

MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL
Monty Tech Drive, Fitchburg, MA 01420
Regular Meeting No. 130-651 – August 3, 2016

The Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School held regular meeting No. 130-651 on Wednesday, August 3, 2016 at 7 pm at the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School, Monty Tech Drive (off 1050 Westminster Street), Fitchburg, Massachusetts.

Members of the School Committee present:

Mrs. Barbara Reynolds	Lunenburg	
Mr. Ross Barber	Westminster	
Mr. Ronald Tourigny	Fitchburg	
Mr. Edward Simms	Petersham	
Mrs. Mary C. Barclay	Royalston	
Mr. James S. Boone	Gardner	
Mr. Peter B. Capone	Ashby	
Mr. Burton E. Gould, Jr.	Winchendon	
Ms. Claudia Holbert	Fitchburg	
Ms. Whitney Marshall	Barre	
Dr. Kenneth I. H. Williams	Sterling	
Mr. Eric Commodore	Gardner	
Mr. Eric Olson	Phillipston	
Mrs. Toni Phillips	Athol	
Mr. James M. Gilbert	Templeton	(arrived 7:10 pm)

Members of the School Committee absent:

Mr. James Cournoyer	Holden
Mr. John P. Mollica	Princeton
Ms. Melanie Weeks	Fitchburg
Mrs. Diane B. Swenson	Ashburnham
Mr. Brian Walker	Fitchburg
Mrs. Kathleen Airoidi	Hubbardston
No appointed representative	Harvard

Officers of the School Committee present:

Dr. Sheila M. Harrity	Superintendent-Director
Norman J. LeBlanc	District Treasurer

School District Personnel present:

Andrea Bell, Esq.	Stoneman, Chandler & Miller LLP
Tammy Crockett	Business/Human Resources Manager
Thomas Browne	Principal
James Hachey	Director of Vocational Programs
Christina Favreau	Director of Academic Programs
Victoria Zarozinski	Student Services, Special Education Director
Pamela Pothier	Director of Technology
Dayana Carlson	Assistant Principal
Christine Krause	Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent-Director
Chad Snyder	AV Technician
Terri Hillman	Recording Secretary

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CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Reynolds, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7 pm and welcomed everyone. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting – June 22, 2016

Prior to the approval of the minutes, Mr. Barber questioned the June 22, 2016 minutes and the sequence of when Mr. Mollica distributed a memo to School Committee members, Subject: Policy KCD: Public Gifts to Schools with his concerns relative to acceptance of gifts.

Mrs. Barclay moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 22, 2016, as presented.

Seconded by Mr. Boone.

Vote – so voted.

Mr. Capone, Mr. Commodore and Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Update of Summer Projects

Superintendent Harrity updated the Committee on the summer projects. The gymnasium is receiving many updates – floor, bleachers and a new curtain wall. The traffic lines in the School parking lot have been repainted and work is now being done on repairing the potholes.

Monty Tech Vet Tech Science Program Update

Superintendent Harrity gave a PowerPoint presentation updating the Monty Tech Veterinary Science Training Program as of August 3, 2016. For Phase 1, the total committed is now \$2,283,961. The projected cost of \$2,250,000 has been exceeded by \$33,961. Additionally, several funding requests are pending.

The total projected cost for Phase II for equipment, supplies and materials is \$502,797. Funds committed to date total \$506,293. and the goal has been exceeded by \$3,496. Several funding requests are pending.

Phase III, Staffing financial commitments, remain the same as previously reported.

Superintendent Harrity also reviewed the Program Planning Timeline from January 6, 2016 through anticipated construction in school year 2016-2017. The Westminster Planning Board and Zoning Board have approved the plans and the foundation plans have been submitted to the Building Commissioner.

The Groundbreaking Ceremony is scheduled for Friday, September 16, 2016 at 9 am.

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Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Harrity gave an update on her activities during July.

- Met with her new mentor, Joan Connolly.
- Attended the NASSP's transformational leadership gathering in Silver Springs, Maryland.
- Conducted a Monty Tech Administration retreat. The group developed a Professional Development Plan for the coming year and reviewed the present contract with the Teachers' Association in preparation for the upcoming negotiations with the Association.
- Participated in the New Skills for Youth State Grant Development.
- Attended the Governor's STEM Advisory Council Meeting.

Superintendent Harrity distributed copies of “The Degree Gap” a report on the Vision Project from the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education. Monty Tech is featured on page 30 - “College Readiness for All Students”. The article was written by Superintendent Harrity.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

2016-2017 School Year Activities

Principal Browne presented a listing of the activities for the school year from August through November 2016.

Class of 2016 Graduate Plans

A report on the Class of 2016 graduates' plans was presented:

- 230 post-secondary 67%
- 95 working 28%
- 12 military 3%
- 6 other 2%

Freshman Enrollment

Principal Browne presented a Freshman Admissions report as of July 25, 2016. There were 590 applications and 350 students have been accepted (182 male, 168 female). The quota is 360 students and 138 students are wait listed.

Approval of Faculty Guide for 2016-2017 School Year

Mrs. Barclay moved that the District Committee approve the Faculty Guide for the 2016-2017 School Year, as presented.

Seconded by Mr. Commodore.

Vote – so voted.

Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

REPORTS BY SUBCOMMITTEES

Financial Planning

Mr. Commodore, Chairperson, said the Subcommittee will try to meet before the September School Committee meeting.

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Policy

Mr. Gilbert, Chairperson, said that the Subcommittee met on June 28, 2016. The Subcommittee continued review and discussion of several policies. There is no report at this time. The Policy Subcommittee has scheduled a meeting for August 30, 2016.

Capital Improvements

Mr. Cournoyer, Chairperson, was not present this evening and there was no report.

Workforce

Mr. Walker, Chairperson, was not present this evening and there was no report.

Student Advisory

Mrs. Barclay, Chairperson, said that the next meeting of the Student Advisory Subcommittee with the students will be scheduled in October.

Technology (ad hoc)

Mr. Olson, Chairperson, said that the Subcommittee is scheduling a meeting on August 12, 2016 at 8 am.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Statements

The June Statements, the Statement of Accounts, and the Financial Statement for the Continuing Education Program were presented for perusal.

COMMUNICATIONS

Teachers Information or Proposals

Mr. Paul Cormier, President of the MRTA, spoke to the Committee about the budget cuts proposed for the vocational shops. The teachers are very concerned that the shops will not be able to operate with these figures. Superintendent Harrity said that efforts will be made to put funds back into the line items.

School Committee Chairperson's Report

Mrs. Reynolds, Chairperson, presented an updated School Committee Subcommittee listing for 2016-2017.

Mrs. Reynolds asked for a moment of remembrance for John Scott who passed away on July 4, 2016. Per his request, there was no memorial service. She read a wonderful resume of John's life. It was suggested that the School Committee do something to honor John perhaps establishing a scholarship in his name. It will be on the September Agenda for possible action.

School Committee Information or Proposals

Mrs. Barclay pledged \$200 to the School Committee Scholarship Fund.

Mr. Commodore and Mr. Capone reported on their trip with the MCJROTC students to the Senior Leadership Camp and the Cyber STEM Camp.

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Adjournment

Mr. Olson moved to adjourn.

Seconded by Mr. Capone.

Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

Vote – so voted.

The meeting adjourned at 8 pm.

Sheila M. Harrity
Superintendent-Director

T. Hillman, Recording Secretary