



## GREATER LOWELL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

### SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

September 21, 2023 – 6:30 P.M.

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gitschier called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. and announced that the meeting was being recorded.

#### ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mr. Sheehan, Mr. Bahou, Mr. Morin, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Hogan, Mr. Gitschier

Members Absent: Mr. Nocco, Mr. LeMay (absent at roll call, arrived @ 6:50 p.m.)

Also

Present: Jill Davis, Superintendent-Director  
Michael Knight, School Business Administrator  
David Bradley, District Treasurer  
Michael Maccaro, Legal Counsel  
Sharon Cornellier, SkillsUSA Advisor  
Ron Vercellone, Dean of Students  
Recording Secretary

#### PUBLIC APPEARANCE

There was no public appearance.

#### SCHOOL COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

There were no School Committee communications.

#### REPORT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Chairman Gitschier noted there was no student report tonight.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: by Mr. Hogan, seconded by Mr. Sheehan to approve the minutes from the meeting of August 31, 2023.

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

## **REPORT OF DISTRICT TREASURER**

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

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

**MOTION:** by Mr. Sheehan, seconded by Mr. Richardson to approve expenditures for the sum of \$3,753,058.66 allocated as follows:

Warrant 2123A	dated 09/08/2023	Payroll #919	1,180,367.97
Warrant 2123M	dated 09/06/2023	Payroll #2123M	9,130.50
Warrant 2123B	dated 09/22/2023	Payroll #921	1,307,337.12
Warrant 2123-1	dated 09/15/2023	Accounts Payable	1,216,241.27
Warrant 2123-6	dated 09/20/2023	Accounts Payable (special)	35,650.00
Warrant 2123-4	dated 09/15/2023	Lowell Five Credit Card Fees	4,331.80

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

## **REPORT OF GENERAL COUNSEL**

Chairman Gitschier announce that legal counsel was present and would be speaking to the committee in executive session.

## **REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR**

Superintendent Davis began by asking SkillsUSA Lead Advisor – Sharon Cornellier, to join the committee at the table to introduce and formally recognize our SkillsUSA National Competitors and medal winners. Ms. Cornellier began by thanking the everyone for invitation to celebrate the SkillsUSA National Champions. She provided the members with a brief overview of SkillsUSA, noting them as the largest student organization in the country, as well as the only organization that provides opportunities for students in all career and technical education clusters.

Ms. Cornellier continued by announcing that this past June, eleven (11) Greater Lowell Technical High School students and 5 instructors traveled to Atlanta, Georgia for the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference. Greater Lowell claimed one (1) national medal and two (2) national awards for our chapter's programs and activities. In addition, all six (6) of our technical competitors were top 10 finishers and achieved Skill Point Certification, an industry credential that represents the highpoint of achievement in demonstrating proficiency and workplace readiness.

Technical competitors:

- Finishing 10th in the Nation and earning SkillPoint Certification in Robotics Urban Search and Rescue, the team of Riley McCafferty and Nichollas Morais. Riley is currently a Senior in Engineering from Dracut and Nick is a Junior in Engineering from Lowell.
- Finishing 8th in the Nation and earning SkillPoint Certification in Employment Application Process/Portfolio, Jasmine Sanchez. Jasmine is currently a senior in Marketing Education from Dracut.

- Finishing 4th in the Nation and earning SkillPoint Certification in 3D Visualization and Animation, the team of Michael Reynolds and Angelina Lekhang. Mikey and Angie are currently seniors in Information Technology Services, and both reside in Lowell.
- Gold Medalist in Principles of Engineering Technology with SkillPoint Certification, Mamady Camara. Mamady is currently a senior in Engineering from Lowell.

In addition, for the 8th consecutive year, Greater Lowell was selected as a National Model of Excellence and a Gold-level Chapter of Distinction. Representatives included Giovanna Masson, a senior in Information Technology from Lowell, and Amalie Morgan-Tomyl, a senior in Health Assisting from Dracut, who had the opportunity to present our program to the national committee and were featured in the Models of Excellence booklet.

Greater Lowell also served in a leadership capacity at the National event, with three students serving on the National Congress as National Voting Delegates. Ms. Cornellier recognized Laura Barden, a junior in Medical Assisting, from Dracut; Thomas Marshall, a junior in Health Assisting from Dracut, who has been elected to serve as this year's MA State Secretary, and, unable to attend, current-graduate, Elizabeth Hughes, also from Dracut, who represented our school and our state in her role as MA State Vice President.

Ms. Cornellier summed her presentation by recognizing the staff who joined the trip to Atlanta, co-advisors, Bradley Taylor and Jacob Espinola, and instructors Steven King and Andrea Maley Roy, as well as thanking the School Committee and administration for their support.

Superintendent Davis informed the committee members that, next on her agenda, she would like to introduce and formally recognize seven (7) of the High 5 Student Leaders who were able to join us at the meeting, along with High 5 Facilitator and Dean of Students - Ron Vercellone.

Students who spoke in order of appearance included: Anna DiBona, Rebeca Garcia, Raymond Ouillette, Jr., Ahnary Tes, Tyler Phath Cano, and Logan Briggs.

The students each shared their thoughts and involvement as part of the High 5 Program in which they attended this summer. Students individually spoke about the personal impact the program had, as well as the skills they've acquired and have used moving forward in becoming leaders. Mr. Vercellone presented a brief slide show highlighting a few of the experiences the students participated in, as well as slides showing the student leaders who helped facilitate activities during the leadership retreat. Mr. Vercellone also presented a recorded message from student Ava Ziagos who was unable to be present during the meeting but submitted a video she created in order to include her thoughts and feelings as well.

Superintendent Davis extended her gratitude to Mr. Vercellone and the student leaders with for all that they've done with the leadership skills they've acquired with participating in the program before presenting the students with certificates of appreciation.

Superintendent Davis informed the committee that that Greater Lowell was awarded a Career Technical Initiative Round 8 Grant Award in the amount of \$160,000. She added the funds would be used for training and placement of ten (10) adults in Auto Collision and ten (10) adults in Machine Tech to begin in January, 2024.

Superintendent Davis informed the committee that she was seeking their approval to accept a donation of a 2005 Chevrolet Express 3500 from the Jeanne D'Arc Credit Union. This extended length cargo van has a current value of \$6,000 and will be used in the Automotive programs for service and maintenance procedures.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Hogan, seconded by Mr. Richardson to accept the vehicle donation.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** 7 Yes, 1 Absent (Mr. Nocco)

Superintendent Davis informed the Committee that she was seeking their approval regarding the out-of-state travel request to send the Director of Practical Nursing Programs – Christine Messina, to the annual Council on Occupational Education meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on November 14<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Davis noted that the PD workshop is a requirement of the Adult Post-Secondary upcoming accreditation and must be completed 6-18 months prior to the on-site visit scheduled for November 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Chairman Gitschier asked the members if there were any questions before asking for a motion for approval.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Morin, seconded by Mr. Sheehan to approve the out-of-state travel for the Director of Practical Nursing Programs – Christine Messina.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** 7 Yes, 1 Absent (Mr. Nocco)

## **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)

Committeeman Bahou made a request to change the previously approved October School Committee date from October 19<sup>th</sup> to October 18<sup>th</sup> due to another unforeseen commitment. Without any objections, the members present agreed to change the October School Committee meeting to the 18<sup>th</sup>.

## **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 Gitschier requested a motion to enter into executive session 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 – Greater Lowell Regional Teachers Organization and Greater Lowell Regional Vocational Technical School District - MUP-21-8535.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Bahou, seconded by Mr. Sheehan to enter into executive session.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** 7 Yes, 1 Absent (Mr. Nocco)

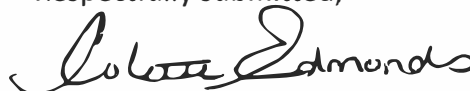
Mr. Gitschier noted there would be no vote needed as a result of the executive session; therefore, he asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

## **ADJOURN**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Sheehan, seconded by Mr. Morin to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** 7 Yes, 1 Absent (Mr. Nocco)

Respectfully submitted,



Colette Edmonds

Recording Secretary

### **Meeting Documents:**

Meeting Notice

Agenda

Minutes for Approval: August 31, 2023

Copy of Career Technical Initiative Round 8 Grant Award Letter

Copy of Jeanne D'Arc Donation Letter

Copy of Out-of-State Travel Information