

MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL
1050 WESTMINSTER STREET FITCHBURG, MA 01420
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 7, 2024

Members present

Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Scott Carignan, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes

Members absent

Barbara Reynolds, Eric Commodore, John Mollica, Robert Campbell, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard, Ashby VACANT, Harvard VACANT, Royalston VACANT

Meeting called to order at 6:37 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 JUNE 5, 2024, AS PRESENTED.

Motion by Diane Swenson, second by Jada McConologue.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Jada McConologue, John Columbus, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Scott Carignan, Tamarah Estes

Abstain: Shelly Jones

Action, Information: F. Approval of Executive Session Minutes

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTES TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING OF JUNE 5, 2024, AS PRESENTED.

Motion by Diane Swenson, second by Jada McConologue.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Diane Swenson, Jada McConologue, John Columbus, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Scott Carignan, Tamarah Estes

Abstain: Christina Smith, Shelly Jones

2. Superintendent-Director's Report

Information: A. Superintendent-Director Update

- Congratulations to our Monty Tech's SkillsUSA National Representatives who attended the annual National SkillsUSA Awards Competition held from June 24th-28th.

- Congratulations to the 28 graduates from the Practical Nursing Program who participated in their pin ceremony on June 20, 2024.
- Monty Tech recently received its result for the 2024 Advanced Placement exams. Monty Tech had its highest percentage of students (72%) receiving the qualifying score of a 3+, as well as the highest number of students (130). In addition, overall we had the highest number of individual exams taken by students (262).
- The Monty Tech Foundation held its annual golf scramble on June 21st at the Woods of Westminster. 114 golfers participated raising \$16,193.60 for scholarships.
- Monty Tech hosted the incoming students of the inaugural MVP Program on June 6th. Superintendent Browne shared that the program will need to begin in the main building while the renovations are completed.
- Monty Tech has been awarded the Equity Workforce Training, Equipment and Infrastructure Grant. Strand A: Career Pathway Training Leading to Employment in Climate-Critical Priority Occupations. The amount awarded is \$1,200,000. Funds will be applied to an instructor, paraprofessional, assistants, supplies and equipment. Most importantly, the lease costs for 270 Westminster Street for FY24-25, FY25-26, and FY26-27, saving the district a total of \$581,000.00.

Monty Tech is awaiting the awarding of the CTE Partnership Implementation Grant in the amount of \$839,000. This grant will fund the year 1 costs associated with 4 instructors, 2 paraprofessionals, 1 year of real estate taxes, 1 office manager, consumables for year 1, fringe benefits for 7 FTE, and 3 academic instructor salaries.

- Monty Tech was awarded the Municipal Local Cybersecurity Program Grant in the amount of \$20,000 which will allow the district to develop an Incident Response Plan.
- As a result of a protest to the Attorney general by the Plumbers and Pipefitters Union, Monty Tech must repost the bid for the spray booth. At this time, we are considering the different options available to us in terms of the existing grant and donated funds and the scope of the project. We hope to have this resolved soon after the start of school.
- Based on the CVTE admissions regulations 603 CMR 4.03(6), amended by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, Monty Tech reviewed its Admissions Policy for potential biases. The district must submit an attestation form by October 1, 2024. The proposed revisions are outlined in the updated Admissions Policy JF included under the Policy Subcommittee Report, Agenda Item 5A.
- Post Graduation Plans for the Class of 2024 were reviewed

3. Principal's Report

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

Information: B. Post-Graduation Plans Class of 2024 - Reviewed in Superintendent-Director's Report

Information: C. Enrollment/Withdrawal/New Entry Report - In the packet for perusal

4. Personnel

Information: A. Retirement

Information: B. Resignation

Laural Aiesi, Practical Nursing Instructor, has resigned after 4 years.

Michelle June, Part-Time Cafeteria, has resigned after

Haley Nowlan, Day Care Center Teacher, has resigned after 3 years.

