

Regular Meeting (Wednesday, October 5, 2022)

Generated by Julie Marynok on Thursday, October 6, 2022

Members present

Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Donna Lafayette, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeanne Bartlett, Jeffrey Raymond, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, William Brassard

Members absent

Whitney Marshall, Robert Campbell, James Cournoyer, Jessica Schanz, John Columbus, Tamara Estes, Petersham 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, Donald Kitzmiller, Director of Technology, Tammy Crockett, Business Manager, 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

Procedural: C. Introduction of Guests and Visitors

Procedural: D. Public Comment

Action, Minutes: E. Approval of Minutes

MOVED THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 7, 2022 MEETING AS AMENDED

Motion by Jeffrey Raymond, second by Barbara Reynolds.

Ross Barber stated that the minutes of the August 3, 2022 were incorrect. Kathryn Schmidt was listed as Technology Director and should have been listed as Assistant Principal. Minutes will be updated and brought back to the November meeting for a revote.

Mr. Mollica stated that he voted Yes to form an adhoc committee to look into videotaping school committee meetings.

Minutes to be amended to reflect the vote change and return at the November meeting for approval.

Motion by Jeffrey Raymond, second by Michael Hurley.

MOVED TO UPDATE THE MINUTES TO REFLECT JOHN MOLLIKA VOTING YES AND THE CHANGE IN THE OVERALL VOTE.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Donna Lafayette, Eric Olson, Jeffrey Raymond, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Eric Commodore, James Boone, Jeanne Bartlett

Nay: Barbara Reynolds, William Brassard

Abstain: Diane Swenson

Motion by Jeffrey Raymond, second by Barbara Reynolds.

MOVED THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 7, 2022 MEETING AS AMENDED

Aye: Donna Lafayette, Eric Olson, Jeffrey Raymond, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Eric Commodore, James Boone, Jeanne Bartlett, Barbara Reynolds, William Brassard

Abstain: Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, James Boone, Jeanne Bartlett

2. Superintendent-Director's Report

Information: A. Superintendent-Director Update

- Monty Tech Co-Op - After the first month of school, Co-Op Coordinator 92 Seniors have been enrolled into the co-op program.
- Sustaining Futures, Raising Communities - Monty Tech has submitted a proposal to Saint-Gobain that would provide materials funding and materials needed to update the school's Yoga and Meditative Arts classroom.
- Site Visit - Monty Tech welcomed Founding Principal Dr. Marc Martinez from St. Peter's Catholic Career and Technical HS in Houston.
- New Technology - Monty Tech has purchased an Anatomage table with grants funds through Mass Science Grant and was installed in a science classroom to support the Human Body Systems and Principles of Biomedical Science classes.
- MCAS 2022 Results Summary - School committee received a summary report on MCAS 2022 results. A full presentation will be offered during the November meeting.
- Admission Policy/Enrollment Data - On September 26th, Monty Tech received confirmation from Commissioner Riley that his office had received the Admission policy, approved on September 7th. The policy and attestation form were provided to DESE on September 9, 2022.
- Monty Tech Partnership Programs: Superintendent Browne gave a presentation on the Mont Tech partnership program. The purpose of this program is to expand access, and create vocational opportunities for additional students from sending districts - which at this time includes Fitchburg, Gardner and Narragansett Regional School Districts. This will be accomplished by creating a satellite program in a leased facility. This program will eventually consist of three vocational trades, and will follow the DESE "After Dark" model. Primary funding to initialize this effort will come through the Chapter 74 Vocational Instructional Lab Modernization Grant which Monty Tech was awarded in the amount of \$1,887,127.00. This partnership endeavor will not disrupt the good work and educational model currently in place, and will provide students in our Construction Trades with a unique opportunity to build/renovate a commercial space.

3. Principal's Report

Information: A. Student Representative's Monthly Report

- JROTC Cadets are fundraising for NEADS.
- The annual PSATs administration will occur on Saturday, Oct 15, 2022.
- Monty Tech celebrated Spirit Week. The festivities will culminate in our annual Homecoming dance which will be held on Saturday night from 6-9 in the cafeteria.

Information: B. Principal's Monthly Report

- Monty Tech held its back to school night on September 8th. The purpose of this event is for parents to have an opportunity to meet briefly with each of their student's academic teachers in order to become familiar with the expectations and policies of that particular class.
- Monty Tech celebrated over 440 students at honor roll banquets celebrated on September 28th & 29th.
- Monty tech hosted its annual College and Career Fair with over 80 representatives from different colleges, unions, and technical schools.
- Professional Development Day was held September 23rd
- The first Fall VIP Session will Start on October 20th and will include the towns of Ashburnham, Westminster, Gardner, Phillipson, Templeton, and Winchendon. 288 students will have the opportunity to visit 18 programs.

Information: C. Enrollment/Withdrawal/New Entry Report/Waitlist and October 1 enrollment - In the packet for perusal.

