

**MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL  
1050 WESTMINSTER STREET FITCHBURG, MA 01420  
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 10, 2024**

**Members present**

Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Sara Dilg, Scott Carignan, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

**Members absent**

Barbara Reynolds, Jeffrey Raymond, Ashby VACANT, Harvard VACANT

**Meeting called to order at 6:31 PM**

1. Opening Items

Procedural: A. Call to Order

Procedural: B. Pledge of Allegiance

Information: C. Introduction of Guests and Visitors

Information: D. Public Comment

Action, Minutes: E. Approval of Minutes

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTES TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 6, 2024, AS PRESENTED.

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Diane Swenson.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Columbus, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Sara Dilg, Scott Carignan, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall

Abstain: John Mollica, William Brassard

2. Superintendent-Director's Report

Information: A. Superintendent-Director Update

- Aaliyah Cooper, a senior in Veterinary Science from Sterling, and Christian Altomonte, a senior in Electrical from Gardner represented Monty Tech at the Worcester County Superintendent's Association Scholars Luncheon.
- Monty Tech has been awarded the FY24 Skills Capital Grant. The \$300,000 award will benefit the Culinary Arts program.
- The STEP Program supporting adults with disabilities was launched and will run through June.
- MVP Academy renovation work continues with the installation of interior walls. Additionally the district has posted contracted work out to bid with the results to be presented at the May meeting.
- Superintendent Browne and Business Manager Tammy Crockett have completed all local financial committee meetings. Town meetings have begun and will continue into June.
- On March 14, Monty Tech opened "The Nook" food pantry to support student/families in need.
- Monty Tech met with a representative from AVI-SPL to design a system to record meetings. A proposal was completed with an estimated cost of \$26,617.00.

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE MOVE BACK TO THE CONFERENCE ROOM.

Motion by Eric Commodore, second by Ronald Touriugny.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Scott Carignan, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Abstain: Sara Dilg

- Superintendent Browne presented on the recent data regarding Monty tech admissions for the class of 2027.
- Information regarding the Student Opportunity Act was presented by Christina Favreau, Academic Director.

Action: B. Student Opportunity Act

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE STUDENT OPPORTUNITY ACT AS PRESENTED.

Motion by Eric Commodore, second by Diane Swenson.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Sara Dilg, Scott Carignan, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall

Nay: William Brassard

Action, Information: C. School Choice

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTES TO ACCEPT SCHOOL CHOICE STUDENTS FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR FOR GRADES 10, 11, AND 12 ONLY.

Motion by William Brassard, second by Diane Swenson.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Sara Dilg, Scott Carignan, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Action, Information: D. Out of State Field Trip CAD/Drafting and Design

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTES TO APPROVE AN OUT-OF-STATE TRIP FOR 15 CAD/DRAFTING AND DESIGN STUDENTS TO TRAVEL TO NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND TO ATTEND THE MANSIONS TOUR ON MAY 3, 2024.

Motion by Eric Olson, second by William Brassard.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Sara Dilg, Scott Carignan, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

3. Principal's Report

Information: A. Student Representative's Monthly Report - None

Information: B. Principal's Monthly Report - In the packet for perusal.

Action, Information: C. Student Handbook

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTE TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED CHANGES FOR THE 2024-2025 STUDENT HANDBOOK AS SUBMITTED.

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Whitney Marshall.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Sara Dilg, Scott Carignan, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Information: D. Enrollment/Withdrawal/New Entry Report

4. Personnel

Information: A. Retirement - None

Information: B. Resignation - None

Information: C. Appointment

Jason Tremblay, Sterling, has been appointed to the position of Advanced Manufacturing Instructor, at a salary of \$66,063.00.

Beth Aubin, Phillipston, has been appointed to the position of Administrative Assistant to Student Support services - Special Education, at a salary of \$27.58/hour

5. Reports by Subcommittees

Information: A. Policy - Diane Swenson Chair

Information: B. Capital Improvements - Diane Swenson Chair

Information: C. Workforce - Eric Olson Chair -

Information: D. Student Advisory - Melanie Weeks Chair

Information: E. School Committee Graduation Gift Subcommittee - Ronald Tourigny Chair

Information: F. Financial Planning - Eric Olson Chair

6. Financial

Information: A. Financial Statements

Action, Information: B. Reappointment of Legal Counsel

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTE TO RETAIN STONEMAN, CHANDLER AND MILLER, LLP AS THE DISTRICT'S LEGAL COUNSEL EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027 AND TO APPROVE THE LEGAL SERVICES RETAINER AGREEMENT

Motion by Eric Olson, second by William Brassard.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Sara Dilg, Scott Carignan, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

## 7. Communications

Information: A. Teacher's Information or Proposals

Action, Information: B. Reorganization of School Committee

MOVE THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE REORGANIZE FOR THE ENSUING YEAR AND ELECT THE CURRENT SLATE OF OFFICERS, JOHN COLUMBUS, CHAIR, ERIC COMMODORE, VICE CHAIR, THOMAS BROWNE, SECRETARY, JULIE MARYNOK, RECORDING SECRETARY, JEFFREY GALLANT, TREASURER, BARBARA REYNOLDS, ASSISTANT TREASURER.

Motion by Michael Hurley, second by Ross Barber.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Sara Dilg, Scott Carignan, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Information: C. School Committee Chairman Report

Information: D. School Committee Information or Proposals

Information: E. School Committee Comments

Information: F. Correspondence/Reports

8. Other Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair Forty-Eight Hours Before the Meeting

## 9. Closing Items

Action, Information: A. Adjournment

MOVE TO ADJOURN

Motion by William Brassard, second by Ross Barber.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Sara Dilg, Scott Carignan, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM