

Minutes of Meeting
May 8, 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
Diane C. Robin, Member
Brian T. Faulkner, Member
Georgette A. Jarret, Member
Jane C. Reggio, Member

Superintendent, Dr. Perry Davis was also in attendance.

Report of Student Representatives –

Thomas Gallagher – Things are being finalized for graduation. Prom was during April vacation and everyone seemed to have a good time. Melissa Randall will be the keynote speaker at the graduation this year.

Morgan McCarthy – Gave sports information - NHS Ultimate Frisbee game – raised over \$500 for the Jake Gallerani baseball field. NHS induction – Mr. Bibeault will be the keynote speaker.

Mr. Dudek and Student Activities presentations –

Theatre Students – Lyndon Davis, Brenna Hull, Mariah Carpentier and Thomas Gallagher

Robotics Students – Kyle Savage and Isaiah Alvarado

Theatre Arts students spoke – Mrs. Colahan is the teacher - The focus of the class is on plays and the ability to see history through the eyes of playwrights. They read literature in Greek Mythology, Realism, and American literature.

Robotics students made a presentation – Mr. Pilling is the teacher - They have 3 robots in use and one is used as a competition robot. The competition this year was at BVT. Competitions are held all over the country. They placed 11th out of 26 competing schools. They design the robot, build it and program it to do what they want. Mr. Pilling would change these program operations each week. They would like to get more robots if possible. Great class to teach problem solving. The students ran the robot and showed what it could do.

FY15 Budget –

Re-certification – Update on Blackstone Board of Selectman meeting – It was voted 5 -0 for no additional investment in the schools (additional contribution) . The members were disappointed and now the task is how to re-certify their budget.

Mr. Chaplin gave the different scenarios – The School District would contribute \$150,000 from E&D to the budget –

Some of the items on the list are still in play. Things will change based on the numbers as they progress further into the school year.

They need to decide how they want to proceed. They will certify a budget and see if the Towns vote to approve it.

BVT asked for \$1.53 per student per day in additional contribution for expansion.

After all is said and done the town of Millville will end up with \$273,000 in stabilization.

The Committee discussed 3 different scenarios and came to a conclusion on which one to move forward with.

As Mr. Chaplin looked at the budget from year to year he commented on how Millville is paying an additional \$6.00 per student for this year.

The budget will be reduced by \$758,455 to bring down the additional contribution requests.

The budget is set at \$21,332,524 which is \$34,000 less than what they operated on this past year. We are going to run lower than we ran last year.

This would be approximately \$1,034,000 less than last year since the School District contributed \$1,000,000 to offset the budget this past year.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Robin, seconded by Mr. Tringali and unanimously voted to adopt a gross operating budget for the 2014-2015 school year in the amount of \$21,332,524.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Greenstein, seconded by Mrs. Vinacco and unanimously voted to apply the following reimbursements to reduce said gross operating budget for the 2014-2015 year:

Chapter 70 \$10,684,594

Regional Transportation \$450,925

School Choice/Charter Offset (315,077)

Above reimbursements total \$10,820,442. The total net operating budget for 2014-2015 is \$10,512,082.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Vinacco, seconded by Mrs. Greenstein and unanimously voted to assess the amount of \$7,756,474 to the Town of Blackstone to be applied to the operating budget for the 2014-2015 year which includes \$6,313,167 for the minimum contributions, \$1,043,307 in exclusionary costs and \$400,000 in additional contributions.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Tringali, seconded by Mrs. Robin and unanimously voted to assess the amount of \$2,441,608 to the Town of Millville to be applied to the operating budget for the 2014-2015 school year which includes \$1,870,811 for the minimum contribution, \$412,605 in exclusionary costs and \$158,192 in additional contributions.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Faulkner, seconded by Mrs. Reggio and unanimously voted to apply the following amounts to the gross operating budget for the year 2014-2015:

Medicaid	60,000
Interest	4,000
User Fees/Music/Athletic	65,000
Rental of Classrooms	35,000
E & D funds	150,000

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Reggio, seconded by Mrs. Greenstein and unanimously voted to adopt a capital and interest budget in the amount of \$330,196 to be assessed solely to the Town of Blackstone which includes \$170,412 for the FWH Middle School, \$108,706 for the BMR High School sewer connection and 51,078 for the roof projects.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Jarret, seconded by Mrs. Robin and unanimously vote to adopt a capital and interest budget in the amount of \$120,689 to be assessed solely to the Town of Millville which includes \$67,394 for the FWH Middle School, \$42,991 for the High School sewer connection and \$10,304 for the roof projects.

Dr. Davis will sign the letters tomorrow and get them out to the Towns.

The Millville town meeting will be held on Monday. Please show up at town meeting. Mr. Tringali will read the request and a vote will be taken.

Mr. Chaplin wants the correct information to be out there. There is no other money that we are going to find. Please show up and vote. If you don't show up you get what you get. It is what it is.

They need to have 2/3 of the vote to pass at town meeting.

Mrs. Vinacco stated that we wanted Millville to present an override to the voters. We did not want Millville to take the money from stabilization but it is almost being forced upon the Committee to ask for this.

