

Blackstone-Millville Regional District School Committee

Minutes of Meeting June 20, 2013

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:

William F. Chaplin, Jr., Chairperson
Steven J. Tringali, Vice Chairperson
Wendy L. Greenstein, District Treasurer
Catherine A. Robinson, Asst. District Treasurer
Erin P. Vinacco, District Secretary
Michael J. Buckley, Member
Diane C. Robin, Member
Brian T. Faulkner, Member

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

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

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Robin, seconded by Mrs. Robinson and unanimously voted to approve Consent Agenda A which includes Warrants, Use of School Facilities, Field Trips and Minutes of Meeting.

Mr. Cameron shared a brief report on the Middle School trip to Washington, DC. He shared a survey with the School Committee members. He received much positive feedback. He is looking for approval from the School Committee to form a meeting with parents to give students the opportunity to save over the summer for the next trip which will tentatively set for next April. He would rather not drive through the night to get to D.C. in the future. He is looking for an unofficial approval to proceed for next year.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mrs. Greenstein and unanimously voted to approve moving forward on the Washington, DC trip for Spring 2014.

The new student representative Morgan McCarthy was present at the meeting.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood honored the retirees. A short video was shown. The retirees were asked to come up to say a few words. Books of their choice were donated to the library of the school where the staff member worked. The staff members spoke on the book they chose and why it had meaning to them.

The cut-off date on kindergarten enrollment was discussed. A parent is looking for an exception on this policy. Mr. Faulkner and Mrs. Robin do not feel they should make any exceptions on the current policy.

Mrs. Vinacco feels the parent has a valid point in wanting the child to be with her peers.

Mrs. Vinacco feels that it should be the choice of the parent if they feel an exception should be made in certain cases.

Mr. Buckley does not feel that an exception should be made and gave valid points on why he feels this way. He has looked into this and found that all schools have cut-off dates which they abide by. Mr. Buckley did not find any districts that make exceptions on their rulings.

Mr. Tringali feels that if they do not set a date and stick by it they will run into many problems.

Mrs. Vinacco feels that some parents will school choice their children out because of the cut-off date.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Greenstein, seconded by Mr. Tringali and unanimously voted to keep the cut-off date for Kindergarten at September 1st.

Mr. Chaplin welcomed Thomas Gallagher as the other new student representative.

Mrs. Desai and Mrs. Brown spoke on the changes to the Elementary Handbook. They spoke on behavior in the cafeteria. They feel that they would address the behavior in the cafeteria and not take the student out of the setting.

Mrs. Vinacco asked if they are having students stay in for recess. Mrs. Brown stated that they will try to take care of the issue in the setting where the student is. They do need to have students stay in for recess at times but this is the last resort.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mrs. Greenstein and unanimously voted to accept the Elementary Handbook changes as presented by Mrs. Desai and Mrs. Brown.

They will not be ratifying the Educators contract until next week. Some members had not received the information so they needed to move the ratifying of the contract.

Sub-Committee reports were passed over.

Report of Superintendent

Superintendent Shaver-Hood gave information on MSBA and the roofing projects. She stated that they expect to hear back shortly on the progress in reference to the JFK/AFM project. They will start making phone calls to get things moving.

In Millville they have been invited into the feasibility study. They will meet at 5:30 pm next Tuesday to discuss the 4 options for borrowing and how to move forward with the proposed MSBA project with Millville.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood stated that they will need to have a meeting to make motions to complete the budget.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood stated that Mrs. Swanson, 6th grade math teacher has asked for a leave of absence for the FY14 school year.

The Team Chairperson from the High School would like to return for 2 days a week next year. She will do all Out of District work during her two days.

Mr. Buckley wants to table both until next week until he finds out how the Special Education director will handle all of this.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood stated there were 4 team chairs left in the budget. With her request for coming back 2 days per week she would pick up the out of district meetings. This would free up the other person to do other duties.

Mr. Buckley stated that he does not want to add more administrative personnel.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood gave them information on grants. They will zero it out. Once they get to a certain point they will go back and look and if there is a balance they will charge something else to the grant.

Superintendent Shaver-Hood gave staffing information.

The following is a list of positions to be filled for FY14:

Grade 1 at Complex

2nd and 3rd grade at Complex

4th and 2- 5th grade at Complex

Technology position to be shared between the Complex and MES

3rd grade and 5th grade at MES

HMS

STEM position

Special Education position

Long term math 6th grade position

HS

2 English positions

Technology position

.5 Physical Education and and 1 full Physical Education position

Athletic Director position

Special Education position

Director of extended day position filled by Nadine Carter who starts on Monday, June 24th

Mr. Buckley requests that the director of the extended day program come in at the July meeting.

Once positions are filled Superintendent Shaver-Hood will send them info on who is hired.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Buckley, seconded by Mrs. Greenstein and unanimously voted with regret to accept the resignation letter from Kim Shaver-Hood.

Mr. Monroe will help to do grants for the next school year. This is a position that needs to be filled.

Public Forum

Mr. Juba is the new President of the Educator's Association. He is hoping that they can all work cohesively together.

Committee Forum

Mrs. Robin and Mrs. Vinacco – Wishing everyone well with the end of year wrap up.

Mr. Faulkner – thank all those that took part in the planning for the graduation ceremony.

Mrs. Robinson and Mrs. Greenstein – wishing a safe and enjoyable summer to all.

Mr. Buckley – congratulations to the class of 2013. He also wishes Kim Shaver-Hood well in her future endeavors.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Buckley and seconded by Mrs. Robin and unanimously voted to adjourn the School Committee Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Monique F. Simard
Recording Secretary

ATTEST: _____
Erin P. Vinacco, District Secretary