4. Personnel

Information: A. Retirement

Information: B. Resignation

Noemi Robertson, Academic Assessment Specialist, has resigned after 14 years.
Austin Leary, Evening Custodian, has left after 9 months.

Information: C. Appointment

Gabriel Josephs, HVAC Instructor, South Deerfield, \$86,207.00
Jasmine Silvera-Garcia, Cafeteria Office Manager, Fitchburg, \$23.20/Hour
Cynthia Roy, Administrative Assistant, Gardner, \$47,365.00

5. Reports by Subcommittees

Action: A. Remove Policy KCD From Table

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE REMOVE POLICY KCD FROM TABLE FOR DISCUSSION.

Motion by Diane Swenson, second by Barbara Reynolds.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Donna Lafayette, Eric Commadore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeanne Bartlett, Jeffrey Raymond, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, William Brassard

Action, Information: B. Policy

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE APPROVE FOR A FIRST READING, KCD PUBLIC GIFTS TO THE SCHOOLS POLICY, AS PRESENTED.

Motion by Diane Swenson, second by Barbara Reynolds.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Donna Lafayette, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeanne Bartlett, Jeffrey Raymond, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, William Brassard

Action, Information: C. Policy 2

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE APPROVE THE PRACTICAL NURSING PROGRAM STUDENT HANDBOOK AS PRESENTED.

Motion by Diane Swenson, second by Barbara Reynolds.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Donna Lafayette, Eric Commodore, James Boone, Jeanne Bartlett, Jeffrey Raymond, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Peter Capone, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber

Nay: Eric Olson

Abstain: Michael Hurley, William Brassard

Information: D. Capital Improvements

Information: E. Workforce

Information: F. Student Advisory

Information: G. Financial Planning

6. Financial

Information: A. Financial Statements

Action, Discussion: B. Acceptance of FY23 Perkins Grant

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE FY 23 PERKINS GRANT FROM DESE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$282,382

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Donna Lafayette, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeanne Bartlett, Jeffrey Raymond, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, William Brassard

Action, Discussion: C. Acceptance of FY23 IDEA Grant

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE FY 23 IDEA GRANT FROM DESE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$396,114

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Donna Lafayette, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeanne Bartlett, Jeffrey Raymond, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, William Brassard

Action, Discussion: D. Acceptance of FY23 Title I Grant

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE FY 23 TITLE I FROM DESE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$254,283

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Donna Lafayette, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeanne Bartlett, Jeffrey Raymond, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, William Brassard

Action, Discussion: E. Acceptance of Skills Capital Grant for Lab Modernization

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE SKILLS CAPITAL GRANT FROM THE MASS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF FINANCE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,887,127 TO REPURPOSE AND REMODEL SPACE TO EXPAND VOCATIONAL ACCESS.

Motion by Jeffrey Raymond, second by James Boone.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Donna Lafayette, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeanne Bartlett, Jeffrey Raymond, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, William Brassard

Action, Discussion: F. Satellite Vocational Program Space Lease RFP

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ALLOW ADMINISTRATION IN COOPERATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL TO NEGOTIATE WITH 270 WESTMINSTER STREET LLC, FITCHBURG, MA. LEASE TERMS FOR A SATELLITE SPACE TO HOUSE FUTURE VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS. THE PROPOSED LEASE WILL BE BROUGHT TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE FOR APPROVAL AT NOVEMBER 9, 2022 MEETING.

Motion by Jeffrey Raymond, second by Diane Swenson.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Donna Lafayette, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeanne Bartlett, Jeffrey Raymond, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, William Brassard

Action, Discussion: G. Approval of Copier Lease

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE APPROVE THE 3-YEAR LEASE WITH XEROX IN AN ANNUAL AMOUNT OF \$20,649.96 FOR A TOTAL OF \$82,599.84 WITH A FMV BUY-OUT OPTION FOR 3 B9100 PRIMELINK COPIERS FOR BUILDING COPIERS.

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Donna Lafayette, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeanne Bartlett, Jeffrey Raymond, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, William Brassard

Action, Discussion: H. Approval of Copier Lease

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE APPROVE THE 3-YEAR LEASE WITH XEROX IN AN ANNUAL AMOUNT OF \$40,646.76 FOR A TOTAL OF \$121,940.28 WITH A FMV BUY-OUT OPTION FOR 2 VERSANT PRESSES (COPIERS) FOR GRAPHICS

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Barbara Reynolds.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Donna Lafayette, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeanne Bartlett, Jeffrey Raymond, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, William Brassard

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: A. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn

Motion by Peter Capone, second by William Brassard.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Diane Swenson, Donna Lafayette, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, James Boone, Jeanne Bartlett, Jeffrey Raymond, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Peter Capone, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, William Brassard

Meeting adjourned at 8:53 PM