

## MINUTES

Minuteman School Building Committee Meeting

Monday September 30, 2013 5:00 PM Paul Revere Room Minuteman High School

Attendance: Ford Spalding, Chair; Jack Weis, Brian Solywoda, Frank Locker, Larry Trim, Tony Lionetta, Peter Sugar, Carmin Reiss, Franklin Cannon, Brendan Dutch, David Frizzell, Bill Blake, Dana Ham, Ed Bouquillon, Alice DeLuca, Ernie Houle, David Horton, Nancy Banks, MaryAnn Williams

### 1. Call to Order

Ford Spalding opened the meeting at 5:00 PM.

### 2. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of Monday, September 16, 2013 were approved unanimously.

### 3. Educational Plan Task Force Report

Jack Weis, Chair, Minuteman School Committee Subcommittee on Education Plan presented the subcommittees "draft" report to be presented to the School Committee for a vote on October 8, 2013.

- Jack Weis presented the EPP task force's findings.
  - Six school committee members worked on the proposal along with members of the administration.
  - Group met 5 times beginning in July.
  - Focused on the 6 factors used by Dr. Frank Locker based on the 6 indicators used by the Minuteman School District
    - Concluded they needed to focus on job outlook, wages, and student interest.
    - Used NESDEC information for a labor market analysis.
    - Took into account emerging technology, strategic partners, availability of other programs, gender balance, and program synergy but those categories were not critical.
  - Task force recommends eliminating Telecommunications, Marketing, and Barbering no matter what.
  - Recommends adding Dental Assisting, Criminal Justice, and Entertainment Engineering under an 800 student model.
  - Recommends the following changes under a 435 student model:
    - Retains Electrical, Metal Fabrication, Plumbing, Carpentry, Culinary Arts, Health Occupations, Early Childhood Education, Cosmetology, Design and Visual Communication, Programming and Web Development, Engineering Technology, Biotechnology, and Environmental Technology.

- Eliminates Automotive, HVAC, Robotics and Automation, and Horticulture.
- Ford opened the floor to questions.
  - Is 435 students a sufficient number to effectively offer 13 programs?
    - We have not done that analysis.
  - Is it possible that some of the new programs might be better suited to a 435 student school than the current programs that we plan to retain?
    - Building should be designed to have flexibility of space in case a program is not successful.
  - Why eliminate automotive if a student could graduate from that program and get a job which is not possible in other programs?
    - That was a difficult program to recommend for elimination because it has strong member town enrollment. However, the Task Force had to eliminate some programs under the 435 student model. The Task Force concluded that it was important to offer a balanced program mix across all four clusters, and that within the Construction Trades Cluster, it was important to preserve the synergy among the other four programs. In addition, most students need additional training after graduating from automotive which is why there are so many post-graduate programs.
  - How many students graduate and get jobs in the fields they train in?
    - We track them based on their intentions when they graduate and their status one year and five years out.
  - General anxiety was expressed about precluding future programs based on a current snapshot of data that might change in five years.
    - It is possible that automotive could be considered just as high tech as biotechnology in the future.
    - We could build in the flexibility to make some shops bigger than strictly necessary so they could theoretically become a high bay shop in the future.
  - We shouldn't necessarily plan based on gender considerations since fewer girls may stick to traditionally feminine shops in the future.
  - Confusion as to what entertainment engineering actually is.
    - It is the technical side of entertainment production.
- Most important consideration is that the space be flexible.

### 3. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted by:

Brian Solywoda  
Kastle Boos Associates