Mr. Chaplin stated that last year the towns were informed that there would be a gap this year. The Committee thought that there would be support from their Selectmen but they thought wrong.

If we do not change our mindset they will never achieve academic excellence.

Dr. Davis will notify the teachers who do not have professional teacher status that their contract will not be renewed next year. Over 60 licensed staff will receive this letter. He cannot finalize anything until the budget is done. This does not mean that they are being released. By law they must be notified. It is no secret that the most vulnerable people are those without professional teacher status.

It is unfortunate but you will lose good teaching staff. Because you send them this letter they are going to try to find employment elsewhere.

Mr. Tringali spoke last year about the stabilization account at the Millville town meeting and counted 6 parents there. If we get this type of attendance at the town meeting on Monday I think we know the outcome.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Robin, seconded by Mrs. Jarret and unanimously voted to approve Consent Agenda A which includes Warrants, Use of School Facilities, Field Trip Requests and Minutes of Meeting of April 29th.

Public Forum – Mr. Raposa –He stated that he is one of the four angry gentleman. He was deeply affected by the statements that appeared in public media. Selectmen are the policy makers of the town and have to take in the interests of all of the town residents. The only reserve that Millville has at this time is the stabilization. They are still concerned with the the Seniors in town. Bottom line is when push comes to shove the only reserve they have is this stabilization. He wants to see this at town meeting and let the town residents vote on it. When all is said and done he wasn't very happy after the meeting of April 22nd. Sorry to see that emotions took over that night.

Mr. Chaplin talked about the professional courtesy that was not shown to the School Committee at the meeting of April 22nd.

It was stated that the Committee was late coming to the table with the request for an override.

Mrs. Vinacco said she was at the Finance Committee meeting the Wednesday prior and they were told by fin-com to come to the meeting on Monday night if they needed to be on the warrant. The Committee did what they were told to do so she would like it known that we are not behind the eight ball.

Dr. Davis thanked Mr. Raposa for working with him on the budget. Dr. Davis has been transparent with the revenue problem since October so this is not news to the Towns. He does not fault Joe. They respect Joe and Mr. Crivello for making the commitment.

Mr. Chaplin stated that this year's budget is probably the most clean and transparent budget in years.

Esther Cote – regards to non-renewals – how does the recall happen – based on licensure and seniority- all new people hired this year are basically all the same- they need to look at specific language of the contract. Dr. Davis will not know until close to June 1 when the town of Blackstone votes.

Report of the Superintendent –

Action needs to be taken on the Concussion and Head Lice policies.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Robin, seconded by Mrs. Greenstein and unanimously voted to approve the Concussion Policy.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Robin, seconded by Mrs. Greenstein and unanimously voted to approve the revised protocol for the head lice policy.

BICO Collaborative –The Superintendent’s board voted to adopt a policy for allowing BICO to establish a capital improvement policy and reserve fund for up to 500,000 dollars. The School Committees have controlling authority.

Motion : It was approved by Mrs. Robin, seconded by Mr. Tringali and unanimously voted to approve the establishing of a capital improvement and reserve fund for up to \$500,000 by the Bi-County Collaborative.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Robin, seconded by Mr. Tringali and unanimously voted to approve School Choice in the Blackstone-Millville Regional School District for the FY15 school year.

Dr. Davis stated that they will participate at all grade levels but will not overload classrooms based on school choice.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Robin, seconded by Mrs. Vinacco and unanimously voted to add a fitness rider for retirees of the School District as a Medex supplement at no extra cost for the FY15 school year.

Current Fiscal FY14 budget – At the start of FY14 the District already had a deficit in the area of Special Education. They look to close with between \$50,000 to \$100,000. He wants to be clear with everyone that they still have outstanding liabilities and it looks like they will be able to cover all deficits. This is why he thought they could dip into E & D slightly.

They have needed major repairs to the heating systems in the buildings.

Public Forum – there were no items for public forum.

School Committee Forum

Mr. Trinagi – Millville town meeting 6:30 at MES on Monday with babysitting being offered-

Mr. Faulkner – please let your voices be heard

Mrs. Reggio – support and future dialogue – long term solution –

Mrs. Jarret – finance committee meeting in Blackstone on Monday night

Mrs. Robin – maintain interesting courses that were brought in to keep students motivated

Mrs. Greenstein – please show up at the meeting to make this happen

Mrs. Vinacco – thank you in advance for support – teachers have been amazing – 6:15 child care doors open at the Millville town meeting.

Mr. Chaplin – painful process – emotions run high – sleepless nights – wants all to have the correct and complete information – they have been clear on a number- Without good schools you will not have economic development and people will not move into our towns. Schools are ½ of the town budget - we are your largest service provider.

Mr. Chaplin –will start again in July with a financial task force no matter what the result.

Upcoming meetings - Millville Town Meeting on Monday, Town Meeting in Blackstone Monday 27th – School committee meeting May 22nd.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Robin, seconded by Mr. Tringali and unanimously voted to adjourn the school committee meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Monique F. Simard, Recording Secretary

ATTEST:



Erin P. Vinacco, District Secretary