

**Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional District School Committee**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting**  
**December 17, 2020**  
**ZOOM MEETING**

The regular meeting of the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional District School Committee was held by Zoom. The following members, staff and others were present:

Joseph M. Hall of Bellingham, Chairman  
Gerald M. Finn of Millville, Vice Chairman  
Anthony M. Yitts of Grafton, Secretary  
Chester P. Hanratty, Jr. of Millbury  
Mitchell A. Intinarelli of Hopedale  
James H. Ebbeling of Uxbridge  
David R. Bartlett of Upton  
Joseph A. Broderick of Blackstone

Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick, Superintendent-Director  
Barbara Auger, Treasurer  
Anthony Steele, Asst. Supt.-Dir./Principal  
Lorna Mangano, Business Manager  
Edward Evans, Academic Curriculum Coordinator  
Amy Sutherland, Recording Secretary

Members Absent:

John C. Lavin, III of Douglas  
Dennis P. Braun of Mendon  
Paul J. Braza of Milford  
Jeff Koopman of Northbridge  
Julie H. Mitchell of Sutton

Item 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Hall.

A moment of silence was recognized for the recent passing of Elizabeth Miller who was a former teacher at BVT.

Item 2. Secretary's Report

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 November 19, 2020 and to accept the minutes as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Gerald Finn	aye
Mitchell Intinarelli	aye
Chester Hanratty	aye
Anthony Yitts	aye
James Ebbeling	aye
David Bartlett	aye
Joseph Broderick	aye
Joseph Hall	aye

Item 3. Treasurer's Report – B. Auger

3.1. The Treasurer's report was presented dated November 30, 2020. The report reflects an ending balance of \$8,233,471.34 for Total Funds, including \$961,596.55 in Project Funds, and \$7,271,874.79

in Local Funds. On a motion by Mr. Bartlett, seconded by Mr. Hanratty, it was unanimously voted by roll call to approve the November 30, 2020 Treasurer's Report as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Gerald Finn	aye
Mitchell Intinarelli	aye
Chester Hanratty	aye
Anthony Yitts	aye
James Ebbeling	aye
David Bartlett	aye
Joseph Broderick	aye
Joseph Hall	aye

3.2. The report for the Little Beavers Enrichment Program dated November 30, 2020 was provided. The report reflects and ending balance of \$160.00. On a motion made by Mr. Bartlett, seconded by Mr. Broderick, it was unanimously voted by roll call to approve the November 30, 2020 report as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Gerald Finn	aye
Mitchell Intinarelli	aye
Chester Hanratty	aye
Anthony Yitts	aye
James Ebbeling	aye
David Bartlett	aye
Joseph Broderick	aye
Joseph Hall	aye

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

4.1. Casey T. Goyette and Madison A. Gannon received the Superintendent's Scholars Award. This award is in recognition of their academic excellence. Based upon their academic and vocational standing, these two students will also be named the senior class valedictorian and salutatorian. Congratulations to both students.

4.2. Meghan M. Griggs and Rohit M. Kaushik were the recipients of the Academic Growth and Student Leadership Award from the National School Development Council. There will be a virtual banquet showcasing their recognition.

Item 5. Comments by Student Representative: Isabella Caccavelli

Student leader Isabella Caccavelli informed the School Committee that there was a school holiday drive. There were over 30 volunteers who helped buy presents for local families. There was also a dollar-war fund raiser which raised over \$250.00. This was a successful fund raising event.

Item 6. Business Manager's Report – L. Mangano

6.1. Lorna Mangano prepared and provided a Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District 2020-2021 monthly budget status report dated December 10, 2020. This budget will continue to be monitored for the remainder of the fiscal year.

6.2. Due to COVID-19, and to accommodate the impact video distance learning (*remote access and zoom sessions*) has had on the infrastructure's network traffic, ruckus switches were procured for the server room's main distribution frame. The District was able to procure electronic network switches via Coronavirus Relief Funds awarded independently to member towns and shared with the District.

