

**School Committee Meeting
July 18, 2016
Frederick Hartnett Middle School**

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

Wendy L. Greenstein, Vice Chairperson
Jane C. Reggio, Treasurer
Tara L. Larkin, District Secretary
Georgette A. Jarret, Member
Steven J. Tringali, Member
William F. Chaplin Jr., Member

Wendy L. Greenstein, acting Chairperson re-opened the meeting.

Erin P. Vinacco, Chairperson and Jo-Anne Watson, Member were absent from the meeting.

Also in attendance were Superintendent of Schools, Allen W. Himmelberger and Assistant Superintendent of Schools, David Thomson, Ed.D.

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

A moment of silence was held in honor of Mr. Joseph Vinacco who passed away on July 5th. He was the husband of our Chairperson, Erin Vinacco.

There were no items for Public Forum.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Chaplin, seconded by Mr. Tringali and voted 4 in favor 2 abstain from the June 30th minutes— Mrs. Reggio and Mrs. Greenstein to approve Consent Agenda A which includes Warrants and Minutes of Meeting of June 23, 2016 and June 30, 2016.

Superintendent Evaluation – The self-evaluation will begin today and finish at our next meeting.

Performance rating – fill it out based on Mr. Himmelbergers input on how he judged his year. Superintendent Himmelberger feels it has been a busy year for the District. He will substantiate the work that he does on behalf of all stakeholders and get the information electronically to the Committee by this Thursday. We are better than we were two years ago. We have a consistency of leadership. He knows what his shortcomings are and also what he is most proud of such as transportation, Unit A negotiations and he strives to represent the District in all the groups that he belongs to. He will have the rest of the evidence to them by Thursday. The Superintendents blog is one of his performance goals and he made progress but did not meet it. The District improvement plan that we used for the last 2 years has made significant progress. We are slowly increasing our Special Education achievement and improving technology through the wireless project.

He reviewed and analyzed goal 5. Mrs. Greenstein is looking for the measurable part of the evidence. August 11th is next meeting. We need the measurable evidence because we need to get into the next one. We need to wrap it up on August 11th. We need measurable goals as part of the evidence.

Superintendent Himmelberger stated that everyone would have the evidence by the end of the day on Thursday. The evidence has to be presented at a public meeting. The evaluation is made on Survey Monkey. After you get his evidence you can go ahead and make the Survey Monkey. Mrs. Reggio will make it if she is shown how.

Report of the Superintendent

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Reggio, seconded by Mrs. Jarret and unanimously voted to transfer \$18,619.29 from the High School Agency Account to the High School Activity Account.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Chaplin, seconded by Mrs. Reggio and unanimously voted to appoint Mr. Allen Himmelberger, Superintendent of the Blackstone-Millville Regional School District, to the Bi-County Collaborative Board of Directors for the 2016-2017 school year.

2016-17 school calendar – Superintendent Himmelberger made a one call announcement and stated that all staff will report on Tuesday August 30th and students report on August 31st. The calendar is on the website as well. June 16th is the projected last day of school.

Wen Cobb – Business Manger gave information on the FY16 budget closeout.

Mrs. Cobb stated that the 1st motion does not need to be made per our accountant as it has already been done.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Chaplin, seconded by Mrs. Reggio and unanimously voted to close the following funds as required by the Department of Revenue to the general fund (E&D)

Interest Fund 12	\$15.80
Interest Fund 13	7.56
Interest Fund 15	949.78
Interest Fund 16	467.18
Interest Fund 17	107.82

Fund 25 misc. revolving 871.81

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Chaplin, seconded by Mr. Tringali and unanimously voted to apply estimated receipts from the following certain special revenue funds to the FY17 budget:

Medicaid	\$60,000
Music Use Fee	25,000
Athletic User Fee	40,000

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Reggio, seconded by Mrs. Larkin and unanimously voted to use E & D funds in the amount of \$350,000 to offset the FY17 budget.

We do not have an FY17 budget.

Blackstone voted higher than Millville.

On June 27th Millville had a second town meeting to approve an additional above and beyond \$63,000 to come out of stabilization which did not pass by 2/3 and so it failed.

On June 29th Superintendent Himmelberger met with Jennifer Callahan, Rich Crivello and Joe Raposa and this was the first time that \$40,000 was offered. He took it to the Committee and they decided to go to a super town meeting. The required signature page was not attached and the Town Of Millville called us on this. We cancelled the super meeting on the advice of council.

