

Blackstone-Millville Regional District School Committee
Frederick Hartnett Middle School
Minutes of Meeting
July 11, 2022
6:00 p.m.

Introduction of Members:

Erin P. Vinacco, Chairperson
Tammy A. Lemieux, Vice Chairperson
Keri L. Gaudette, District Treasurer
Charles Dunton, Member
Daniel Keefe, Member
Erin Zimmerman, Member
Ted Novio, Member (virtual)

Mrs. Larkin was not present at the meeting.

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

Also in attendance was Jason DeFalco, EdD, Superintendent of Schools.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Keefe, seconded by Mrs. Gaudette and unanimously voted to approve Consent Agenda A which includes Warrants and Minutes of June 23, 2022.

Unit C Evaluation Process

At the last round of negotiations with Unit C a year ago they approved a new contract and it was stated they could sit down at a later date to discuss a new evaluation process. The small group who sat down to discuss and put this evaluation process in place were Dr. DeFalco, Mr. Ehrenworth, Jill Pilla Gallerani, Julie Wolford and Denise Allard. This group put together a draft that outlines the new evaluation process for all Unit C members. Until the new process was put in place they only used an end of year checklist to evaluate.

Now it will be ongoing. Goals will be agreed upon by the staff member and the administrator. The administrator will have the opportunity to observe the staff member in the school setting and give feedback.

The Unit C Bargaining Team approved the evaluation process.

It is a formality for the Committee to approve.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Keefe, seconded by Mrs. Gaudette and unanimously voted to approve the new evaluation process for Unit C.

Contract for Ron Pierre Louis, District Treasurer

The contract for Ron Pierre-Louis has been updated. This is his 2nd contract with the District. Changes are noted on page 2. His hourly rate is \$170/hr. not to exceed \$35,000. He may need to put in additional time since we are still searching for an Assistant Superintendent. The funds will come from the Assistant Superintendent line.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Keefe, seconded by Mrs. Zimmerman and unanimously voted to approve the new contract for Ron Pierre-Louis, District Treasurer. The contract will give Mr. Louis an hourly rate of \$170/hr, not to exceed \$35,000. The District will allow additional hours when needed, paid through the Assistant Superintendent line.

Report of the Superintendent

Assistant Superintendent Search update

They have had 28 applicants, 8 screened by phone and 2 were interviewed by the search committee. Neither were the right fit for the District.

Filling this position is tough right now.

Through talks with MASBO the recommendation would be to shift our focus mainly on an interim business manager focusing on finance.

They will launch a full assistant superintendent search mid-winter.

Lead Coach Districtwide Position

They are looking at a Lead Coach. Unit A has declined moving further with this position.

The District will reorganize and do things differently.

They currently have 4 planning, teaching and learning coaches.

They want to change this to 1 lead coach and 3 planning teaching and learning coaches. It would be a 12 month position and will not be unit A. They would help analyze data and lesson plans.

They would also post for an Interim Business Manager.

The overall dollar amount will remain the same.

They would shift Assistant Superintendent to Interim Business Manager for this year. It could be a retiree coming in 2 or 3 days per week if they can't find a full time interim person.

Other schools started this in 2002 and we just started it in 2019.

Mrs. Vinacco said that many schools have a Curriculum Director but BMR does not.

This person would assist in this area.

Mrs. Lemieux stated that if you use some of the Assistant Superintendent funds for the lead coach this year it would not be new money but next year it would be.

Dr. DeFalco stated they allocated \$140,000 for the Assistant Superintendent but that was for Mr. Ehrenworth. They do not plan on paying much more than \$120,000 for the new Assistant Superintendent.

If the opportunity presented itself they would be fine with hiring the Assistant Superintendent mid-year with a transition period with the Interim Business Manager.

Motion: It was moved by Mrs. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Dunton and unanimously voted to approve the job description and re-posting for an Interim Business Manager in place of an Assistant Superintendent for now and repost for an Assistant Superintendent mid-winter.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Keefe, seconded by Mrs. Gaudette and unanimously voted to reorganize the Planning, Teaching and Learning coach positions by eliminating one and posting for a Lead Coach position that is a 12 month contractual, non union position.

Report of the Business Office - Dr. DeFalco

E & D beginning balance at the end of FY22 \$550,106.

FY23 planning additional revenue stream E & D - \$150,000.

Currently in E&D - \$400,106.

General Fund Income

State transportation budget FY22

Charter school tuition budget FY22

These are numbers given to us by the State. They are not BMR numbers.

Variance in transportation increase \$273,144
\$247,826 increase in charter school tuition
We don't have control over the forecasting of these numbers.

Medicaid coming in higher.
Forecast \$82,000
\$343,376 increase variance

Cares Act funds approved in January 2021-
Received funding from both communities.
\$30,000 from Millville and \$230,00 from Blackstone.

DOR paid leave - put together all staff members covid leave money for schools.
Tracking all covid days staff took and received \$54,976
this is sick time people took and charged back to DOR

FEMA - hepa filters, cleaners, receipts, and we received revenue from this.

\$383,203 balance

Dr. DeFalco is asking for a motion to zero out the lines.

General fund balance \$800,000 and will be added to E & D.

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Keefe, seconded by Mrs. Zimmerman and unanimously voted to approve closing out the FY22 budget year and transfer out of additional revenues and into the following lines and leaving a zero balance:

\$61,757 into the 1000 series
\$56,318 into the 2000 series
\$143,430 into the 3000 series
\$100,672 into the 4000 series
\$233,054 into the 9000 series

Our budget was not off. Mr. Pierre- Louis was able to move around items to be sure they were charged to the correct place. We were able to put money back into circuit breaker and that money can be used in the future toward the general fund.

Mr. Pierre-Louis will use a report that will come directly from Budgetsense so you can see the moves.

Personnel Changes for July 1st were distributed to the Committee.

Current postings:

1 position reading specialist at the Complex
2 para-professional positions at MES
Speech/Language position accepted today for MES
Middle school reading specialist
ELA position HMS just posted
Finalists math and science specialists
HS one spanish position
HS math interventionist
HS 2 para-professionals

Facilities

Scott Hebert- Facilities Director

- No asbestos in the music room corridor at BMRHS and passed the air quality test.
- Middle School- Omega Alarm installed 21 new cameras.
- Paving set to begin on August 8th and take a week at HMS.
- JFK playground challenging - survey shows the company wants to come back out to see how much concrete is there. Mr. Bibeault agrees that if there is unsafe equipment he approves removing those items. He asks to be kept up to date on this.
- Asbestos work at Complex done.
- MES playgrounds in good shape, 2 days for wood chip work - 1 slide has to be moved.
- Scott Hebert and Dr. DeFalco walked AFM playground and needs most attention. Try to get them to start at JFK first before MES.
- Sidewalks being filled in today.
- LED lighting started at the Complex today.
- Girls softball field dugout - pour it ourselves with help of head custodian Michael Allen - Varney brothers will donate the cement.
- Football will not be practicing on the soccer fields this year.
They have been taking care of the soccer fields. The expectation is for soccer to be played on our soccer field this year.

Mr. Dunton asked if they could donate track equipment that is being replaced.

Mrs. Vinacco stated when we surplus something they can decide to try to give it away to someone who needs it. They could incorporate it into their motion.

Dr. DeFalco stated both town administrators are in the loop with the wood chip information. He started FY24 budget discussions with both town administrators.

Some of the track matts will be cleaned and kept for indoor use.
They are unsure where the new storage containers will go.
Everything has been ordered for track but there is a shortage of discus equipment.

Facilities Request

Motion: It was moved by Mr. Dunton, seconded by Mrs. Gaudette and unanimously voted to approve the request by the Youth Basketball Association to use the Middle School gymnasium on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the Month of July, beginning tomorrow.

Dr. DeFalco had good news: The district will feed all students in all summer programs with free breakfast and lunch. Community feeding will begin again. They will be feeding over 400 kids a day.

There were no items for Committee Forum.

Workshop will be held next Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at HMS.
There will be an Executive Session prior to the meeting at 5:15 p.m.
Next School Committee Meeting - August 11, 2022 at HMS @ 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Monique F. Simard
Recording Secretary

Attest: _____
Tara L. Larkin, District Secretary

