

MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL
1050 WESTMINSTER STREET FITCHBURG, MA 01420
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 5, 2024

Members present

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

Members absent

Eric Commodore, Whitney Marshall, 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 MAY 1, 2024, AS PRESENTED.

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Olson, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Sara Dilg, Scott Carignan, Tamarah Estes, William Brassard

Not Present at Vote: Jada McConologue

2. Superintendent-Director's Report

Information: A. Superintendent-Director Update

- Superintendent Browne provided info on student achievement by the North Central MA Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, the Certified Veterinary Assisting exam, the Envirothon team, the LEO Club, and the STEP program.
- With 235 Juniors and Seniors out, nearly 35% of all eligible students have been placed. A huge thank you and congratulations goes out to Kim Curry, our Coop Coordinator.
- It was announced that this year's Mary H. Whitney Community Awards recipient was English teacher Kirsten Farias.
- MVP Academy Updates - Ongoing renovations continue with work being completed during the summer. On June 6th Monty Tech will host an MVP student orientation.
- As of this date MT has received budget approval from 12 communities.
- MT has applied for several grant support programs including:
 - Equity Workforce Training, Equipment and Infrastructure Grant, Strand A - \$1,200,000
 - CTE Partnership Implementation Grant, Fund Code 412 - \$1,023,380
 - FY25 Skills Capital Technology & Equipment Grant - \$500,000
 - FY25 Skills Capital Lab Modernization Grant - \$1,248,675

- Superintendent Browne provided an update on legislative proposals surrounding vocational admissions across the commonwealth.

3. Principal's Report

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

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

4. Personnel

Information: A. Retirement

Information: B. Resignation

Information: C. Appointment - Shannon Nowicki has moved from Human Resources Assistant to Assistant Business/Human Resources Manager, at a rate of \$38.72/hour.

5. Reports by Subcommittees

Action, Information: A. Policy - Diane Swenson Chair

MOVE THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE FOR A SECOND READING POLICIES FROM SECTION H - NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WILL UPDATE POLICIES HA (NEW POLICY), HB (UPDATED), AND HF (UPDATED) AND DELETE POLICIES HH, HMA, HBA, AND HC (WHICH ARE NOT NEEDED AS INCLUDED IN CONTRACTS, MGL).

Motion by Diane Swenson, second by Jeffrey Raymond.

Final Resolution: So Voted

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

Information: B. Capital Improvements - Diane Swenson Chair

Action, Information: C. Workforce - Eric Olson Chair

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTE THAT THE FULL COMMITTEE FOLLOW THE UNANIMOUS DECISION OF THE WORKFORCE SUBCOMMITTEE AND RATE THE SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR, THOMAS BROWNE, EXEMPLARY FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR.

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Barbara Reynolds.

Final Resolution: So Voted

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

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 - In the packet for perusal.

Information: B. Audit Report FY23 - In the packet for perusal

Action, Discussion: C. Line Item Transfers

MOVE THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE APPROVE THE LINE ITEM TRANSFERS AS PRESENTED

Motion by Eric Olson, second by William Brassard.

Final Resolution: So Voted

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

Action, Discussion: D. Award of Bid 270-3 Supply and Install 2 Exterior Vertical Wheelchair Platform Lifts

MOVE THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE AWARD BID #270-3 SUPPLY AND INSTALL 2 EXTERIOR VERTICAL WHEELCHAIR PLATFORM LIFTS TO GARAVENT, MANCHESTER, NH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$69,248.00. FUNDS TO COME FROM LAB MODERNIZATION GRANT

Motion by William Brassard, second by Tamarah Estes.

Final Resolution: So Voted

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

Action, Discussion: E. Award of Bid 2025-01 Drainage, Parking Lot Construction

MOVE THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE AWARD THE BID #2025-01 DRAINAGE, PARKING LOT CONSTRUCTION TO RJ DAVENPORT & SONS PAVING, WESTMINSTER, MA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$178,000.00. FUNDS TO COME FROM FY25 A/C 1720 EXTRAORDINARY MAINTENANCE (\$143,000), PARKING REVOLVING FUND (\$35,000).

Motion by William Brassard, second by Tamarah Estes.

Final Resolution: So Voted

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

Action, Information: F. Surplus Equipment

MOVE THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE CONSIDER THE ATTACHED LIST OF EQUIPMENT AS SURPLUS TO BE DISPOSED OF IN THE METHOD LISTED.

Motion by William Brassard, second by Eric Olson.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Sara Dilg, Scott Carignan, Tamarah Estes, 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. Executive Session

Action, Discussion: A. M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21, 2. TO CONDUCT STRATEGY SESSIONS IN PREPARATION FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH NONUNION PERSONNEL OR TO CONDUCT COLLECTIVE BARGAINING SESSIONS OR CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH NONUNION PERSONNEL

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER M.G.L. c. 30A, § 21, 2. TO CONDUCT STRATEGY SESSIONS IN PREPARATION FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH NONUNION PERSONNEL OR TO CONDUCT COLLECTIVE BARGAINING SESSIONS OR CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH NONUNION PERSONNEL

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Tamarah Estes.

Final Resolution: So Voted

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

Entered executive session at 8:07 PM

10. Return to Open Session at 8:34 PM

Action: A. Superintendent-Director Contract

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTE TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE WORKFORCE SUBCOMMITTEE TO UPDATE THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE AND THOMAS BROWNE, SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2029 AS PRESENTED.

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Christina Smith.

Final Resolution: So Voted

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

11. Closing Items

Action, Information: A. Adjournment

MOVE TO ADJOURN

Motion by Jeffrey Raymond, second by Tamarah Estes.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Barbara Reynolds, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, Jeffrey Raymond, 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 8:37 PM