On a motion made by Mr. Bartlett, seconded by Mr. Hanratty, it was unanimously voted by roll call to move to transfer \$80,824 in available funds from the Tech Department (Tech Hardware) budget line item #1000.50.2250.580.8 into the Capital Tech-Sch. Data Infrastructure account identified as budget line item #1000.50.7350.000.8.

Roll Call Vote:

Gerald Finn	aye
Mitchell Intinarelli	aye
Chester Hanratty	aye
Anthony Yitts	aye
James Ebbeling	aye
David Bartlett	aye
Joseph Broderick	aye
Joseph Hall	aye

6.3. The District is in receipt of a donation from CRC Line, Inc. in the amount of \$950.00. On a motion made by Mr. Intinarelli, seconded by Mr. Finn, it was unanimously voted by roll call vote to accept the donation from CRC Line, Inc. in the amount of \$950.00 for training purposes in Valley Tech's Auto Collision and Repair Program.

Roll Call Vote:

Gerald Finn	aye
Mitchell Intinarelli	aye
Chester Hanratty	aye
Anthony Yitts	aye
James Ebbeling	aye
David Bartlett	aye
Joseph Broderick	aye
Joseph Hall	aye

Item 7. Assistant Superintendent -Director Report – A. Steele

7.1. The school held a Parent/Applicant Open House Night on December 9, 2020 via zoom. There were over 450 members who participated in the main sessions. During this session, there were break out groups within the shops. Although this was a different format from previous years due to COVID-19, a thank you was extended to the staff who made this possible.

7.2. The School Committee members were informed about a new section on the school webpage entitled **COVID-19 Dashboard**. This was created to provide open lines of communication to the community during the pandemic. It also provides transparency while sharing accurate and timely information regarding COVID-19 cases on campus. The dashboard offers statistics in a clear and

concise manner while adding weekly data on active cases, transmission on campus, those in quarantine, and a total percentage of positive cases. Updates are done Monday through Friday.

7.3. Academic Curriculum Coordinator Edward Evans was present via zoom to explain the information regarding the MCAS Performance Award. The graduation rate for the Class of 2020 was 100%, which met the DESE state target. Due to the cancellation of MCAS exams in the spring of 2020, the state will not be issuing 2020 AYP reports for Districts. There will not be a 2020 end of cycle AYP report as described in the contractual language. On the 2019 Science MCAS, 91% of BVT students met or exceeded expectations; on the 2019 English Language Arts MCAS, 81% of BVT students also met or exceeded expectations; and on the 2019 Mathematic MCAS, 76% of BVT students met or exceeded expectations. Since no one could predict COVID and its effects on testing and the 2020 end-of-cycle AYP report, as defined in the contract, it was recommended to use an average of the three years of existing data. There were over 95% of students in the Class of 2020 who earned the COP in their career-technical programs.

On a motion made by Mr. Intinarelli, seconded by Mr. Finn, it was unanimously voted by roll call vote to accept the MCAS Performance Awards as noted in the information presented by Mr. Evans.

Roll Call Vote:

Gerald Finn	aye
Mitchell Intinarelli	aye
Chester Hanratty	aye
Anthony Yitts	aye
James Ebbeling	aye
David Bartlett	aye
Joseph Broderick	aye
Joseph Hall	aye

7.4. Mr. Steele shared a request by the Teachers' Association for approval to start a UNICEF Club. The adviser for this club has been identified. On a motion made by Mr. Broderick, seconded by Mr. Bartlett, it was unanimously voted by roll call to accept the UNICEF Club.

Roll Call Vote:

Gerald Finn	aye
Mitchell Intinarelli	aye
Chester Hanratty	aye
Anthony Yitts	aye
James Ebbeling	aye
David Bartlett	aye
Joseph Broderick	aye
Joseph Hall	aye

It was recommended that an excerpt of the certified minutes pertaining to this vote be kept on file for future records.

