

MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL
1050 WESTMINSTER STREET FITCHBURG, MA 01420
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 8, 2025

Members present

Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Scott Carignan, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Members absent

Barbara Reynolds, Jada McConologue, John Mollica, Ross Barber, Harvard VACANT

Officers of the School Committee present

Thomas Browne

School district personnel present

Dayana Carlson, Principal, Tammy Crockett, Business Manager, Donald Kitzmiller, Director of Technology, Victoria Zarozinski, Director of Student Services, Christie Favreau, Director of Academic Programs, Brian Williams, Director of Vocational Programs

Legal Counsel

Not present

Meeting called to order at 6:30 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, Information: E. Approval of Minutes

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTES TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 4, 2024, AS AMENDED.

Motion by Eric Commodore, second by Tamarah Estes.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Evelyn Bosworth, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Scott Carignan, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, William Brassard

Abstain: Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, Whitney Marshall

2. Superintendent-Director's Report

Information: A. Superintendent-Director Update

- Following the success of the first STEP program to provide workforce training to young adults with disabilities, a fall STEP Explore Program was offered to keep the momentum going. This 4-week model was graciously funded by CAPS Collaborative. However, Monty Tech and its partners were fully committed to reoffering this workforce training opportunity. Thus, Monty Tech immediately submitted a second Employment Program for Young Adults with Disabilities Grant with hope for continuing our success, and Monty Tech was notified by CommCorp that it was awarded \$132,900 to provide further training this spring. While we continue to partner with CAPS Collaborative, we will seek out additional community partners to help us identify potential participants for this program.
- On December 5th, Superintendent Browne met with the 26 members of the North Central MA Chamber of Commerce Community Leadership institute along with the Program Director of MyTurn and the President of Fitchburg State to discuss “Leadership in Education”.
- Following a hearing with the Atty. General’s office, Monty Tech was required to rewrite its RFP for the auto body booth installation to increase the likelihood that more companies could submit bids. The RFP is not reposted with filed sub bids due on January 23rd and general bids due on January 30th.
- Working closely with Andrea Corrado (PN Program Director), Donna Byron of Phillipston developed a committee with a goal of supporting PN students with financial gifts up to \$500. Initial disbursement was made on December 4th with the goal of distributing all awards prior to the holiday break.
- The effort to finish the renovations at MVP Academy is in high gear as individual spaces near completion. For example, the floors and painting are done in Electrical as their booths are being installed and equipment moved in. Once all Electricals' equipment is removed, we will begin the floor work and final painting in House Carpentry. Additional floors and FRP are being installed in the bathrooms. Exterior work includes a masonry pour for the already installed stair frames as well as roofs on both entrances. The final exterior project will result in the installation of the ADA lifts.
- While the MVP students continue to help with the renovations, a concern regarding the addition of the Plumbing program in the fall arose as the MVP Partnership was informed that we missed the application date. A report was submitted to DESE requesting an extension based on the fact that DESE did not properly update its website to notify prospective applicants of the start of the application process. The district is hopeful that DESE will reconsider the current determination to disallow an extension of the application process for the simple reason that preventing the establishment of the MVP Plumbing Program only has one effect which is the loss of workforce training for 40-44 students from Fitchburg, Gardner and Narragansett, many of whom are members of special populations. At this time, DESE plans to visit the MVP facility in order to assess if there are any potential road blocks to the launch of the program.

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

Action, Information: C. Program of Studies

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTE TO APPROVE THE PROGRAM OF STUDIES FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR AS SUBMITTED.

Motion by Eric Commodore, second by Diane Swenson.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Scott Carignan, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Information: D. Enrollment/Withdrawal/New Entry Report/Wait List– In the packet for perusal

4. Personnel

Information: A. Retirement

Tammy LaFalam, Principal's Administrative Assistant, will retire on June 30, 2025, after 16 years.

Information: B. Resignation

Patricia Woodliff, Director of Continuing Education, has resigned after nearly three years.

Wayne Lehman, Evening Custodian, has resigned after one year.

Rachael Law, a part-time Child Care Center Assistant Teacher, has resigned after four months.

Information: C. Appointment

Jacob Coleman, Clinton, hired as an Automotive Technology instructor at a salary of \$79,180 per year.

5. Reports by Subcommittees

Information: A. Policy 1 - Diane Swenson Chair

Information: B. Capital Improvements - Diane Swenson Chair

Information: C. Workforce - Eric Olson Chair

Information: D. Student Advisory - Vacant Chair

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

Information: F. Financial Planning - Eric Olson Chair

6. Financial

Information: A. Financial Statements

Action, Information: B. Acceptance of Donation

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE VOTES TO ACCEPT THE DONATION FROM GUY SANTOS FOR A TOOLBOX, STARRETT MICROMETER, AND TOOLS WITH AN APPROXIMATE VALUE OF \$2,000.00 FOR THE ADVANCED MANUFACTURING SHOP.

Motion by Eric Olson, second by William Brassard.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Scott Carignan, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Action, Information: C. Acceptance of Grant

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ACCEPT A WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM FOR YOUNG ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$132,900.00.

Motion by Eric Olson, second by William Brassard.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Scott Carignan, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, 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, Information: A. Adjournment

MOVE TO ADJOURN

Motion by Eric Olson, second by William Brassard.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Ashley Hadmack, Calvin Brooks, Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Evelyn Bosworth, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Scott Carignan, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 PM