

Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional District School Committee
Minutes of Regular Meeting
March 7, 2019

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
Joseph A. Broderick of Blackstone	Anthony Steele, Asst. Supt./Principal
John C. Lavin, III of Douglas	Kurtis Johnson, Asst. Supt. For Finance and Operations
Anthony M. Yitts of Grafton	Barbara Auger, Treasurer
Mitchell A. Intinarelli of Hopedale	Amy Sutherland, Recording Secretary
Dennis P. Braun of Mendon	
Paul J. Braza of Milford	
Chester P. Hanratty, Jr. of Millbury	
Gerald M. Finn of Millville	
Jeff T. Koopman of Northbridge	
David R. Bartlett of Upton	

Item 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Chairman Hall.

Item 2. Secretary's Report – A. Yitts

2.1. On a motion by Mr. Yitts, seconded by Mr. Hanratty, it was unanimously voted to waive the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting of January 17, 2019 and to accept them as written.

Item 3. Treasurer's Report – B. Auger

3.1. Treasurer Auger presented a report dated February 22, 2019. The report reflects an ending balance of \$6,320,884.11 for Total Funds, including \$1,167,415.76 in Project Funds and \$5,153,468.35 in Local Funds. The cash receipts for Chapter 71 Transportation was \$521,994.00. The February report will be provided at the next meeting.

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

Item 4. July 4th Festivities Presentation (6/22/19) – Brad DiDio

Mr. Brad DiDio explained to the Committee that he is requesting the use of the facilities for the Annual July 4th Festivities which will take place on Saturday, June 22, 2019.

On a motion by Mr. Bartlett, seconded by Mr. Lavin, the Committee voted unanimously to endorse the support of the hosting of the July 4th Festivities to be held on June 22, 2019.

Item 5. Facilities Subcommittee Report – J. Lavin

Mr. Lavin explained that the Facilities Subcommittee met on February 13, 2019. The OSHA rules changed as of February 1, 2019. It was communicated that OSHA has the right to come into the school to check licenses. The school needs to make sure that all employees using the

fork truck and backhoe have a license. The Committee is working on a plan to pay for licenses. The school is creating a list of staff members able to utilize the various pieces of equipment. The school is being proactive in meeting these requirements.

There was a tour of the Automotive Department. The area is getting prepped for new paint. There will also be new flooring installed. A quote for the window repairs came in at \$5,800.00. Options are being explored on how to fund this expense. Mr. Lavin also communicated that he visited the masonry program. Students were making mortar and building a wall. It was quite impressive.

Item 6. Assistant Supt. For Finance Operations – K. Johnson

6.1. Transfer Regional Transportation – The Committee is in receipt of a transfer request for Regional Transportation. On a motion made by Mr. Hanratty, seconded by Mr. Intinarelli, it was voted unanimously to approve the transfer of \$25,000 of Chapter 71 Transportation Reimbursement revenues from the General Fund to the Regional Transportation Reimbursement Fund in accordance with M.G. L.c71, Section 16C.

6.2. Other Line Item Transfers – The Committee is in receipt of a Transfer from available funds from the following accounts. Account 1000.14.8400.700.8 (R.A.N. Interest Expense) in the amount of \$5,000.00 into account identified as 1000.54.3300.401.4 (McKinney-Vento Transport) in the amount of \$5,000.00. On a motion made by Mr. Broderick, seconded by Mr. Koopman, it was voted unanimously to approve the transfer as presented to provide unanticipated transportation related to students identified as homeless.

6.3. Donations Approval – No donations for approval.

Item 7. Academic Curriculum Coordinator Report – E. Evans

7.1. MCAS Update – The Committee was made aware of new changes regarding the MCAS test. Spring 2019 will be the first year that the Grade 10 MCAS test will be administrated State-Wide using computer-based testing. The testing window for the 2019-Next Generation test will be two days instead of the previous three days. There are also changes to the question types. The new test will have 21-27 one-point questions and 4-7 two-point questions instead of 36 multiple-choice questions. The writing section is changed to include one (1) argument, one (1) informative, and one (1) narrative essay instead of four (4) open-response questions and one (1) composition. BVT has prepared their students by collaborating between the Academic Coordinator, Assessment Coordinator and English Team Leader regarding the curriculum impact. In January 2019, presentations were provided to the academic staff regarding the changes. In February 2019, students completed a MOCK ELA MCAS on the computers in English Class to prepare them. Students who receive accommodations will continue to get those services. The students will be prepared for these changes. The cooking of the Annual MCAS breakfasts for students will take place throughout March 2019.

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

8.1. Practical Nursing Graduation Report: The Committee was informed that the Practical Nursing Graduation took place on January 23, 2019. There were 20 nursing graduates receiving their pinning and licenses. Thank you to Joyce Gilmore who was the impromptu guest speaker.

8.2. Career and College Fair Report – The Career and College Fair took place on Friday March 1, 2019. There were 68 Colleges, 24 Companies, and representatives from the Military present. All sophomores, juniors and seniors attended. This was a successful event.

8.3. Markham Award Status – The Committee was informed that Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District won the Markham Award. This award goes to schools with the best win-loss records in athletic competition. BVT has won this award the last 9 out of 10 years.

8.4. Excellence Award – BVT was recognized with the Excellence Award. This is awarded to those students who earned a score of proficient or higher. BVT received this recognition last year.

