

**MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL
1050 WESTMINSTER STREET FITCHBURG, MA 01420
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 4, 2024**

Members present

Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Members absent

Barbara Reynolds, Calvin Brooks, Jeffrey Raymond, John Columbus, Scott Carignan, Harvard VACANT, Royalston VACANT

Meeting called to order at 6:33 PM

1. Opening Items

Procedural: A. Call to Order

Procedural: B. Pledge of Allegiance

Information: C. Introduction of Guests and Visitors

All new faculty and staff were recognized.

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 AUGUST 7, 2024 AS PRESENTED.

Motion by Eric Olson, second by Diane Swenson.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Jada McConologue, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes

Abstain: Eric Olson, Robert Campbell, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

2. Superintendent-Director's Report

Information: A. Superintendent-Director Update

- The 2024-2025 school year opened on Monday August 26th with the return of faculty and staff. The faculty gathered for a presentation from Erin Gruwell, the subject of the film *The Freedom Writers*, who shared her experience of promoting tolerance in her classroom and meeting her students where they are at. Students returned to school on August 28th.
- Superintendent Browne updated the committee on renovations that have been done over the summer.
- The MVP Program will begin on September 9th. The MVP Program will work out of our existing shop. The MVP Carpentry Program will utilize an outdoor classroom under our new pavilion along with an adjacent tent.
- Monty Tech has been awarded the CTI Partnership Implementation Grant, Fund 412, with an adjusted amount of \$839,000.00. The funds will be applied to costs associated with Year 1 of MVP faculty and staff salaries.

- Monty Tech has been awarded the Equity Workforce Training, Equipment and Infrastructure Grant. The amount awarded is \$1,200,000. Funds will be applied to MVP costs including three years of the building lease.
- Congratulations to our PN Program which has received their confirmation of our reaccreditation with the Council of Occupational Education (COE).
- MAVA and Monty tech will be partnering with the Worcester Railers. On Jan. 17, 2025, the Railers will host their first Trades and Tech Night to honor CTE programs and schools.
- Superintendent Browne reviewed the District Improvement Plan for 2023-2026.
- Superintendent Browne reviewed his 2024-2025 goals.

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.

4. Personnel

Information: A. Retirement

Information: B. Resignation
Travis Babb, Math Instructor, has resigned after 16 years.
Lauryn Gleason, Science Instructor, has resigned after 8 years.

Information: C. Appointment

Carpentry Instructor, Christopher Dumas, Ashby, Column 6, Step 1, \$70,082
Science Instructor, David Boivin, Lunenburg, Column 4, Step 1, \$60,083
MVP Bilingual Instructional Assistant, Jenilet Chlebeczek, Winchendon, Column 1, Step 1, \$24.45/Hour
Part-Time Driver/Dish Room Worker, Efrain Matta, Fitchburg, Column 1, Step 1, \$20.36/Hour
Cafeteria Office Manager, Katia Tarríos, Athol, Column 1, Step 1, \$26.89/Hour
Part-time Day Care Instructor, Rachel Law, Westminster, \$18.21/Hour
Part-time Practical Nursing Instructor, Melissa Wilber, Athol, \$45.00/Hour

5. Reports by Subcommittees

Information: A. Policy - Diane Swenson Chair

Action, Information: B. Policy - Diane Swenson Chair
MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE APPROVE FOR A SECOND READING POLICY BE -
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Motion by Diane Swenson, second by Eric Olson.
Final Resolution: So Voted
Aye: Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Mollica,
Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones,
Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Information: C. Capital Improvements - Diane Swenson Chair

Information: D. Workforce - Eric Olson Chair

Information: E. Student Advisory - Melanie Weeks Chair

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

Dr. Tourigny re-worded the Monty Tech School Committee Graduation Gift Guidelines to read:

Presenter:

The school committee chairman or designee of the school committee will be the presenter.

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE FORM AN AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE FOR THE PURPOSE OF INVESTIGATING THE FEASIBILITY OF SPONSORING A DANCE TO BENEFIT THE NOOK AND THE STUDENT ASSISTANCE FUND

Motion by Ronald Tourigny, second by Michael Hurley.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Information: G. Financial Planning - Eric Olson Chair

6. Financial

Information: A. Financial Statements

Action, Information: B. Post-Secondary Perkins Grant

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE POST-SECONDARY PERKINS GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,004.00

Motion by William Brassard, second by Whitney Marshall.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Action, Information: C. Secondary Perkins Grant

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE SECONDARY PERKINS GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$312,607.00.

Motion by William Brassard, second by Shelly Jones.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Action, Information: D. The Career and Technical Education Partnership Grant

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE ACCEPT THE CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$838,980.00.

Motion by William Brassard, second by Shelly Jones.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

7. Communications

Information: A. Teacher's Information or Proposals

Information: B. School Committee Chairman Report

Action, Information: C. School Committee Information or Proposals

MOVE THAT THE DISTRICT COMMITTEE RETURN THE LINE ITEM TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE FUND AND FIND MORE APPROPRIATE SOURCES OF FUNDING FOR THE RECORDING OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

Motion by Robert Campbell, second by Ronald Tourigny.

Final Resolution: Motion Failed

Aye: Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber

Nay: Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

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 Tamarah Estes.

Final Resolution: So Voted

Aye: Christina Smith, Diane Swenson, Eric Commodore, Eric Olson, Jada McConologue, John Mollica, Melanie Weeks, Michael Hurley, Robert Campbell, Ronald Tourigny, Ross Barber, Shelly Jones, Tamarah Estes, Whitney Marshall, William Brassard

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM