

MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL
Monty Tech Drive, Fitchburg, MA 01420
Regular Meeting No. 130-649 – June 1, 2016

The Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School held regular meeting No. 130-649 on Wednesday, June 1, 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	(arrived at 7:15 pm)
Mr. John P. Mollica	Princeton	
Ms. Melanie Weeks	Fitchburg	
Mrs. Diane B. Swenson	Ashburnham	
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	
Mr. Brian Walker	Fitchburg	
Ms. Claudia Holbert	Fitchburg	
Ms. Whitney Marshall	Barre	
Dr. Kenneth I. H. Williams	Sterling	
Mr. Eric Olson	Phillipston	
Mrs. Kathleen Airoidi	Hubbardston	(left at 9:05 pm)
Mrs. Toni Phillips	Athol	
Mr. James M. Gilbert	Templeton	

Members of the School Committee absent:

Mr. Eric Commodore	Gardner
No appointed representative	Harvard

Officer of the School Committee present:

Dr. Sheila M. Harrity	Superintendent-Director
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Officer of the School Committee absent:

Norman J. LeBlanc	District Treasurer
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School District Personnel present:

Andrea Bell, Esq.	Stoneman, Chandler & Miller LLP
Tammy Crockett	Business/Human Resources Manager
Thomas Browne	Principal
Christina Favreau	Director of Academic Programs
Victoria Zarozinski	Student Services, Special Education Director
Pamela Pothier	Director of Technology
Richard Ikonen	Director of Facilities
Dayana Carlson	Assistant Principal
Christine Krause	Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent-Director
Jonathan Hurd	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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting – May 4, 2016

Mrs. Barclay moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 4, 2016, as presented.

Seconded by Mrs. Swenson.

Vote – so voted.

Mr. Olson and Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

Special Meeting – May 18, 2016

Mrs. Barclay moved to approve the minutes of the special meeting of May 18, 2016 with the following correction:

Page 2, “Mr. Cournoyer moved that the District Committee accept the recommendation of the Vet Tech Building Committee with regard to the site and floor plans as presented by Lamoureux Pagano & Associates.”

Seconded by Mr. Capone.

Vote – so voted.

Mrs. Reynolds and Mrs. Swenson abstained from voting.

SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Introduction of State SkillsUSA Award Winners

Ms. Anne Marie Cataldo, SkillsUSA Advisor, introduced the nine SkillsUSA winners at the state competition in Marlboro. They will be competing at Nationals in Louisville, Kentucky at the end of June. The students introduced themselves and thanked the School Committee for supporting SkillsUSA. She also introduced Brad Pelletier another Advisor.

Approval of Out-of-State Trip to Washington, DC for SSEP Experiment

Mrs. Barclay moved that the District Committee approve an overnight out-of-state trip for one student and one teacher to attend the NCESSSE SSEP National Conference in Washington, DC from June 28 through July 2, 2016 to present research findings for the SSEP experiment at a cost of \$3,552 (\$1,776 to be paid from Professional Development and \$1,776 to be paid from Student Activities).

Seconded by Mrs. Swenson.

Vote – so voted.

Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

Monty Tech Vet Tech Program Update

Superintendent Harrity gave a PowerPoint presentation updating the Monty Tech Veterinary Science Training Program as of June 1, 2016. To date, \$2,141,461 total support program match has been committed. The Crocker Foundation has recently committed a contribution of \$10,000.

Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grant has committed to \$5,000 and the Community Foundation of North Central MA has committed to \$25,000 to Phase II for a total of \$446,293. The amount now needed to fund Phase II: /Equipment, Supplies and Materials is \$26,504. *Pending approval of the unnamed donor from the Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts.

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 State Plumbing Board has approved the plans and a meeting with the Town of Westminster's Building Commissioner is scheduled for the week of June 6, 2016.

Mr. Gilbert suggested that a sign be put up at the tennis courts informing the public when the courts will be shut down due to the planned construction.

Superintendent's Update

Superintendent Harrity gave an update on her activities during May.

- Continued to meet with her coach, Tom Kingston, and also attended a full day training session.
- Has been asked to take part in the NASSP's (National Association of Secondary School Principals) research project on transformational leadership.
- The budget has been passed in 13 of our towns and cities.
- Met with department liaisons and plans to meet with all of the liaisons before the end of the school year.
- Met with the Board from Alden Trust to give a school overview and to discuss the Vet Tech Project.
- Presenter of awards for the Herter Scholarships at the State House.
- Presented to the Fitchburg Rotary Club.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Principal's Monthly Report

Principal Thomas Browne presented a written report on May events.

- The Annual Junior/Senior Prom took place on May 6 and 530 students attended supported by 23 faculty chaperons.
- Over 250 Juniors took part in a mock interview program.
- Approximately 150 Seniors received approximately 225 awards from a variety of community partners with almost \$99,000 in monetary and tool/equipment support. A list of the students and awards was presented.
- 343 Seniors participated in Monty Tech's 45th Graduation Exercise.