Mr. Himmelberger met with Millville officials again this afternoon. He was told that Town Hall has been declared structurally unsafe for occupancy. The same \$40,000 additional contribution was offered. It would come from the operating budget. By accepting the \$40,000 we would have a budget. We had to petition the state to allow us to spend money in the month of July.

This would mean \$160,000 to Millville

This would mean \$410,000 to Blackstone

The drop would put us at a .75 percent increase to the budget.

They were looking for a 1 percent increase – it would mean a loss of \$80,000. They would need to decide what to cut or postpone.

We are trying to maintain and hold onto what we have already achieved.

They could reject the \$40,000 and call for another super district wide town meeting.

He recommends taking the \$40,000 from Millville so we will have a budget.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Tringali to adopt the budget of \$22,017,480 so the District can begin the school year on somewhat of a normal basis although he is violently against the way this was done by the two Towns especially the Town of Millville, seconded by Mr. Chaplin for discussion only. The next step would be for the Millville Board of Selectmen to accept the \$40,000 reduced budget.

Mrs. Larkin asked the question, Is it guaranteed that Millville will put in the \$40,000. Do they need to go to another meeting to accept it?

Mrs. Reggio **amended the motion** to put in that if Millville votes to take the \$40,000 from their operating budget it will be accepted by the District and if they do not the District will go straight to a super town district wide meeting.

Superintendent Himmelberger believes that Millville would take the necessary steps to be sure that it goes through. He hopes that the new Town Administrator will be able to better prioritize next year.

After discussion Mrs. Reggio withdrew the amended motion.

Mr. Chaplin clarified – When the members of the Board of Selectmen met on June 30th they said they still needed a town meeting. It is great that they are coming up with money now but they need to do it differently next time. He has been involved with this for 7 years and it is a totally unreliable process. He is tired of paying it out of our E & D every year. He doesn't see it getting any better next year.

Mr. Chaplin recommends they do a roll call vote.

Mrs. Larkin is concerned that if they move forward with this and for whatever reason it gets held up in Millville we are stuck with this new number even if they delay us with a meeting and our intent is to move forward and get a budget for the school.

Mr. Himmelberger believes that you are only stuck until a district wide town meeting. Mr. Himmelberger thinks that the number could be brought higher at such a meeting

Mrs. Greenstein and Mr. Tringali do not think this is the case.

Mr. Chaplin does not want to paint a picture to the public that the students will not have what they need when school opens.

Roll call Vote on Mr. Tringali's **original motion** regarding the adoption of the of \$22,017,480 budget:

Mr. Chaplin votes no

Mrs. Reggio votes yes

Mrs. Jarret votes yes

Mr. Tringali votes yes

Mrs. Larkin votes yes

Mrs. Greenstein votes yes

Mr. Himmelberger will follow up tomorrow morning with the Millville town administrator.

Report of the Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Thomson reviewed the teacher evaluations this year. He is happy to say that 99 percent of our teachers were proficient or advanced. No teachers were in warning. He feels great about this.

Public Forum

Mr. Dan Keefe, Main Street, Blackstone MA – thanks the members here tonight. He has been watching the meetings and it has been a tough few months for them. They have the best interests of the students at heart. With the debates that have gone on he is proud to be a resident of Blackstone and have this Committee represent our children. Millville is in tough shape but he wants to know what effect this has on the children in Blackstone and Millville. He is disappointed in the whole process. When the warrant was defeated in Millville the applause at the end of that was that you are applauding the lack of funds in Millville and how you cannot help your students in both towns. It is not something to be proud of.

School Committee Forum

Mrs. Reggio – this Friday fundraiser for band at FROYO in Lincoln – 20 percent goes to the band held from 12:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.- it is for the entire music program, not just marching band.

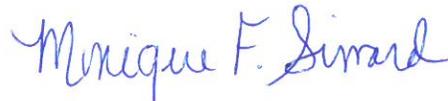
Mr. Tringali – this was tough. He feels that we are the villain who will bankrupt the town of Millville. Now \$40,000 is not going to bankrupt the town? He doesn't understand any of this. He wants to equip the schools so they can have somewhat of a normal opening. We are not moving forward or treading water, we are going down and it is disappointing.

Mrs. Larkin –Regional Agreement - We are done with it. The one voted on in May is done. We are not bringing this one back in the fall. If we bring one up in 2017 it will be a totally new one.

The next School Committee meeting will be held on August 11th.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Larkin, seconded by Mrs. Reggio and unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Monique F. Simard, Recording Secretary

ATTEST:



Tara L. Larkin, District Secretary