

**BLACKSTONE-MILLVILLE REGIONAL
DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING**

January 28, 2013

The Blackstone-Millville Regional District School Committee met in the Library/Media Center of the Frederick W. Hartnett Middle School commencing at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present:

John J. Eldridge, Chairman
Diane C. Robin, Vice Chairperson
Catherine A. Robinson, Treasurer
Brian T. Faulkner, Assistant District Treasurer
Steven J. Tringali, Secretary

Michael J. Buckley, Wendy L. Greenstein and Erin P. Vinacco were not present.

Also in attendance at the meeting was Kimberly B. Shaver-Hood, Superintendent of Schools.

A quorum being present, Chairman Eldridge called the School Committee Meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was recited.

Chairman Eldridge explained that this is an emergency meeting to vote on changing the JV Football Team to a Varsity Football Team.

Chairman Eldridge welcomed High School Principal Michael E. Dudek and Athletic Director Timothy R. Johnson. Mr. Johnson reviewed the survey they completed at the middle school which indicated a sufficient number of students plan to participate in football to have both a JV and varsity football team.

Mr. Johnson explained that this year is an alignment year for football with MIIA. The next opportunity to move to varsity will not be until 2015/2016. Varsity games will be on Saturday which will draw a larger crowd than the JV games did on Tuesdays which will bring in more revenue. Having a varsity team also means we will be able to schedule a Thanksgiving Day game. It was also stated that it was difficult to schedule games with other schools because our JV team was made up of students in grades 11 and 12.

Mr. Dudek stated that we have enough students to go to varsity and it would make everything more consistent and being in Division VI in MIIA would be a perfect fit for BMR.

Mr. Johnson informed members that if we implement a varsity team now the cost will be \$1,059 above the budgeted amount for the JV team. If we host both JV and varsity the cost would be approximately \$4,500 with a full JV schedule of 10 games.

Chairman Eldridge asked Jessica Power, President of BMR Football Booster's Club, to join Mr. Dudek and Mr. Johnson. Mrs. Power stated that they took in \$4,000 at the gate last season. She also stated that their Facebook account has 508 followers, five of which are recruiters from colleges. Mrs. Power has concerns that they will have a hard

time maintaining a JV team because of the ages of our students; competing schools do not want students in grades 11 and 12 on a JV team.

Mr. Johnson stated that the \$4,500 includes the cost of officials and transportation but not equipment because the equipment they have is sufficient.

Mrs. Power stated that they have two fundraisers planned; the golf tournament which already has \$10,000 committed and the donation of Patriots tickets for a raffle. Mrs. Power stated that she is confident they can raise the \$4,500.

Mr. Tringali asked if they would practice as one team and Mr. Johnson stated that they will; the first string JV will work against varsity but they will practice together. Mr. Johnson also explained that the athletes that don't get playing time with varsity on Saturday will play JV on Tuesday.

Mrs. Robin asked if they planned to include additional coaching staff and Mr. Johnson said he feels the one head coach and two assistant coaches is feasible for a solid JV and varsity program. Mrs. Robin also asked if MIIA would want to see a separate coach. Mr. Johnson does not believe so but will look into this matter.

Mr. Tringali stated that one of the problems the Committee was concerned with was taking students from other programs but this has not been the case. He feels that the Committee challenged the Booster's Club to fundraise and they did. He also feels that the program was very successful and is happy that there is a feeder program for our students to participate in; he is in favor of this.

Mr. Faulkner asked Mr. Bibeault how many more half time shows the band would be able to do. Mr. Bibeault stated that he will review the schedule with Mr. Johnson and work out a few more games. Mr. Bibeault does not want to commit the marching band to every football game as they also have a full schedule.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Faulkner, seconded by Mrs. Robinson, and ***unanimously voted***, to move the JV football team to varsity football team at BMR.

Motion: At 7:05 p.m. it was moved by Mrs. Robin, seconded by Mrs. Robinson and ***unanimously voted*** to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia A. Robinson
Recording Secretary

ATTEST: _____
Steven J. Tringali