

Minutes of Meeting
June 11, 2014
Frederick Hartnett Middle School

The Blackstone Millville Regional District School Committee met in the library of the Frederick W. Hartnett Middle School at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present:

William F. Chaplin, Chairman
Steven J. Tringali, Vice Chairman
Wendy L. Greenstein, Treasurer
Erin P. Vinacco, District Secretary
Brian T. Faulkner, Member
Georgette A. Jarret, Member
Jane C. Reggio, Member

Mrs. Robin was absent from the meeting.

Superintendent, Dr. Perry Davis was also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was recited.

The following retirees were recognized:

Arlene Marcotte-Beale
Ronald Bibeault
Christine DiLibero
Marie Smith

Each retiree was asked to choose a book that would be dedicated in their name and placed in the library of the school they work at.

The retirees discussed their plans for retirement.

Retiree health insurance concern was discussed by Frederick Hartnett and Mark Juba.

It had been past practice to cover a spouse of a retired employee of the District in the death of the retiree for a 50% co-pay.

Beginning this school year it was discovered that there was never anything in writing on this matter. At this time the surviving spouse pays 100% of the cost of their insurance. Currently there are only 3 individuals on this plan.

Mr. Hartnett and Mr. Juba feel that this past practice of offering the surviving spouse insurance at the 50% co-pay rate should stand. They feel that this has already been negotiated and approved in the past even though they do not have it in writing. They would like to see 9D approved which would allow the 50% cost share for surviving spouses.

Mr. Campbell spoke briefly on the subject. He believes that this issue is a matter of trust and that the retirees trusted the administrators in good faith. He always believed that the practice and policy was to cover the surviving spouse. This was 40 years of trust. He feels that when the School Committee approves the budget each year they basically approve this budget including the surviving spouse coverage as well.

Mr. Chaplin stated that it will be revisited on June 26th and a decision will be made prior to July 1st.

Public Forum

Margaret Skehan feels the 50% cost share benefit is something they all believed they had and would continue to have. It is a disservice to the retirees if it is taken away from them now. Please consider all of those individuals who have given years of service to the District.

Dr. Davis stated that the School Committee is the only group that can grant this request. He does not have the authority to do this. He would like to make it known that it is not a budget issue. There is no proof that it was accepted but also no proof that it was rejected.

Graduates Brett Buskey and Chris Coffin asked the Committee to consider dedicating the BMR track to coach Kevin Maloney an outstanding coach in the District for many years.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Tringali, seconded by Mrs. Reggio and unanimously voted to approve the dedication and naming of the BMRHS track and field in Kevin Maloney's name (details to be worked out) at the homecoming weekend in the fall.

There will be a special town meeting on Monday, June 30th in Millville.

Joe Raposa asked if the Committee would in good faith lower the assessment to the Town if the Regional Transportation comes in higher than expected. The higher number will need to be approved but in good faith the District would agree to lower the assessments if more funds are received in Regional Transportation. The Regional Transportation funds would be used to offset the FY16 budget.

It was decided that the District would have 3 team chairpersons this year. There would be one for Pre K- grade 3, grades 4- 8 and grades 9-12 and Out of District. This will be done by relocating personnel and still saving \$70,000.

Dr. Davis feels it makes sense to keep the floating custodian on for the summer and not have the layoff until September 1st. He would be able to cover vacations and help with the extensive cleaning of the buildings which takes place every summer. The custodial overtime account will be used to pay this person.

Dr. Davis would like to post positions and give jobs back to some of those who were told their contracts would not be renewed. Some of these people may have secured jobs elsewhere already. Due to some teachers retiring and others leaving they may need to only lay off 2

teachers.

Dr. Davis stated that 2.5 Kindergarten aides will be reduced. They would like to keep 5 of the aides and have them work 3 hours per day.

Mrs. Greenstein wants to be sure that the aides are in the classroom for prime time learning.

They will look for volunteers in the lunchroom.

Eventually the lack of a librarian will be an accreditation issue.

Mrs. Greenstein hates to see saving athletics but cutting a guidance counselor at the Complex. If students need services let's cut out the new athletic uniforms. She wants to support the counseling environment.

A discussion began between the Committee members on the issue of keeping funds for Athletic Supplies in the budget.

Mrs. Vinacco does not feel that we should cut teachers in the classroom but fund after school clubs. She would like to adjust the budget as follows:

Remove \$20,000 out of the Athletics budget for supplies
Remove \$23,653 in MS clubs and all elementary clubs
Remove \$16,000 in Dept. Heads
Remove \$10,000 from the Assistant Superintendent position
The total \$69,000 would save a classroom teacher

Mr. Faulkner does not agree. We made a short term plan last year. Any budget can be reduced but you need to think it through for years to come and have a 5 year plan. If you maintain what you have and keep a well rounded educational plan for the students you will be in a better place at the end of the school year. You will have more balance in place.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Reggio, seconded by Mrs. Greenstein to remove Middle School clubs from the regular budget as well as the Complex and Millville Elementary School, reduce the Assistant Superintendent by \$5,000, reduce Department Heads by \$16,000 to bring back the ½ time counselor position.

After extensive discussion this motion was withdrawn.

Mr. Tringali questioned the need to spend \$59,000 in LCD's.

Dr. Davis replied by stating that the Technology supplies budget was zero for FY14 and maintenance items are needed.

Dr. Haughey does not feel comfortable changing things now. He and the team worked hard on coming to the decisions they did.

Mr. Tringali feels they should move forward with the budget as it is currently presented.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Faulkner, seconded by Mrs. Greenstein and unanimously voted to Accept Consent Agenda A which includes Warrants, Field Trip Request and Minutes of Meetings of May 22nd and May 28th.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Greenstein, seconded by Mrs. Jarret and unanimously voted to accept the FY15 Marching Band Schedule.

The School District has the choice to participate in PARCC assessment testing as well as MCAS assessments. If you have any interest in changing to PARCC you must get the students ready for this and get students into digital format. It is not wise to make this change until students are fully prepared for it.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Greenstein, seconded by Mr. Faulkner and unanimously voted to continue using MCAS assessments for FY15.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Greenstein, seconded by Mrs. Jarret and unanimously voted to dispose of surplus or failed technology equipment in the Blackstone-Millville Regional School District as presented by the Superintendent of Schools.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Reggio, seconded by Mrs. Jarret (Mr. Faulkner abstained from voting) 6 in favor to accept the quote from Allied Waste Services of Fall River for rubbish collection services for the FY15 school year.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Faulkner, seconded by Mrs. Reggio and unanimously voted to transfer funds from the general fund to cover the deficit in receivables for the school lunch program.

The Extended Day program will not be continuing next year. Dr. Davis spoke with the Boys and Girls Club to see if they have any interest in continuing the program.

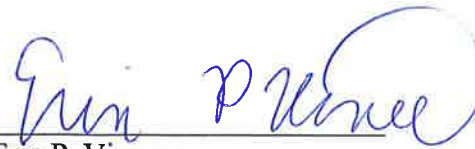
Motion: It was moved by Mr. Tringali, seconded by Mr. Faulkner and unanimously voted to adjourn the School Committee meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Monique F. Simard
Recording Secretary

ATTEST:



Erin P. Vinacco
District Secretary