

MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL
1050 WESTMINSTER STREET
FITCHBURG, MA 01420
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 5, 2025

Members present

Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Members absent

Eric Commodore, Barbara Reynolds, Scott Carignan, Robert Campbell, Harvard-Vacant

Officers of the school committee present

Thomas Browne

School district personnel present

Tammy Crockett, Business Manager, Dayana Carlson, Principal, Katie Schmidt, Assistant Principal, Brian Williams, Vocational Director, Christina Favreau, Academic Programs Director, Katy Whitaker, Development Coordinator, Victoria Zarozinski, Director of Student Support Services, Michael Gormley, Facilities Director, Donald Kitzmiller, Director of Technology, and Julie Marynok, Recording Secretary

Legal Counsel

None

Meeting called to order at 6:32 PM

1. Opening Items

Procedural: A. Call to Order

Procedural: B. Pledge of Allegiance

Information: C. Public Hearing

Chairman Columbus called the Public Hearing to order at 6:33 pm.

Tammy Crockett, Business/Human Resources Manager, presented a PowerPoint explaining the budget process, foundation budget, net school spending, minimum contribution and further explained the calculation of each community's assessment.

Chairman Columbus closed the Public Hearing at 7:10 pm.

Information: D. Introduction of Guests and Visitors

Information: E. Public Comment

Action, Minutes: F. Approval of Minutes

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTES TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 5, 2025, AS PRESENTED.

Motion by Diane Swenson, second by Eric Olson.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jada McConologue, John Mollica, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Abstain: Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus

2. Superintendent-Director's Report

Information: A. Superintendent-Director Update

- As of February, Monty Tech has 228 students out on Co-Op.
- Superintendent Browne stated that he and Tammy Crocket have begun their visits with the various community finance committees and select boards. A list of finance meetings and town meeting dates was made available to the committee members.
- Superintendent Browne provided an update on the newly proposed Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Admissions Policy which introduced the use of a lottery. The proposal will be reviewed by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education on Monday, March 10, 2025, to determine if it will go out for public comment.

Action, Information: B. Out of State Field Trip - Vet Science

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTES TO APPROVE AN OUT-OF-STATE TRIP FOR 12 VETERINARY SCIENCE SENIORS TO TRAVEL TO BROOKLYN CONNECTICUT TO THE AKC CONFIRMATION DOG SHOW WITH CAREER OPPORTUNITIES ON MAY 9, 2025, FROM 8:00 AM TO 2:30 PM AT NO COST TO STUDENTS.

Motion by William Brassard, second by Shelly Jones.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Action, Information: C. Out of State Field Trip - House Carpentry, Cabinetmaking, CAD/Drafting

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTES TO APPROVE AN OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP FOR HOUSE CARPENTRY, CABINETMAKING AND CAD/DRAFTING TO THE JLC LIVE TRADE SHOW ON MARCH 27, 2025, IN PROVIDENCE RHODE ISLAND, FROM 8:00 AM TO 2:00 PM AT NO COST TO STUDENTS.

Motion by William Brassard, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Action, Information: D. Out of State Field Trip - Plumbing

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTES TO APPROVE AN OUT-OF-STATE FIELD TRIP FOR PLUMBING STUDENTS TO VIEGA EDUCATIONAL CENTER IN NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE ON MARCH 31, 2025, FROM 8:00 AM TO 2:00 PM AT NO COST TO STUDENTS.

Motion by William Brassard, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

3. Principal's Report

Information: A. Student Representative's Monthly Report – In the packet for perusal

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

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

Action, Information: D. Enrollment Quota for Class of 2029

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTES TO APPROVE SETTING THE ENROLLMENT QUOTA FOR THE CLASS OF 2029 AT 360 STUDENTS.

Motion by Diane Swenson, second by Tamarah Estes.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

4. Personnel

Information: A. Retirement

Lisa Duprey, Payroll and Benefits, will retire on July 7, 2025, after 13 years.

Elizabeth Jablonski, Science Instructor, will retire on June 30, 2025, after 10 years.

Information: B. Resignation

Elaine Brown, Cafeteria Staff, is resigning after 6 years.

Information: C. Appointment

Stacy Robichaud, Ashburnham, has been hired as Adjunct Faculty for the PN Program at \$54.00 per hour.

Phil Baczewski, Gardner, has been hired as a Bilingual Instructional Assistant, at \$24.45 per hour

A list of spring coaches was in the packet for perusal

5. Reports by Subcommittees

Action, Information: A. Policy 1 - Diane Swenson Chair

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE APPROVE FOR A SECOND READING, AC - NONDISCRIMINATION AND ACA - NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF GENDER AND REMOVAL OF OUTDATED, REDUNDANT, OR DIFFERENTLY INCORPORATED POLICIES ACB - HARASSMENT, ACD - DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF GENDER, AND ACDF - RESPECTFUL INTERPERSONAL/HUMAN RELATIONS AS THESE THREE POLICIES ARE INCLUDED IN THE UPDATED POLICY AC.

Motion by Diane Swenson, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Action, Discussion, Information: B. Policy 2 - Diane Swenson Chair

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE APPROVE POLICY IKF - GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A FIRST AND SECOND READING.

Motion by Diane Swenson, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall

Nay: William Brassard

Information: C. Capital Improvements - Diane Swenson Chair

Information: D. Workforce - Eric Olson Chair

Information: E. Student Advisory - Ross Barber Chair

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

Action, Information: G. Financial Planning - Eric Olson Chair

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE PRELIMINARY FY 26 BUDGET AS FOLLOWS: TOTAL BUDGET - \$34,641,344 LESS REVENUES - \$21,462,805 WITH TOTAL ASSESSMENTS OF \$13,178,539

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Calvin Brooks.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

6. Financial

Information: A. Financial Statements

Action, Discussion: B. Approval of Bus Contract 25-26 school year

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE AWARD THE ONE (1) YEAR OPTIONAL RENEWAL FOR SY2025-2026 PER BID #2022-04 TO THE FOLLOWING COMPANIES: J.P. MCCARTHY; DEE BUS; AND AA TRANSPORTATION PER ATTACHED MEMO OUTLINING ROUTES AND AMOUNTS.

Motion by William Brassard, second by Diane Swenson.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jada McConologue, John Columbus, John Mollica, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Abstain: Jeffrey Raymond

7. Communications

Information: A. Teacher's Information or Proposals

Information: B. School Committee Chairman Report

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE APPROVES UP TO \$2500 FOR DIANE SWENSON TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIONAL SKILLSUSA COMPETITION IN ATLANTA, GA IN JUNE 2025.

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

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. Executive Session

Action: A. Copy of M.G.L. C. 30A, s 21, 1. To discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER M.G.L. C. 30A, S 21, 1. TO DISCUSS THE REPUTATION, CHARACTER, PHYSICAL CONDITION OR MENTAL HEALTH, RATHER THAN PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE, OF AN INDIVIDUAL, OR TO DISCUSS THE DISCIPLINE OR DISMISSAL OF, OR COMPLAINTS OR CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST, A PUBLIC OFFICER, EMPLOYEE, STAFF MEMBER OR INDIVIDUAL

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Diane Swenson.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Exited regular session at 8:57 PM

Entered executive session at 8:57 PM

Returned to open session at 9:01 PM

Action: B. Adjournment

Move to adjourn.

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Michael Hurley, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 PM