Item 8. Budget Subcommittee Report – J. Mitchell

8.1. Vice Chair Finn provided a Budget Subcommittee update. The Subcommittee had a meeting on November 19, 2020 whereby Ms. Mitchell agreed to serve as Chair, Mr. Finn as Vice Chair, and Mr. Hanratty as Secretary. A schedule of meetings has been established. It was noted that Subcommittee officers were elected at a meeting held on December 3, 2020. Mr. Finn alerted all of the favorable negotiations regarding health insurance. There will be an increase of 2.1% for this insurance.

8.2. The December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> meetings discussed salary, wages and fringe benefits. Ms. Mangano provided a presentation. She indicated that there has been great discussion and more information will be provided at the next meeting. Through initial discussion, it appears that the bus transportation budget will be increasing 4.5%. More information on that topic will be provided at the next meeting.

Item 9. Superintendent-Director’s Report – M. Fitzpatrick

9.1. Dr. Fitzpatrick provided a preliminary report on the Annual Superintendent’s Fund Raiser Dinner. He shared that, due to COVID-19, we were unable to hold this traditional fund raising event last year. It is the goal to be in-person this year with an anticipated date of March 25, 2021. The theme of this year’s event is *Winter in Moscow*. The Committee needs to vote to have a one-day liquor license to be served by staff.

On a motion made by Mr. Bartlett, seconded by Mr. Intinerelli, it was unanimously voted by roll call to approve the one-day liquor license served by staff.

Roll Call Vote:

Gerald Finn	aye
Mitchell Intinarelli	aye
Chester Hanratty	aye
Anthony Yitts	aye
James Ebbeling	aye
David Bartlett	aye
Joseph Broderick	aye
Joseph Hall	aye

9.2. BVT Visitations/Tours: The Millbury Town Manager, Sean Hendricks visited BVT on December 7, 2020.

9.3. The Borislow presentation was held via Zoom on December 15, 2020.

9.4. The Wellness Fair was held virtually on December 16, 2020. The focus of the event was to promote morale during this difficult time.

9.5. FY21 Superintendent Goals Update – During the previous meeting members requested clarification on some of the Superintendent’s goals. Under Goal #1, add more information as to how this benefits BVT. Also, under Goal #3, there was a suggestion to include the primary theme of the leadership retreat and also consider expanding language about how our overall program needs to be modified due to COVID. For Goal #5, there should be an inclusion of a dollar amount targeted as the achievable goal for the grants. This needs to be measurable.

9.6. The School Committee is in receipt of a resignation from Philip Morin dated November 22, 2020.

9.7. The School Committee received the most recent addition of the Parent Newsletter.

Item 10. New Business

- There was a suggestion to add to future meeting agendas a time for various clubs to provide a status update.
- A thank you was extended to the Town of Millbury for sharing a portion of their CARES ACT funds.
- The Superintendent recognized the significance of the School Committee's community based contributions. As an example he shared that Mr. Finn was the driving force in helping 26 churches in the area to negotiate discounted fuel prices.

Item 11. 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 12. Next Regularly Scheduled School Committee Meeting – J. Hall

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on January 21, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Item 13. Meeting Closure

13.1. The meeting was closed as declared by Chairman Hall.

13.2. On a motion by Mr. Broderick, seconded by Mr. Yitts, it was voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

**Listing of Materials Used in the Meeting:**

- Item 2.1. Minutes of Regular Meeting of November 19, 2020
- Item 3.1. Treasurer's Report dated November 30, 2020
- Item 3.2. Little Beaver Enrichment Center Revolving Account Update
- Item 6.1. FY21 Budget Status
- Item 6.3. Donation Acceptance
- Item 7.3. MCAS Performance Award
- Item 9.5. Superintendent -Director's Goals
- Item 9.6. Resignation Philip Morin
- Item 9.7. Parents Newsletter
- Item 11. Items for the Good of the Committee

Respectfully submitted by,

Anthony M. Yitts, Secretary