8.5. Out-of-State Trips:

a. The Committee was asked to authorize a vote to approve the request for an Out-of-State field trip on March 29, 2019 to Rhode Island Convention Center for Construction and Technology. On a motion made by Mr. Hanratty, seconded by Mr. Intinarelli, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the Out-of-State field trip on March 29, 2019.

b. Auto Technology: 04/19/19 – 04/28/19. The Committee was asked to authorize a vote to approve the request for an Out-of-State field trip on April 19, 2019 to attend the New York International Car Show. On a motion made by Mr. Hanratty, seconded by Mr. Lavin, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the Out of State field trip on April 19th to attend the New York International Car Show.

c. SEA Club: 04/23/19 – 04/24/19. The Committee was asked to authorize a vote to approve the request for an Out-of-State field trip for ten students to work at the East Hill Farm in Troy, NH. The means of transportation will be a van. The total cost is \$1,500.00. Students will be paying \$125.00. On a motion made by Mr. Bartlett, seconded by Mr. Koopman, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the field trip request as presented.

8.6. Senior Calendar – The Committee was presented with the 2019 Senior Calendar. This calendar is provided to all seniors informing them of the important dates prior to graduation. There was a meeting with the seniors to explain this calendar. The senior trip will be taking place in March. The school is looking for educational opportunities for those seniors who do not want to attend the class trip. There was an adjustment to scholarship night. This night will be by invitation. The Class Day will have more awards which were previously covered during scholarship night. This event will allow seniors to come together one more time in the building. It was suggested to have the video available on the website even if not at scholarship night.

Item 9. Budget Report – J. Lavin – A. Steele

9.1. Public Hearing Report – The Committee wished to make the listening public aware that the Public Hearing for the FY20 BVT Budget was held this evening. There was a good turnout in the audience.

9.2. Results of School Council Vote – The Committee is in receipt of a memorandum dated February 27, 2019 from Anthony E. Steele II, Assistant Superintendent-Director/Principal that the School Council voted to support the FY20 budget request for the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District at the February 26, 2019 meeting.

9.3. E & D Authorization – The Committee is in receipt of its E & D Authorization. On a motion made by Mr. Braza and seconded by Mr. Intinarelli, the Committee voted to approve the use of \$225,000 from the District's Certified Excess & Deficiency Funds (E&D) as a self-funding source for the FY20 proposed budget.

9.4. Adopt FY20 Budget – On a motion made by Mr. Hanratty and seconded by Mr. Intinarelli, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the FY20 budget of \$24,641,915.00.

9.5. Finance Committee Presentations/Meeting – M. Fitzpatrick. Dr. Fitzpatrick and School Committee member Julie Mitchell provided a FY20 budget presentation in the Town of Sutton on February 6, 2019. This was a productive meeting. Dr. Fitzpatrick along with School Committee Member Gerry Finn made a presentation to the Town of Millville on February 26, 2019. This presentation was made in front of the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee. This was a professional and cordial exchange. This was a positive meeting.

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

10.1. Visitors:

a. Uxbridge Chief of Police Marc Montminy – The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent reached out to meet with the new Uxbridge Chief of Police. He is very professional and it was a good visit.

b. Hopedale Supporters Don & Marilyn Comastra – On February 26, 2019 Don and Marilyn Comastra came over to the school and were provided with a tour of building. Both were very impressed.

10.2. AASA National Conference Report – Dr. Fitzpatrick attended the AASA National Conference on February 14, 2019 - February 16, 2019.

10.3. MAVA Outstanding Vocational Award Banquet – Dr. Fitzpatrick reported that the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators Award Banquet will be held at Mechanic's Hall on April 11, 2019. There will be students from BVT receiving awards.

10.4. Capital Bond Funding Correspondence to Governor Baker – The Committee was informed that a letter dated January 30, 2019 was sent to Governor Baker seeking assistance in advancing the \$4million in capital bond funding for the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District. This allocation would allow the District to maximize capacity in existing career technical programs.

10.5. Notification of Retirement/Resignation:

a. Notification of Retirement letter dated February 1, 2019 from Lou Ann D'Amico effective June 28, 2019 was received and accepted.

b. Notification of Resignation letter dated February 5, 2019 from Joe Macchia effective February 22, 2019 was received and accepted.

c. Notification of Resignation letter dated February 20, 2019 from Jacob Yuhas effective March 4, 2019 was received and accepted.

10.6. Parent Newsletter (Spring 2019) – The BVT Link Spring 2019 Issue Parent Newsletter was provided.

Item 11. New Business

The superintendent shared that his nephew, Sean Fitzpatrick (a recent University of Massachusetts graduate), might be willing to join the substitute list. On a motion by Mr. Hanratty, seconded by Mr. Lavin, it was agreed that the financial interest of the superintendent's nephew would not be so substantial as to be deemed likely to affect the integrity of the service which the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District Committee may expect from Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick, Superintendent-Director.

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 – J. Hall

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on April 11, 2019 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 7:47 p.m.

14.2. On a motion by Mr. Broderick, seconded by Mr. Braza, it was voted to adjourn at 7:47 p.m.

Listing of Materials Used in the Meeting:

Item 2. Minutes of Regular Meeting of January 19, 2019

Item 3. Treasurer's Reports February 22, 2019

Item 6.1. Transfer Regional Transportation

Item 6.2. Transfer available funds

Item 7.1. MCAS Update

Item 8.5.a. Construction Technology Request for Field Trip

Item 8.5.b. Auto Technology Request for Field Trip

Item 8.6. 2019 Senior Calendar

Item 9.2. FY20 School Council Budget Approval

Item 9.3. E & D Authorization – FY 20 Budget

Item 10.4. Capital Bond Funding Correspondence to Governor Baker

Item 10.5.a. Letter of Retirement from Lou Ann D'Amico

Item 10.5.b. Letter of Resignation from Joe Macchia

Item 10.5.c. Letter of Resignation from Jacob Yuhas

Item 10.6. BVT Link Spring 2019 Issue

Item 12. Items for the Good of the Committee

Respectfully submitted by,

Anthony M. Yitts, Secretary