

Blackstone-Millville Regional District School Committee
Minutes of Meeting
February 28, 2013

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

John J. Eldridge, Chairman
Diane C. Robin, Vice Chairperson
Catherine A. Robinson, District Treasurer
Brian T. Faulkner, Assistant District Treasurer
Steven J. Tringali, District Secretary
Michael J. Buckley, Member
Erin P. Vinacco, Member
Wendy L. Greenstein, Member

Also in attendance was Kimberly B. Shaver-Hood, Superintendent of Schools and Student Representatives, Anna Franciosa and Zachary St. Amant.

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

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Robin, seconded by Mr. Buckley and unanimously voted to approve Consent Agenda A which includes Warrants, Use of School Facilities, Field Trip Requests and Minutes of Meeting of February 7, 2013.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Robin, seconded by Mrs. Robinson (7 in favor, 1 opposed – Mr. Buckley) to approve Consent Agenda B which includes approval of a Home Schooling Request by Mr. & Mrs. James Zenone.

There were no items for **Public Forum**.

The Student Representatives gave their report on the basketball playoffs, Winter Percussion, Winter Guard and a band concert to be held on March 12th.

Appointments – Justin Cameron

Mr. Cameron spoke on the Hartnett Middle School School Council with Janet Davis the leader of the council. They want to improve the social atmosphere of the school.

MCAS Results –

Mr. Cameron gave information on how the middle school is doing since the Spring 2012 MCAS. He chirped slides over to the members of the school committee on I-pads. He showed that last year the 8th grade was in the advanced level and the highest in the history

of the 8th grade. They were also the lowest they have ever been in the warning section. He feels it was remarkable how the 8th grade teachers came together.

Mr. Cameron spoke on an excellent essay written by an 8th grade student. He shared the work sample with the members of the School Committee.

Mr. Cameron feels the methodology needs to be the same between the Math and ELA teachers. He is trying to promote and support google docs with his teachers.

Mr. Cameron also showed the improvement plan that the middle school has adopted. They had a Literacy Committee that focused on the fact that students need more time on literacy. The 6th and 7th graders are receiving over 6000 additional minutes on literacy. He is hoping this will make a difference.

Mrs. Greenstein asked if the middle school is giving students who received less than a 240 on MCAS extra help.

Mr. Cameron stated that students are receiving help during rotation periods.

They are looking at the possibility of receiving a stem grant from WPI. They did not receive the grant last year due to the lack of activity at the High School. Mr. Cameron has teamed up with Mr. Dudek to improve this area. He feels they stand a good chance of getting the grant this time around.

The Middle School wants to promote education and improvement in literacy as a family and not just at school.

Discussion of solar project proposal-

The Boys and Girls club requested that the School District get involved with the solar project that was proposed at the last school committee meeting. The Committee is looking into joining with the solar project. They need to make a non-binding decision by March 1st. They need the letter of intent to move to the next step. Superintendent Shaver-Hood will contact Mr. Doyle of the Boys and Girls club and get some clarification on questions brought up by the committee members.

Mr. Buckley wants to see them explore solar and see what the best options are for the District. He is not saying no to this but would like to look further into all of their options.

Mr. Faulkner feels that if you must tie into it for 20 years this is a substantial amount of time since technology may bring some new things to them at cheaper prices down the road.

Sub-Committee Reports

Strategic Planning – meetings are planned and all committee members are welcome to attend.

Policies – no items to report tonight.

Regional Agreement – they have been busy and within the last 12 hours they have put up the survey – parents are encouraged to answer questions to lead them in a direction. They have seen 43 responses in the last 12 hours.

Legislative – no items to report tonight.

Facilities – no items to report tonight.

Communications – The School Committee meeting is being reported live this evening.

Thank you to all involved.

Report of the Superintendent

The School Committee is required to take a vote and submit a statement of interest as follows:

Required Votes-

If a City or Town, a vote in the following form is required from both the City Council/Board of Aldermen or the Board of Selectman/equivalent governing body and the School Committee.

If a regional school district, a vote in the following form is required from the Regional School Committee only.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mrs. Vinacco and unanimously voted as follows:

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on February 28, 2013 the Blackstone-Millville Regional School Committee of Blackstone-Millville, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated March 10, 2013 for the Millville Elementary School located at 122 Berthelette Way, Millville MA which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs in a school facility checked off on the Statement of Interest Form and a brief description of the deficiency described therein for each priority Roof Replacement; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City/Town/Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

Documentation of Vote-

Documentation of each vote must be submitted as follows:
For the vote of the City Council/Board of Aldermen or Board of Selectmen/equivalent governing body, a copy of the text of the vote must be submitted with a certification of the City/Town Clerk that the vote was duly recorded and the date of the vote must be provided.

The MSBA communications are on track with the projects.

Work is continuing on the FY14 budget. The Open Hearing will be in nine days.

Fifteen schools were surveyed and the District is currently looking at increasing the user fees. Our user fees are on the lower end. The increase would offset costs for Athletics and Music.

There were no items for Public Forum.

Committee Forum

Mr. Tringali wanted to thank the Winter Guard parents for their commitment and dedication to the program and for all they do.

Mrs. Vinacco sends best wishes to the family affected by the fire. She stated that many donations have been collected and they are still looking for gift cards for the family if anyone would like to donate.

Mr. Buckley wants to remind everyone that the special town meeting will be a week from Monday and how important it is for voter turnout.

Mrs. Robin says thank you for the turnout at the blood drive here and at BVT.

Mr. Eldridge sends congratulations to Brandin Singleton as he graduates from Paris Island soon.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Robin, seconded by Mr. Faulkner and unanimously voted to adjourn the School Committee at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Monique F. Simard
Recording Secretary

ATTEST: _____
Steven J. Tringali, District Secretary