Mr. Browne presented a list of upcoming events for June and listed the Summer Programs.

Enrollment/Withdrawal/New Entry Report and Discipline/Attendance Report

The Enrollment/Withdrawal/New Entry Report from April 22, 2016 through May 20, 2016 and the Discipline Report for the month of April 2016 were presented for information. The attendance percentage for April was 94.2%.

PERSONNEL

Resignation

Ms. Kaylee Nobrega, Development Assistant, has submitted her letter of resignation effective June 17, 2016.

REPORTS BY SUBCOMMITTEES

Financial Planning

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

Policy

Mr. Gilbert moved that the District Committee vote to approve the second reading of Policy JLCB – Inoculations of Students.

Seconded by Mrs. Barclay.

Vote – so voted.

Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

Capital Improvements

Mrs. Swenson, Chairperson, said that the Capital Improvements Subcommittee did not meet in May. The focus of the Subcommittee will continue to be the Vet Tech Program.

Workforce

Brian Walker, Chairperson, gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Evaluation of the Superintendent-Director for school year 2015-2016. For the Overall Ranking, Superintendent Harrity received a rating of 93% Exemplary and 7% Proficient. Seven members of the School Committee did not respond to the evaluation.

Mrs. Phillips moved that the District Committee follow the recommendation of the Workforce Subcommittee and give the Superintendent-Director an overall rating of Exemplary for the 2015-2016 evaluation cycle.

Seconded by Mr. Gould.

Vote – so voted.

Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

Superintendent-Director's Goals 2016-2017

Mrs. Barclay moved that the District Committee follow the recommendation of the Workforce Subcommittee and adopt and accept the proposed goals as provided in the packet for the Superintendent-Director for the 2016-2017 school year.

Seconded by Mr. Gould.

Vote – so voted

Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

Student Advisory

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

Technology (ad hoc)

Mr. Olson, Chairperson, said that there was no report this evening.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Statements

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

Other

Ms. Crockett reminded members to turn in their travel expense report before June 30, 2016 (the end of the fiscal year).

COMMUNICATIONS

Teachers Information or Proposals

No comments this evening.

School Committee Chairperson's Report

Mrs. Reynolds, Chairperson, said she attended Awards Night and the Graduation Ceremony. Both events were well organized and she thanked Mr. Browne for all the arrangements. She attended the Fitchburg City Council meeting last evening and the Council passed the Monty Tech budget.

School Committee Information or Proposals

Mrs. Holbert suggested that the School Committee consider giving a scholarship at next year's Awards Night. She suggested monthly contributions from members to fund the scholarship.

Mr. Gilbert spoke about David Reid, Athletic Director. He was selected by the MIAA as Softball Coach of the Year. The Monty Tech softball team has won over 600 games in his 42 years of coaching.

Mr. Tourigny attended Graduation. He would like to have the topic of the Admissions Policy put back on the Agenda.

Mr. Mollica requested guidance as to accepting gifts and private donations for the vet tech program.

Mrs. Swenson encouraged School Committee members to attend the SkillsUSA National competition.

Mrs. Barclay commented on the great publication from the Sentinel & Enterprise for the 50th anniversary of Monty Tech.

Mr. Boone congratulated Superintendent Harrity on a great year.

Legal Matters – Executive Session

Mr. Walker moved to go into executive session under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30A, Section 21(a)(2) to conduct contract negotiation with non-union personnel (Superintendent-Director, Nurses, and Director of Student Services) and to return to open session to ratify any actions that may be taken in executive session. Seconded by Mr. Gould.

Roll Call Vote: Airoidi, yes; Barber, yes; Barclay, yes; Boone, yes; Capone, yes; Cournoyer, yes; Gilbert, yes; Gould, yes; Holbert, yes; Marshall, yes; Mollica, yes; Olson, yes; Phillips, yes; Reynolds, yes; Simms, yes; Swenson, yes; Tourigny, yes; Walker, yes; Weeks, yes; and Dr. Williams, yes. Count – 20 yes.

The Committee went into executive session at 8:27 pm.

The Committee returned to open session at 9:30 pm.

Mr. Walker moved that the District Committee vote to ratify the contract with the Director of Student Services as presented and voted in executive session.

Seconded by Mr. Gould. Vote – so voted.

Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

Mr. Walker moved that the District Committee vote to ratify the Professional Nurse Policy and Salary Schedule as presented and voted in executive session.

Seconded by Mr. Capone. Vote – so voted.

Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

Mr. Olson moved that the District Committee vote to ratify the summary changes made to the existing contract of the Superintendent-Director regarding salary and expenses as presented and voted in executive session.

Seconded by Mr. Gould. Vote – so voted.

Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

Adjournment

Mr. Gould moved to adjourn.

Seconded by Mr. Capone. Vote – so voted.

Mrs. Reynolds abstained from voting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Sheila M. Harrity
Superintendent-Director

T. Hillman, Recording Secretary