

Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional District School Committee
Minutes of Regular Meeting
October 18, 2018

The regular meeting of the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional District School Committee was held in the Three Seasons Restaurant at the school. The following members, staff and others were present:

Joseph M. Hall of Bellingham, Chairman	Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick, Superintendent-Director
David R. Bartlett of Upton	Anthony Steele, Asst. Supt./Principal
Paul J. Braza of Milford	Kurtis Johnson, Asst. Supt. For Finance and Operations
Joseph A. Broderick of Blackstone	Edward Evans, Academic Curriculum Coordinator
James H. Ebbeling of Uxbridge	Barbara Auger, Treasurer
Chester P. Hanratty, Jr. of Millbury	Nicole Forman, Recording Secretary
Jeff T. Koopman of Northbridge left at 7:33 p.m.	Len O'Neil, Social Studies Instructor
Mitchell A. Intinarelli of Hopedale	Jake Stevens, Student Representative
John C. Lavin III of Douglas	Andrew Regan, Student Recognition
Julie H. Mitchell of Sutton	Timothy Snow, Alumni Recognition
Anthony M. Yitts of Grafton	Dave Glispin, Sunshine Signs
	Sal D'Amato, Sunshine Signs
	Kyle Connors, Hague, Sahady & Co.
	Anika Koopman, Student Presenter
	Emma Heintz, Student Presenter

Item 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chairman Hall. Dr. Fitzpatrick noted Messrs. Braun and Finn alerted him in advance they would not be in attendance at the meeting.

Item 2. Secretary's Report – A. Yitts

2.1 On a motion by Mr. Yitts, seconded by Mrs. Mitchell, it was unanimously voted to waive the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of September 20, 2018 and to accept them as written.

Item 3. Treasurer's Report – B. Auger

3.1 Treasurer Auger presented a report dated September 30, 2018. The report reflects a cash balance of \$5,771,460.97 including \$5,071,123.52 in local funds and \$700,377.45 in project funds.

Treasurer Auger noted September was a slower month than August was, but the student activities account continues to have a higher balance as the students bring in their class dues and other activity fees.

On a motion by Mr. Hanratty, seconded by Mr. Koopman, it was voted to approve the Treasurer's report as presented.

Item 4. Student Recognition – Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick

4.1 Dr. Fitzpatrick recognized senior Andrew Regan for being named a Commended Student through the 2019 National Merit Scholarship Program. It is a national, competitive award that will separate Andrew from his peers academically.

4.2 Mr. Glispin recognized Timothy Snow, a Class of 2018 graduate, for the work he completed on the front welcome sign for the school. Timothy created several renditions and blueprints of the sign before and during the fabrication process. Mr. Glispin commended Tim for his detailed, intricate CAD drawings and his dedication to the project. Photographs of the front welcome sign from inception to completion were shared with the Committee.

Item 5. Comments by Student Representatives – Jake Stevens & Logan Keefe

Jake shared a report detailing the Student Council Executive Board's trip to attend "Officershop" at Holy Cross College, which is a leadership conference for student council executive board members from across the state. He also noted several members of the Student Council would be attending the regional conference, CDMASC, the following day. Finally, Jake said the Student Council is gearing up to complete its annual Thanksgiving Turkey Run, which provides Thanksgiving baskets to families in need.

Item 6. Out-of-Country Trips – Len O'Neil

6.1 Mr. O'Neil said there continues to be a lot of enthusiasm for the out-of-country trips. Recently, the trips have become more student-driven as students will recommend destinations. Mr. O'Neil noted by presenting the Committee with the request far in advance, students have time to fundraise and plan for the trips.

On a motion by Mr. Hanratty, seconded by Mr. Lavin, it was voted to approve the out-of-country field trip Experience Austria, Germany, and Switzerland in April 2020.

6.2 Mr. O'Neil was joined by Emma Heintz, a senior, and Anika Koopman, a junior, who shared their experience on the 2018 Dominican Republic Service Trip. Both students said the trip was eye-opening and enjoyable. The students enjoyed working with the locals and learning about an entirely different culture.

Item 7. Asst. Supt. for Finance/Operations – K. Johnson

7.1 This item was delayed until later in Mr. Johnson's report as Mr. Kyle Connors had not yet arrived.

7.2 Mr. Johnson said he has been in contact with the representative regarding the E & D Certification. He noted it looks as though the District will come in with around \$1 million in excess funds of which approximately \$360,000 came from the one-time sale of the Trask property. At this time, the thought is the additional funds will go into the capital projects fund in order to avoid requests for such to our taxpayers.

7.3 There were no line item transfers needed.

7.4 There were no donations in need of approval.

7.5 Mr. Johnson shared the list of FY19 Grant Applications/Approvals with the Committee.

7.1 Mr. Johnson welcomed Mr. Kyle Connors to present the FY18 Financial Audit. Mr. Connors stated the District was awarded a clean audit report and a clean opinion on financial statements. There were no compliance issues.

7.6 Mr. Johnson shared a courtesy copy of the proposed Budget Subcommittee meeting dates. He noted the Subcommittee hopes to consolidate and reduce the number of meetings, and all meetings will be posted as required by law.

Mr. Johnson and Mr. Todd Bard of Lee Energy Group presented the Committee with an update about the District's solar energy.

