

Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional District School Committee
Minutes of Regular Meeting
September 19, 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
Anthony M. Yitts of Grafton	Barbara Auger, Treasurer
Chester P. Hanratty, Jr. of Millbury	Amy Sutherland, Recording Secretary
Jeff T. Koopman of Northbridge	
Julie H. Mitchell of Sutton	
James H. Ebbeling of Uxbridge	
John C. Lavin, III of Douglas	
Dennis P. Braun of Mendon	
Mitchell A. Intinarelli of Hopedale	
Paul J. Braza of Milford	

Members Absent:

Gerald M. Finn of Millville
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 August 15, 2019 and to accept the minutes as revised.

Item 3. Treasurer's Report – B. Auger

The Treasurer's Report will be presented at the next meeting.

Item 4. Status Update on BVT MA Highway Sign:

There was not a representative present from Congressman McGovern's Office to provide an update regarding the BVT MA Highway sign. The school continues to be in the pursuit of the placement of the BVT Massachusetts Highway sign on Rt. 495.

Item 5. Student Recognitions – Dr. Fitzpatrick

5.1. Student, Brandon Kee was recognized as being a Rensselaer Medalist for his academic achievement in math and science. Congratulations were extended to him.

Item 6. Comments by Student Representatives – Logan Keefe & Isabella Caccavelli:

The Committee was informed that 26 students took part in the Out-of-the-Dark Suicide Prevention Walk on September 14, 2019. Planning is underway for the BVT Homecoming Events. Events planned will include a bonfire, pep rally, dance, and a Cornhole tournament. There may also be a photo scavenger hunt around the school. Tickets for the events will be on sale next week. The School Council had their first two

meetings informing freshman about the job and responsibilities of Student Council. The freshman elections will be October 3, 2019.

Dr. Fitzpatrick recommended that Items 8 and 9 be taken out of order.

Item 8. Assistant Superintendent for Finance/Operations – K. Johnson:

8.1. Grant Status Update – The Committee was provided with a current list including the Grant and External Funding Activity for FY20. Several of the grants are in the process of being submitted and one of those is the MA Skills Capital Grant. This is an extremely competitive grant. The School has about \$1,000,000.00 of potential grant money waiting for approval. The MA Skills Capital Grant has a one-year or two-year option; there are match requirements on both options. In terms of the match, for every three dollars requested, the school needs to put up one dollar. The MA Skills Capital Grant has an aggressive timeline to the submittal. Staff will be working hard to get this submitted. It is a huge undertaking. The school is strategizing the best opportunity to secure these funds. The School Committee needs to vote to reserve \$500,000 to be eligible for funds up to \$1.5 million. The Grant Program has two options. Option 1 – is for equipment for \$50,000 to \$500,000 with matching requirements consisting of cash or in-kind contributions from the District or its partners. Option 2 – is a two (2) year grant for \$750,000 to \$1.5 million with matching requirements consisting of cash (\$1 committed for every \$3 requested). This will confirm the school commitment to these matching funds should the school utilize Option 2.

On a motion made by Mrs. Mitchell and seconded by Mr. Lavin, it was unanimously voted to commit up to \$500,000 of available funds from the Program & Facility Expansion Capital Project Fund.

Item 9. Assistant Superintendent – Director’s Report – A. Steele:

9.1. The FY2018 Student Activity Audit has been completed. The school received the draft report with findings and recommendations. Treasurer Barbara Auger informed the Committee that this is the first in depth audit the school has had of the student activity funds. This has always been part of the annual audit. The school received refinement recommendations but is pleased to see no critical findings which is great news.

9.2. BVT has once again received the Markham Award. This is for winning the highest percentage of sporting contests. This is the 8th time in 12 years the school has won this award.

Item 7. Facilities Subcommittee Report – J. Lavin:

7.1. Mr. Brochu took the School Committee members on the School Building Enhancement Tour. The money to make the Auto Tech renovations possible was through grant funding from the state. The project included adding a larger overhead door for vehicles and equipment. The floor was completed (redone) with epoxy and the walls and ceiling were freshly painted. The exhaust system was upgraded and is now overhead. Safety features were added which included a half wall. The lockers and bird baths were also upgraded.

Item 10. Superintendent – Director’s Report – M. Fitzpatrick

10.1. Delineation of FY20 Subcommittees delineation sheet was provided. A calendar of possible meeting dates is being reviewed. Member Braza would like to join facilities subcommittee.

10.2. The members were presented with the proposed 2020 School Committee Meeting Calendar.

10.3. A sheet of the Preliminary FY20 Team Leaders was provided to the School Committee. These are stipend positions.

10.4. The FY20 Superintendent Draft Goals were provided to the members. This runs in alignment with the state's standards for the evaluation of the Superintendent. There will be periodic reporting on this.

10.5. Student, Kielar Langemo was recognized at the State House for acknowledgment of his efforts on Combating Discrimination with Coordination of the Boston Celtics Shamrock Foundation.

10.6. There are several students who are taking part in an Athletic Co-Op Opportunity. MIAA needs a formal vote to allow this Co-Op opportunity.

- a. Wrestling Co-Op with Bellingham High School.

On a motion by Mrs. Mitchell and seconded by Mr. Lavin, it was unanimously voted to request a Co-Op opportunity for wrestling with Bellingham High School or another suitable partner school system..

- b. Girls Ice Hockey Co-Op with Auburn High School. There are three girls interested in joining the Girls hockey team at Auburn High School. It was recommended to have a follow-up meeting to see how the Co-Op opportunities are working.

On a motion by Mrs. Mitchell and seconded by Mr. Koopman, it was unanimously voted to request a Co-Op opportunity for Girl's Hockey with Auburn High School.

10.7. Professional Development Update: Dr. Fitzpatrick attended the M.A.S.S. Executive Committee Retreat in Salem on September 6, 2019 through September 8, 2019.

10.8. Visitor/Tour:

- a. UniBank President & CEO Michael Welch visited BVT on September 12, 2019. The school is in receipt of a thank you note for providing him with a tour.

10.9. The Alumni Newsletter was provided. There is an interesting article about Harry P. Copper, Jr. of Millville, who is a graduate of BVT.

Item 11. New Business

Mr. Lavin thanked the Facilities Subcommittee for all the work which was completed this summer.

Item 12. Items for the Good of the Committee

The monthly compilation of news clippings and correspondence were 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 October 17, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the Three Seasons Restaurant.

Item 14. Executive Session:

14.1. On a motion made by Mr. Hanratty, seconded by Mrs. Mitchell, it was voted by Roll Call Vote to enter into Executive Session per MGL Chapter 30 A, Section 21 (a)#3 for collective bargaining. The discussion of this would be detrimental in the Open Session.

Roll Call:

Joseph M. Hall	aye
Joseph A. Broderick	aye
Anthony M. Yitts	aye
Chester P. Hanratty, Jr.	aye
Jeff T. Koopman	aye
Julie H. Mitchell	aye
James H. Ebbeling	aye
John C. Lavin, III	aye
Dennis P. Braun	aye
Mitchell A. Intinarelli	aye
Paul J. Braza	aye

The members will come back to adjourn the regular meeting.

14.2. On a motion by Mr. Broderick, seconded by Mr. Koopman, it was voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Listing of Materials Used in the Meeting:

- Item 2. Minutes of Regular Meeting of August 15, 2019
- Item 8.1. Grant & External Funding Activity
- Item 10.1. Delineation of FY20 Subcommittees
- Item 10.2. Proposed Calendar – 2020 School Committee Meetings
- Item 10.3. Preliminary FY20 Team Leaders
- Item 10.4. Superintendent-Director’s Goals FY2020
- Item 10.8.a. Michael Welch – UniBank President & CEO
- Item 10.9. Alumni Newsletter
- Item 12. Items for the Good of the Committee

Respectfully submitted by,

Anthony M. Yitts, Secretary