Information: C. Appointment

MVP Carpentry Instructor, Jacob Olson, Mason, NH, Column 8, Step 12, \$94,745

MVP Carpentry Instructor, Matthew Giusti, Bedford, Column 7, Step 12, \$92,521

MVP Electrical Instructor, James Morris, Rutland, Column 9, Step 7, \$85,299

MVP Electrical Instructor, John Whyte, Oakham, Column 7, Step 7, \$80,299

MVP Paraprofessional, Matthew Paul, Baldwinville, \$24.45/HR

Health Occupations Instructor, Kendra Alix, New Ipswich, NH, Column 7, Step 7, \$80,299

Accounts Receivable/General Business Office, Joseph Camacho, Clinton, Category 1, Step 3, \$28.41/HR

Graphic Arts/D&V Instructor, Monique Guthrie, Gardner, Column 7, Step 2, \$65,266

CAD/Drafting Technology Instructor, Stephanie Kirsch, Milford, NH, Column 7, Step 10, \$87,517

Veterinary Technician, Angela Leak, Mason, NH, Column 1, Step 1,
\$26.48/HR

Florencia Torres has moved from Accounts Receivable/General Business Office to HR & Payroll
Assistant at a rate of \$35.45/HR

Jasmine Silvera-Garcia has moved from Cafeteria Office Manager to MVP Office Manager at a salary of
\$50,000

Brian Williams has moved from House Carpentry Instructor to Vocational Director at a salary of
\$121,500

Childcare Instructor, Leah Matthews, Princeton, \$21.42/HR

5. Reports by Subcommittees

Action, Information: A. Policy - Diane Swenson Chair

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE APPROVE FOR A FIRST READING AND SECOND
READING, THE UPDATED ADMISSIONS POLICY JF, IN ACCORDANCE WITH DESE
REGULATION 603 CMR 4.00 WHICH

Motion by Diane Swenson, second by Jeffrey Raymond. Discussion ensued.

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE CHANGE SECTION III - HOMESCHOOLED
APPLICANTS TO READ...PROVIDED THE ADMISSION POLICY CRITERIA INCLUDED IN THIS
PARAGRAPH AND CHANGE THE LAST SENTENCE FROM VII.E TO VII.D. THESE CHANGES
INVOLVE PAGE 8 & 9, ALSO WHERE HOMESCHOOLED IS REPRESENTED.

Amended Motion by Diane Swenson, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Diane Swenson, Jada McConologue, John Columbus, Michael Hurley, Scott
Carignan, Tamarah Estes

NAY: Melanie Weeks, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber,

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Jada McConologue, John Columbus, Melanie
Weeks, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Scott Carignan, Tamarah Estes

Abstain: Shelly Jones

Action, Information: B. Policy - 2

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE APPROVE FOR A FIRST READING POLICY BE -
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Motion by Diane Swenson, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Scott Carignan, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes

Information: C. Capital Improvements - Diane Swenson Chair

Information: D. Workforce - Eric Olson Chair

Information: E. Student Advisory - Melanie Weeks Chair

Information: F. School Committee Graduation Gift Subcommittee - Ronald Tourigny Chair - Dr. Tourigny would like to form an AdHoc subcommittee to plan a dance where the funds will be used for the Nook and the Student Assistance Fund.

Information: G. Financial Planning - Eric Olson Chair

6. Financial

Action, Information: A. Acceptance of Grant - Skills Capital Grant

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ACCEPT A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$300,000 FOR A SKILLS CAPITAL GRANT FROM THE WORKFORCE SKILLS CABINET TO BENEFIT THE CULINARY ARTS PROGRAM.

Motion by Tamarah Estes, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Scott Carignan, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes

Action, Discussion: B. Acceptance of Grant - Equity and Climate Critical Training

MOVE THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE EQUITY AND CLIMATE CRITICAL TRAINING GRANT FROM THE CLEAN ENERGY CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,200,00 TO SUPPORT THE LAUNCH OF MVP ACADEMY AND CTI PROGRAMMING

Motion by Tamarah Estes, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Scott Carignan, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes

Action, Discussion: C. Acceptance of Grant - Municipal Local Cyber Security Grant

MOVE THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE MUNICIPAL LOCAL CYBER SECURITY GRANT FROM THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000 TO DEVELOP AN INCIDENT RESPONSE PLAN (IRP)

Motion by Tamarah Estes, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Scott Carignan, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes

7. Communications

Information: A. Teacher's Information or Proposals

Information: B. School Committee Chairman Report

Information: C. School Committee Information or Proposals

Information: D. School Committee Comments

Information: E. 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 Jeffrey Raymond, second by Tamarah Estes.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Scott Carignan, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM