

MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL
Monty Tech Drive, Fitchburg, MA 01420
Regular Meeting No. 130-645 – March 2, 2016

The Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School held regular meeting No. 130-645 on Wednesday, March 2, 2016 at 7 pm at the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School, Monty Tech Drive (off 1050 Westminster Street) Fitchburg, Massachusetts.

The following members were present:

Mrs. Barbara Reynolds	Lunenburg
Mr. Ross Barber	Westminster
Mr. Ronald Tourigny	Fitchburg
Mr. James Cournoyer	Holden
Mr. John P. Mollica	Princeton
Ms. Melanie Weeks	Fitchburg
Mrs. Diane B. Swenson	Ashburnham
Mrs. Mary C. Barclay	Royalston
Mr. James S. Boone	Gardner
Mr. Peter B. Capone	Ashby
Mr. Burton E. Gould, Jr.	Winchendon
Mr. Brian Walker	Fitchburg
Ms. Claudia Holbert	Fitchburg
Mr. Eric Commodore	Gardner
Mr. Eric Olson	Phillipston
Mrs. Kathleen Airoidi	Hubbardston
Mrs. Toni Phillips	Athol
Mr. James M. Gilbert	Templeton

Members of the School Committee absent:

Mr. Edward Simms	Petersham
Dr. Kenneth I. H. Williams	Sterling
No appointed representative	Barre
No appointed representative	Harvard

Officers of the School Committee present:

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

Student Representative to the School Committee present:

Emily Repaal

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	Support Services, Special Education Director
Francine Duncan	Director of Technology
Richard Ikonen	Director of Facilities
Dayana Carlson	Assistant Principal
Christine Krause	Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent-Director
Noemi Robertson	Assessment Coordinator
Chad Snyder	AV Technician
Terri Hillman	Recording Secretary

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.

PUBLIC HEARING ON FISCAL YEAR 2017 BUDGET

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 71, Section 38N, notice of the public hearing on the fiscal year 2017 Budget was published in the Gardner News (2/22/16); the Sentinel & Enterprise, Fitchburg (2/19/16); and the Telegram & Gazette, Worcester (2/20/16). The meeting notice was emailed to all city/town clerks in the District for posting and was posted on the Monty Tech Website.

Copies of the Monty Tech Tentative Budget 2016-2017, Public Hearing, March 2, 2016, were distributed to those present and will be sent to all the cities and towns in the District.

Mrs. Tammy Crockett, Business Manager, presented a PowerPoint explaining the budget process, the Foundation Budget, net school spending, minimum contribution and gave an explanation of how a community's assessment is calculated. She presented individual information to all the city and town representatives regarding their assessments.

Mrs. Reynolds asked if there were any representatives from the cities and towns of the District present. Mr. Leroy Clark, Fitchburg, was present but did not speak.

School Committee members thanked Mrs. Crockett for the complete and informative presentation of the FY2016-2017 tentative Budget.

Mrs. Reynolds closed the Public Hearing at 7:55 pm.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS & VISITORS

Matt Sadowski, Deven Sour, and Moises Riveria, Boy Scouts, were introduced. They were attending the School Committee meeting to earn a merit badge.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting – February 3, 2016

Mrs. Swenson moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 3, 2016 as presented.

Seconded by Mr. Commodore.

Vote – so voted.

Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Approval of Out-of-State Field Trip for JROTC Students

Mr. Capone moved that the District Committee approve the overnight out-of-state field trip to Aston, PA, requested by JROTC to compete in the Region One Youth Physical Fitness Meet from March 18 through March 29, 2016.

Seconded by Mrs. Barclay.

Vote – so voted.

Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

Monty Tech Vet Tech Program Update

Superintendent Harrity gave a PowerPoint presentation updating the Monty Tech Vet Tech Program. Phase I is the design and construction costs and total projected cost is \$1,016,317 and as of March 2, 2016, \$817,201 has been committed for total support/program match.

Phase II is the equipment, supplies and materials needed for the project. Total projected cost is \$502,797 of which \$446,293 has been committed or is pending.

Total projected cost for Phase III, Staffing, is \$358,100 of which \$250,000 has been committed.

Report from the Designer Selection Committee

The Designer Selection Committee for the Vet Tech Project met on February 12, 2016 and a record of the meeting was presented for information. On February 17, 2016, the top three design firms were interviewed and Lamoureux Pagano Associates was chosen to enter into fee negotiations with the Superintendent-Director.

Approval of Designer Services Provider

Mrs. Swenson moved that the District Committee award the contract for the designer services for the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School Veterinary Science Training Program building, based on the recommendation of the Designer Services Selection Committee, to Lamoureux Pagano Associates for a fee of \$47,500 for pre-design/programming and design.

Seconded by Mrs. Barclay.

Vote – so voted.

Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Harrity presented a written report of her activities in February. She welcomed Mr. Tom Kingston, her coach, to the meeting.

- Technology: Conducted interviews for the next Technology Director. Met with Technology AdHoc committee working on the selection of the Chromebook device.
- National: Attended the District Administrator Leadership Institute (DALI) Superintendent's Summit in Scottsdale, Arizona. Monty Tech's Vet Tech Program will be featured in their national publication in March.
- District: The Sheriff's inmates crew painted the Plumbing Dept. Bert Jacob, "Life Is Good" founder, is scheduled to speak on March 4, 2016. Each student has received a Life Is Good tee shirt.
- State: The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) has asked Superintendent Harrity to serve on the NSFY State Team to steward the goals of the initiative to increase the number of students who are to compete for high-skill jobs. This is a grant opportunity for states.

- **Community:** Met with the WPI President to discuss school-education partnership, attended the Fitchburg Planning Meeting, attended the Worcester County Superintendent's meeting and met with a trustee of the Hanson Trust and received a donation of five \$1,000 scholarships and a \$2,000 donation to the Electrical Program.
- **Business:** Met with Edward Manzi, CEO Fidelity Bank, to develop school-business partnership. They are interested in taking students on co-op.
- **Career Readiness:** Attended the Program Advisory meeting. There are 50 new members. The meeting featured capital equipment purchases and shop upgrades made in the last five years.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Student Representative's Monthly Report

Emily Repaal, Student Representative, reported on the many student activities at the school:

- SkillsUSA District competition will be held on March 9 and approximately 173 Monty Tech students will participate.
- Daffodils for the Cancer Society's Daffodil Day will be available for pick up next week.
- The JROTC will have a formal military ball on Saturday.
- The Drama Club play was amazing.

Program of Studies

Mrs. Swenson moved that the District Committee approve the new Program of Studies for the 2016-2017 school year as submitted.

Seconded by Mrs. Barclay.

Vote – so voted.

Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

Enrollment Quota for the Class of 2020

Mrs. Swenson moved that the District Committee approve setting the enrollment quota for the Class of 2020 at 360 students and to authorize the Dean of Admissions to accept up to 375 students after June 1, 2016.

Seconded by Mrs. Barclay.

Vote – so voted.

Mr. Boone, Mr. Capone, Mr. Gould, and Mrs. Holbert voted no. Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

As requested, the Admission Policy will be on the Agenda for the April School Committee meeting.

Principal's Monthly Report

Principal Thomas Browne presented a written report on February events. He presented information on the Program Advisory Dinner held on February 10 and thanked everyone who organized the evening.

Capital Improvements

Mrs. Swenson, Chairperson, said that the Capital Improvements Subcommittee is scheduled to meet on March 18 and April 14, 2016.

Workforce

Mr. Walker, Chairperson, said that the Subcommittee would like to receive input from the members regarding the Superintendent's goals. He will send out an email reminder and the goals can be delivered to him at the April 6 School Committee meeting.

Student Advisory

Mrs. Barclay, Chairperson, said that the Student Advisory Subcommittee met on February 11, 2016. A final meeting will be scheduled in May. The students would like the language offerings expanded to a third year. Lunch is still an issue with cuts in line, but lockers are now available to the students in the morning. It was a very good meeting.

Technology (ad hoc)

Mr. Olson, Chairperson, said the Technology Subcommittee met on February 4, 2016. Discussion of the proposal to purchase the Chromebooks was main topic.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Statements

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Teachers Information or Proposals

No report this evening.

School Committee Chairperson's Report

Mrs. Reynolds thought it would be a good idea to let towns know of the Vet Tech Program.

School Committee Comments

Mr. Walker thanked all the members of the Financial Subcommittee for their work in preparing the Budget.

Mrs. Swenson suggested that a quick presentation on the Vet Tech Science Program be given at the city and town meetings when the Budget is presented.

Mr. Boone asked about a section on page 7 of the District Agreement and about the quota system for students.

Mrs. Weeks encouraged members to support the boys' basketball team.

Mr. Cournoyer spoke about all the cities and towns in the District allowing their 8th grade students to come to attend Monty Tech's Tour Days

Mr. Tourigny requested legal information from the Policy Subcommittee regarding the admission's policy.

Mrs. Phillips suggested an event to honor Dave Reid for his 43 years as Athletic Director.

Mrs. Holbert would like to see a video presentation of the Vet Tech Science Program especially showing what the program can provide for families who cannot afford medical care for their pets.

Adjournment

Mr. Gould moved to adjourn.

Seconded by Mr. Capone.

Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

Vote – so voted.

The meeting adjourned at 10 pm.

Sheila M. Harrity
Superintendent-Director

T. Hillman, Recording Secretary