Item 8. Assistant Superintendent-Director's Report – A. Steele

8.1 Mr. Steele and Mr. Evans presented the preliminary MCAS/AYP Report. The Class of 2020 received outstanding scores on all three exams. The English Language Arts results included 71 percent of students scoring advanced, 28 percent of students scoring proficient, and 1 percent scoring needs improvement. The Mathematics results included 66 percent of students scoring advanced, 25 percent of students scoring proficient, 8 percent scoring needs improvement, and 2 percent failing. The Science Technology/Engineering results included 50 percent of students scoring advanced, 44 percent of students scoring proficient, and 5 percent scoring needs improvement. Mr. Evans reported that all members of the Class of 2019 have passed their MCAS exams and are eligible, via the state's testing requirements, to graduate. Dr. Fitzpatrick shared a positive note from a parent with the Committee regarding a student's improvement in MCAS scores since attending BVT.

8.2 Mr. Steele noted the Homecoming week is a celebration of excellence in its many forms. The students and staff participated with enthusiasm during the action-packed week and weekend. The athletes were undefeated in their five contests over the weekend.

8.3 Mr. Steele said the General Advisory Dinner will be held on Wednesday, October 24th. The General Advisory Dinner will host approximately 325 business and industry partners who will meet with their respective programs prior to the dinner.

Item 9. Policy Subcommittee Report – C. Hanratty

9.1 The following policies were shared:

9.1.a. On a motion by Mr. Lavin, seconded by Mr. Broderick, it was voted to approve revisions to the Student Admissions policy.

9.1.b. On a motion by Mr. Bartlett, seconded by Mr. Braza, it was voted to approve revisions to the School Admissions policy. Mr. Hanratty opposed the policy change.

9.1.c. On a motion by Mrs. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Lavin, it was voted to approve revisions to the Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights and Services policy.

9.1.d. On a motion by Mrs. Mitchell, seconded by Mr. Lavin, it was voted to approve revisions to the Meal Charge policy.

Item 10. Superintendent-Director's Report – M. Fitzpatrick

10.1 Dr. Fitzpatrick shared the Fiscal Year 2018 Annual Report with the Committee.

10.2 Dr. Fitzpatrick presented the Committee with the preliminary enrollment comparisons from 2017-2018 and 2018-2019.

10.3 Dr. Fitzpatrick noted the District continues to make progress with its OPEB funds and will continue to find ways to support the Public Agency Retirement Service.

10.4 Dr. Fitzpatrick said he spent part of the day at the Massachusetts State House interacting with staff members and continuing conversations regarding state-funded capital projects. BVT would prefer to continue to make campus and property improvements without asking its member towns to fund such improvements.

10.5 Dr. Fitzpatrick shared several presentations he attended:

10.5.a. Dr. Fitzpatrick said he presented at the NESDEC/NEASS Fall Conference on September 27, 2018.

10.5.b. Dr. Fitzpatrick shared the handout he utilized during a presentation to NEASC on October 17, 2018. The presentation focused on integration programs and external partnerships.

10.5.c. Dr. Fitzpatrick was the keynote speaker on October 17, 2018 at the Upton Men's Club where he gave insight on the ways the school adds resources to the district.

10.6 Dr. Fitzpatrick mentioned several visitors the school hosted recently:

10.6.a. The National Defense University visited on September 21, 2018 and toured the school. Dr. Fitzpatrick shared a letter from the National Defense University thanking the school for hosting them.

10.6.b. Blackstone-Millville Regional School District's Superintendent, Dr. Jason DeFalco, visited on September 24, 2018 and toured the school.

10.6.c. Uxbridge Superintendent Frank Tiano will visit and tour the school on October 30, 2018.

10.6.d. Educational Advocate and MASS Consultant, Tripp Jones, toured the school on October 12, 2018.

Item 11. New Business

Mr. Lavin noted the Facilities Subcommittee has been very impressed by the work the facilities team has completed so far this year.

Dr. Fitzpatrick shared Paula Lubas' notice of retirement with the Committee.

Dr. Fitzpatrick also shared a message of positive feedback from Milford's Veterans Agent regarding the school's top 25 high school's award.

Item 12. Items for the Good of the Committee

The monthly compilation of news clippings and correspondence was made available for the School Committee's review.

Item 13. Next Regularly Scheduled School Committee Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on November 15, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Three Seasons Restaurant.

Item 14. Meeting Closure

14.1 The meeting was declared closed by the Chair at 8:24 p.m.

14.2 On a motion by Mr. Braza, seconded by Mr. Broderick, it was voted to adjourn at 8:24 p.m.

Listing of Materials used in the meeting:

- Item 2 Minutes of Regular Meeting of September 20, 2018
- Item 3 Treasurer's Reports September 30, 2018
- Item 6.1 Out-of-Country Field Trip Request – Austria, Germany, and Switzerland
- Item 7.1 Single Audit Report; Basic Financial Statements
- Item 7.5 FY19 Grant Applications/Approvals
- Item 7.6 Proposed Budget Sub-Committee Meeting Dates
- Item 8.1 MCAS Update
- Item 8.2 Homecoming Programs
- Item 8.3 Invitation to General Advisory Dinner & Meeting
- Item 9.1.a. Revised Policy: Student Admissions
- Item 9.1.b. Revised Policy: School Admissions
- Item 9.2.c. Revised Policy: Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights and Services
- Item 9.1.d. Revised Policy: Meal Charge
- Item 10.1 FY18 Annual Report
- Item 10.2 BVT October Enrollment Comparison 2017-2018 to 2018-2019
- Item 10.5.b. Promoting Authentic Learning – Creating Partnerships for Vibrant Teaching & Learning
- Item 11 Letter of Retirement – Paula Lubas
- Item 12 Items for the Good of the Committee

Respectfully submitted by,

Anthony M. Yitts, Secretary