

Regular Meeting (Wednesday, March 8, 2023)

Generated by Julie Marynok on Thursday, March 9, 2023

Members present

Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Tamarah Estes

Members absent

Jeanne Bartlett, Donna Lafayette, William Brassard, Whitney Marshall, James Cournoyer, Petersham Vacant, Royalston Vacant

Officers of the School Committee Present

Thomas Browne

Student Representative to the school Committee (Non-Voting)

Hannah Army

School district personnel present

Dayana Carlson, Principal, Kathryn Schmidt, Assistant Principal, Ryan Rege, Director of Vocational Programs, Tammy Crockett, Business Manager, Victoria Zarozinski, Director of Student Support Services, Donald Kitzmiller, Director of Technology, and Julie Marynok, Recording Secretary

Legal Counsel

Colleen Shea, Stoneman, Chandler & Miller LLP

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

1. Opening Items

Procedural: A. Call to Order

Procedural: B. Pledge of Allegiance

Information: C. Public Hearing

Chairman Commodore called the Public Hearing to order at 7:01 pm.

Tammy Crockett, Business/Human Resources Manager, presented a PowerPoint explaining the budget process, the foundation budget, net school spending, and minimum contribution and explained the calculation of each community's assessment. She presented individual information on their city or town to all the School Committee members. The budget figures are based on Governor Maura Healey's budget figures.

Chairman Commodore closed the Public Hearing at 7:32 pm.

Information: D. Introduction of Guests and Visitors

Members of the Montachusett Regional Teachers Association spoke on how smoothly the negotiations process went.

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 1, 2023 AS PRESENTED.

Motion by Ronald Tourigny, second by James Boone.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Tamarah Estes

Abstain: Barbara Reynolds

2. Superintendent-Director's Report

Information: A. Superintendent-Director Update

- On February 15th, Monty Tech was thrilled to welcome Congresswoman Lori Trahan for a collegial conversation about vocational education and a tour of several programs.
- Monty Tech's own, Kiana Cintron from Graphics Communications, was selected by SkillsUSA Massachusetts as the winner of T-Shirt Design Competition.
- The the Worcester County Superintendent's Association held its Annual Scholar Luncheon at Holy Cross for Seniors. This year's awardees from Monty Tech were Ava Robles from Gardner and Lindsey Blauser from Fitchburg.
- On the evening of February 15th, in an effort to recognize the accomplishments of our adult workforce training graduates, Monty Tech hosted its first ever CTI Graduation Ceremony. The recipients included 10 from welding, 9 from Culinary Arts and 11 from HVAC.
- 270 Westminster Update - Monty Tech continues to work with our partner districts, Fitchburg, Narragansett and Gardner, as they complete their After Dark applications and Memorandums of Understanding which will be submitted to DESE on March 10, 2023. We also continue to work with Lamoreaux, Pagano & Associates as we develop the renovation schedule and design.
- Superintendent Browne submitted his Superintendent's Entry Report for review.

Action, Information: C. Out of State Field Trip

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTES TO APPROVE AN OUT OF STATE FIELD TRIP FOR FRESHMEN AND JUNIORS IN CABINETMAKING TO TRAVEL TO PROVIDENCE RHODE ISLAND FOR THE JLC LIVE RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION SHOW ON FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2023.

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Tamarah Estes

3. Principal's Report

Information: A. Student Representative's Monthly Report is attached to the agenda for perusal.

Information: B. Principal's Monthly Report

VIP Session 3 was held on January 26 and February 2, 9 and 16. The following towns participated:

<u>Sending Town</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>
Ashby	21
Athol/Royalston	48
Fitchburg	134
Home School	3
Private Schools	3
Other Sending Districts	15

Monty Tech held its Spring advisory meeting on February 8, 2023 with approximately 310 members in attendance.

- 2 special sessions were held as Electrical and House Carpentry Advisory visited 270 Westminster Street to learn more about our partnership program. We had an overwhelmingly positive response from both groups.
- Special Education advisory committee met with Vicki Zarozinski and Charles Agong and were provided a TFM presentation for parents.
- Special

MCAS Retest Information - DESE released the results of the November retest exams. The current status for our upperclassmen regarding MCAS is –

- All members of the Class of 2023 were able to earn their competency determination by passing both their ELA and Math MCAS tests and by receiving a passing grade in all of their science courses.
- All Members of the Class of 2024 have passed the ELA MCAS. There are a small number of students who will take the MCAS Math Retest. We are waiting results from the Biology retest.
- 86 seniors who qualify for the John and Abigail Adams scholarship.
- We had 17 students received recognition from DESE for their outstanding achievement. These awards recognized students in the high needs categories which include students with disabilities, English learners, and economically disadvantaged students who scored in the "exceeding expectations" level.

Action, Information: C. Student Handbook

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTE TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED CHANGES FOR THE 2023-2024 STUDENT HANDBOOK AS SUBMITTED.

Motion by Jeffrey Raymond, second by Diane Swenson.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Tamarah Estes

Information: D. Enrollment/Withdrawal/New Entry Report

Action, Information: E. Enrollment Quota for Class of 2027

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTES TO APPROVE SETTING THE ENROLLMENT QUOTA FOR THE CLASS OF 2027 AT 365 STUDENTS.

Motion by Jeffrey Raymond, second by Barbara Reynolds.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Tamarah Estes

4. Personnel

Information: A. Retirement

Information: B. Resignation

Information: C. Appointment

Jessica Schanz, Royalston, has been appointed to the position of Receptionist and Attendance Assistant at a salary of \$24.29/hour.

A list of spring coaches was in the packet for perusal.

5. Reports by Subcommittees

Action, Information: A. Policy - Diane Swenson Chair

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE APPROVE FOR A SECOND READING, SECTION C: GENERAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION: CBD, CBI, CH, AND CI, AND REMOVAL OF OUTDATED, REDUNDANT, OR DIFFERENTLY INCORPORATED POLICIES: CBG AND CHC.

Motion by Diane Swenson, second by Ronald Tourigny.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Tamarah Estes

Action, Information: B. Policy 2

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE APPROVE FOR A FIRST READING, CA - ADMINISTRATION, CB - SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR, CBB - RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF SUPERINTENDENT, CBH - SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTORS CONSULTING ACTIVITIES, CEA - SCHOOL COUNCIL, CHA - DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION OF PROCEDURES, CHCA - APPROVAL OF HANDBOOKS AND DIRECTIVES, CE - ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCILS, CABINETS, AND COMMITTEES, AND REMOVAL OF OUTDATED, REDUNDANT, OR DIFFERENTLY INCORPORATED POLICIES CEA-E - SUBMISSION AND APPROVAL OF THE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN, CEA-R1 - CONDUCT OF SCHOOL COUNCIL BUSINESS, AND CEA-R2 - SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN.

Motion by Diane Swenson, second by Barbara Reynolds.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Tamarah Estes

Information: C. Capital Improvements - Diane Swenson Chair

Action, Information: D. Workforce - Eric Olson Chair

In executive session, the district committee voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Workforce Subcommittee to ratify the Montachusett Regional Teachers' Association Contract for the 2023-2026 contract years.

Information: E. Student Advisory - Melanie Weeks Chair

Information: F. Scholarship (Ad hoc) - Barbara Reynolds Chair

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

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE PRELIMINARY FY 24 BUDGET AS FOLLOWS: TOTAL BUDGET - \$32,535,101 LESS REVENUES - \$20,543,704 WITH TOTAL ASSESSMENTS OF \$11,991,397

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Tamarah Estes

6. Financial

Information: A. Financial Statements

Action, Discussion: B. Acceptance of Grant - Haas Foundation

MOVE THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE GRANT FROM HAAS FOUNDATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,000 TO BE USED BY ADVANCED MANUFACTURING FOR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AND EQUIPMENT.

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Diane Swenson.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Tamarah Estes

Action, Discussion: C. Acceptance of Donation - Jeff Crowley

MOVE THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ACCEPT A DONATION OF A 2011 VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN WITH AN APPROXIMATE VALUE OF \$4,000 FROM JEFF CROWLEY, PRINCETON, MA TO BE USED BY AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY.

Motion by John Columbus, second by James Boone.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Tamarah Estes

Action, Discussion: D. Acceptance of Donation - Universal Machine

MOVE THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ACCEPT A DONATION FROM UNIVERSAL MACHINE, FITCHBURG, MA OF 30 BORING BARS WITH AN APPROXIMATE VALUE OF \$100 TO BE USED BY ADVANCED MANUFACTURING.

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Ronald Tourigny.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Tamarah Estes

Action, Discussion: E. Surplus Equipment

MOVE THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE APPROVE THE ATTACHED LIST TO BE CONSIDERED SURPLUS EQUIPMENT TO BE AUCTIONED.

Motion by Eric Olson, second by James Boone.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, 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. Executive Session

Action, Information: A. Legal Matters - Executive Session - Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2)(3)

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO M.G.L. CHAPTER 30A, SECTION 21 (a)(2)(3), TO DISCUSS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING STRATEGY WITH THE MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (MRTA)

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Peter Capone.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Tamarah Estes

Action, Information: B. Adjournment from Executive Session

Entered executive session at 8:48 pm

Returned to open session at 9:15

10. Closing Items

Action, Information: A. Adjournment

MOVE TO ADJOURN

Motion by Peter Capone, second by Eric Olson.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Tamarah Estes

Meeting adjourned at 9:17 pm