AFM
Currently working with a finalist for High School Counselor

Elementary School Counselor

Chromebooks have been ordered for the Middle School

Star Assessment system

Focus Schools contract is signed and in place. A senior consultant was out for the leadership retreat.

ELL curriculum - resource materials have been ordered and on the way by the middle of next week.

Mrs. Shafer - MES Principal

Mixed grade level classrooms - Grades 2 through 4 have been working together and they are hitting the ground running. Teachers and students are all working well together. Teachers have a common PLC block when all five meet together to talk about students and their learning.

VOTES

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Dunton, seconded by Mrs. Lemieux and unanimously voted to appoint Mathew J. Ehrenworth as the Assistant District Treasurer.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Dunton, seconded by Mrs. Larkin and unanimously voted to appoint Mathew J. Ehrenworth as the Procurement Officer.

Financial Reports

Dr. DeFalco stated that once the budget was finalized he is getting the opportunity to look at all of the cost centers.

The FY19 budget summary shows 5 different columns and looks at both FY18 and FY19. They can report out to the Committee how they are spending down the accounts. They are still wrapping their arms around it and studying the numbers.

Mrs. Vinacco is officially requesting to see the full line by line for 3510 athletics.

The increase in the line is for the fees that the students paid.

Mrs. Lemieux - the fees are built into the number. She wants a visual as to how it is set up. She wants to know about the fees that are collected after these numbers are set. All fees collected go to the school and not to the boosters. She would like to know if admission fees collected are applied or do they go to the general fund.

Mrs. Vinacco - Asked the question if there is anywhere that you think you will fall short on?

Mr. Ehrenworth would identify where the variances are and communicate to the school committee. The offset of athletics is seen in the number so that it can be seen right off the bat. There is also a piece allocated to transportation.

Mrs. Vinacco would like to see the line 3510 breakdown and Mrs. Lemieux would like the breakdown on line 3515 as well.

There is work to be done and they will get there.

They might need FY18 recertified to compare FY18 and FY19.

Dr. DeFalco is cautioning that athletics and music costs are different and should not be treated the same.

Mrs. Reggio stated that we did not cut athletic programs. We develop a budget and the leadership team develops their program within this.

Title I - 7% cut - reading specialist and math support - its a reflection of our population. The poverty numbers in Worcester County are going down.

Title II -decrease as well to Professional Development. Literacy will be a major theme.

Title IV - increase - social emotional learning initiatives. Join a cohort and purchase supplies.

Facilities

They will make sure they have everything in place for MSBA moving forward. They are meeting to discuss this on Tuesday.

The MES fire panel has arrived and will be installed on P.D. Day on October 5th.

They are moving forward on the High School fire system.

It took SERVPRO 7-11 days to clean up the mold issue at the A.F. Maloney school. Everyone has been working to get the school ready for the opening.

Mrs. Larkin - They have not yet been able to identify where the water leak is at MES. There are thoughts around replacing the water meter. The water is only for the case of fire and not drinking water.

Public Forum - the current president of the Blackstone Millville Youth Basketball League, Jeremy Folster was present. He is requesting the waiving of gymnasium fees for the basketball league at MES, AFM and FWHMS which will start in October.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Dunton, seconded by Mr. Keefe and unanimously voted to approve the use of the gymnasium at MES, AFM and FWHMS for the Youth Basketball League with the stipulation that it is secondary to when the school needs to use the gymnasium as an amendment to the original vote.

School Committee Forum

Mrs. Williams - thank you everyone for working hard to get the mold situation taken care of.

Mrs. Dunton - echo's the above.

Mrs. Lemieux - Although parents had concerns they kept the buzz at a low level and all worked well together.

Mrs. Larkin - Wishes all success this year with the multi grade classrooms.

Mrs. Vinacco - It was an awful situation but shows how strong we are. Good luck to all with the start of the school year and sports teams.

Mrs. Reggio - Thanks our students for being great sports and hopes they will carry the excitement throughout the year.

The next School Committee meeting will be held on September 19th at 7:30 p.m. in the High School Media Center.

The Joint Meeting with the Towns will be held on September 26th.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Dunton, seconded by Mrs. Lemieux 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