



GREATER LOWELL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

May 16, 2024 – 6:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Sheehan called the meeting to order at 6:29 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members

Present: Mr. Gitschier, Mr. Morin, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Hogan, Mr. LeMay, Mr. Sheehan

Members Absent: Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou

Also

Present: Jill Davis, Superintendent-Director
Tracy Encarnacao, Director of School Counseling Services
Recording Secretary

PUBLIC APPEARANCE

There was no public appearance.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

There were no School Committee communications

REPORT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Chairman Sheehan informed the members that the Student Representative was unable to be in attendance and the report has been provided.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: by Mr. Gitschier, seconded by Mr. Morin to approve the minutes from the meeting of April 11, 2024.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 6 Yes, 2 Absent (Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou)

REPORT OF DISTRICT TREASURER

MOTION: by Mr. Morin, seconded by Mr. Richardson to waive the reading of the warrant.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 6 Yes, 2 Absent (Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou)

MOTION: by Mr. Gitschier, seconded by Mr. LeMay to approve expenditures for the sum of \$6,059,722.24 allocated as follows:

| | | | |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Warrant 2030B | dated 04/19/2024 | Payroll # 951 | 1,358,492.00 |
| Warrant 2131A | dated 05/03/2024 | Payroll # 953 | 1,164,846.56 |
| Warrant 2131B | dated 05/17/2024 | Payroll # 955 | 1,337,923.06 |
| Warrant 2130-1 | dated 04/26/2024 | Accounts Payable | 550,027.83 |
| Warrant 2131 | dated 05/10/2024 | Accounts Payable | 868,473.70 |
| Warrant 2130-6 | dated 04/16/2024 | HR Refund | 2,939.45 |
| Warrant 2131-3 | dated 05/10/2024 | Sales Use/Meals Tax (Apr-24) | 2,583.33 |
| Warrant 2131-4 | dated 05/10/2024 | Mass Bay Health (May-24) | \$766,017.35 |
| Warrant 2130-4 | dated 04/26/2024 | Lowell Five Cr Card Fees (Mar-24) | 5,652.45 |
| Warrant 2131-5 | dated 05/10/2024 | Lowell Five Cr Card Fees (Apr-24) | 2,766.29 |

ROLL CALL VOTE: 5 Yes, 3 Absent (Mr. Bahou, Mr. LeMay, Mr. Nocco)

REPORT OF GENERAL COUNSEL

There was no report of general counsel.

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR

Superintendent Davis informed the committee that the first item on her agenda was to present and recognize the Top Ten students of the Class of 2024. She extended her congratulations to all of these students for demonstrating academic and technical excellence, as well as for their families for their partnership and providing the support necessary. Ms. Davis provided individual biographies, including highlights and accomplishments, of each student.

Top Ten Students of the Class of 2024:

| | |
|--|--|
| Valedictorian – Alexander Mandeville | 6 th Ranked – Alyssa An |
| Salutatorian – Paige Matte | 7 th Ranked – Tala Bridgeland |
| 3 rd Ranked – Wennkeang Khov | 8 th Ranked – Riona Reis |
| 4 th Ranked – Amalie Morgan-Tomyl | 9 th Ranked – Vunnak Sok |
| 5 th Ranked – Sam Holmberg | 10 th Ranked – Angelie Choup |

Superintendent Davis informed the committee that Greater Lowell Technical High School has been awarded several grants. The first is the Career Technical Initiative Round 9 Grant in the amount of \$480,000. Funds will be used for training and placement of a total of sixty (60) adults in Electrical, Welding, and Carpentry to begin in June, 2024. Ms. Davis provided an update, sharing that recent notification increased the amount of the award, adding an additional \$160,000 to include Plumbing training and placement for twenty (20) adults.

Superintendent Davis informed the committee that Greater Lowell Technical High School has been awarded a \$20,000 grant to support CNC/Manufacturing programs from the Gene Haas Foundation. Ms. Davis added that up to \$2,500 of these funds may be used toward sponsorship of a competition highlighting these areas, such as SkillsUSA.

Superintendent Davis informed the committee that Greater Lowell Technical High School has been awarded a FAFSA Completion grant in the amount of \$13,380 to help improve the 2024-2025 FAFSA completion rates of high school seniors who reside in Gateway cities.

Superintendent Davis informed the committee that Cooperative Education report provided indicates 238 senior students, which is 43% of the class of 2024 and 113 junior students, which is 20% of the class of 2025. Ms. Davis added that, after speaking with the Director of Cooperative Education, Ms. Bezanson, those numbers have increased to 22% of the Junior students out on co-op.

Superintendent Davis asked for the committee's approval to offer senior students the ability to purchase the Chromebooks they are currently using for a dollar. Ms. Davis noted that this is something we have offered over the last few years to our senior students, as the version of Chromebooks they have will no longer be supported by Google next school year. She added that as a matter of maintaining a safe network, we would not support these on our network.

MOTION: by Mr. Gitschier, seconded by Mr. LeMay to approve to offer the sale of the Chromebooks to seniors for one dollar (\$1).

ROLL CALL VOTE: 6 Yes, 2 Absent (Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou)

Superintendent Davis informed the committee that she would be seeking their approval of the 2024-2025 school calendar. She added a copy of the proposed calendar was included in the package for their review and with no questions asked, requested approval.

MOTION: by Mr. Morin, seconded by Mr. Gitschier to approve the 2024-2025 School Calendar.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 6 Yes, 2 Absent (Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou)

Superintendent Davis informed the committee that she would be seeking their approval on four (4) separate out-of-state travels before asking for separate approvals. The first request was for SkillsUSA National Leadership & Skills Conference in Atlanta, GA from June 24th – 29th. Ms. Davis informed the committee that as a result of the state conference, there would be eleven students and five advisors attending. She added that the breakdown of the cost was provided in their packets and includes all flight, registration, meals, and expenses before asking for their approval of a total of \$37,135.

MOTION: by Mr. Morin, seconded by Mr. Gitschier to approve the out-of-state travel request to attend the National Leadership & Skills Conference in Atlanta, GA from June 24th through 29th.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 6 Yes, 2 Absent (Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou)

Superintendent Davis continued with the second out-of-state request which was for the Outdoor Track Nationals in Eugene, OR from June 12th-14th. Senior student Dennis (DJ) Mowatt will be competing and two coaches will be chaperoning. Ms. Davis added that the breakdown of the cost was provided in

their packet and included flight, hotel, meals. Superintendent Davis asked for their approval of a total of \$7,846.70.

MOTION: by Mr. Gitschier, seconded by Mr. Richardson to approve the out-of-state travel request to attend the Track & Field Nationals in Eugene, OR from June 12th through 15th.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 6 Yes, 2 Absent (Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou)

Superintendent Davis informed the committee that the third out-of-state travel request was for the Edge of Leadership Training in Brattleboro, VT from July 30th through August 1st. Ms. Davis introduced student Michael Morgan who spoke regarding the training and provided details with his own personal experience in being a prior participant, as well as recommending this experience to more students this year. Ms. Davis added that the breakdown of the cost was provided in their packet and Mr. Vercellone, Dean of Students, added that all meals, lodging, & training for three days were included for a total of \$14,300 before asking for the committee's approval.

MOTION: by Mr. Gitschier, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve the out-of-state travel request to attend the High Five Edge of Leadership Training in Brattleboro, VT from July 30th through August 1st.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 6 Yes, 2 Absent (Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou)

Superintendent Davis informed the committee that the last out-of-state travel request was for Automotive Instructor William Schrimpf to attend the Propane Autogas Vehicle Inspection Training. Ms. Davis included that as a result of a \$7,500 training grant Mr. Schrimpf was awarded, all expenses would be covered through this grant, with the exception of flight and meal allowance. She noted information was included with the complete breakdown in the committee's packets before requesting approval of a total of \$585.

MOTION: by Mr. Hogan, seconded by Mr. Morin to approve the out-of-state travel request for William Schrimpf to attend the Propane Autogas Training in North Carolina from June 4th through 6th.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 6 Yes, 2 Absent (Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou)

Superintendent Davis asked for the committee's approval, due to the absence of the Assistant Superintendent/Principal, to table the approval of the proposed Athletic Handbook, Policies on Head Injuries and Concussions in Extracurricular Athletics Handbook and the School Improvement Plan until the June meeting.

MOTION: by Mr. Hogan, seconded by Mr. Gitschier to table agenda items #9, #10, & #11 until the June school committee meeting.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 6 Yes, 2 Absent (Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou)

REPORT OF BUSINESS MANAGER

There was no report of the Business Manager.

OLD BUSINESS

Outstanding Items from Previous Meetings

1. Superintendent's Wall (O'Hare)
2. Building Security (Sheehan)

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

COMMITTEEPERSON MOTION

There were no committeeperson motions.

REPORT OF SUB-COMMITTEES

There was no report of sub-committees.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Sheehan requested a motion to enter into two (2) executive sessions, the first is pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body and the chair so declares for the following groups: Maintenance, Security, Paraprofessionals, Administrators, and Cluster Chairpersons. The second is pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 21(a)(2) to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel – Assistant Principal.

MOTION: by Mr. Morin, seconded by Mr. Gitschier to enter into executive session.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 6 Yes, 2 Absent (Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou)

Chairman Sheehan announced there may be a potential vote on ratification discussed during executive session; therefore, the committee would be returning to open session.

The meeting ended to go into Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. with 6 present (2 absent, Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou).

The meeting reconvened at 7:59 p.m. with a roll call vote of 6 present (2 absent, Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou).

MOTION: by Mr. Hogan, seconded by Mr. Richardson to approve the three-year contract for the Administrators from July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 5 Yes, 1 Abstain (Mr. Gitschier),
2 Absent (Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou)

MOTION: by Mr. Gitschier, seconded by Mr. Hogan to approve the three-year contract for the Assistant Principal (Santiago) as proposed from July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 6 Yes, 2 Absent (Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou)

Chairman Sheehan stated, with no objection, he would like to take the next three contracts (Maintenance, Security, Paraeducator Organization) and move into one motion for approval.

MOTION: by Mr. Hogan, seconded by Mr. Richardson to approve the three-year contract for Maintenance, Security, and Paraeducators Organization from July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 6 Yes, 2 Absent (Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou)

MOTION: by Mr. Morin, seconded by Mr. Gitschier to approve the three-year contract for the Cluster Chairpersons Association from July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2027.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 5 Yes, 1 Abstain (Mr. LeMay),
2 Absent (Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou)

ADJOURN

MOTION: by Mr. Morin, seconded by Mr. Hogan to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 6 Yes, 2 Absent (Mr. Nocco, Mr. Bahou)

Respectfully submitted,



Colette Edmonds
Recording Secretary

Meeting Documents:

Meeting Notice

Agenda

Minutes for Approval: April 11, 2024

Copy of Career Technical Initiative Round 9 Grant Award Letter

Copy of Gene Haas Foundation Grant Award Notification
Copy of FAFSA Completion Grant Award Letter
April 2024 Cooperation Education Report
Copy of Expired Chromebook Disposal Memorandum
Copy of Proposed 2024-2025 School Calendar
Copy of Out-of-State Travel
Copy of Proposed 2024-2025 Athletic Handbook
Copy of Proposed 2024-2025 Policies on Head Injuries & Concussions in Extracurricular Athletics Handbook
Copy of Proposed 2024-2025 School Improvement Plan
Year-to-Date Budget Report