

# GREATER LOWELL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

## SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

December 16, 2021 – 6:30 P.M.

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Giggey called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and announced that the meeting was being recorded.

Chairman Giggey stated in accordance with 940 CMR 29.10 (remote participation) adopted by the Greater Lowell Technical School Committee April 17, 2014, Committeeman O'Hare and Committeeman Sheehan will be participating at tonight's meeting remotely.

### ROLL CALL

Members

Present: Mr. O'Hare, Mr. LeMay, Mr. Sheehan, Mr. Gitschier, Mr. Tatseos, Mr. Morin, Mr. Giggey

Members Absent: Mr. Bahou

Also

Present: Jill Davis, Superintendent-Director  
Michael Barton, Assistant Superintendent/Principal  
Michael Knight, School Business Administrator  
Lisa Martinez, Director of Technology, Enrollment and Information  
David Bradley, District Treasurer (remote)  
Recording Secretary

### PUBLIC APPEARANCE

There was no public appearance.

### SCHOOL COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

There were no School Committee communications

### REPORT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Student Representative Thomas Sperounis provided an update of recently held clubs and sporting events.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** by Mr. LeMay, seconded by Mr. Gitschier to approve the minutes from the meeting of November 18, 2021.

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

## **REPORT OF DISTRICT TREASURER**

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

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

**MOTION:** by Mr. Tatseos, seconded by Mr. LeMay to approve expenditures for the sum of \$4,138,579.30 allocated as follows:

Warrant 2102-A	dated 12/03/21	Payroll #827	1,082,821.74
Warrant 2102-B	dated 12/17/21	Payroll #829	1,225,752.70
Warrant 2101-1	dated 11/24/21	Accounts Payable	362,888.80
Warrant 2102	dated 12/10/21	Accounts Payable	709,296.40
Warrant 2102-2	dated 12/10/21	Mass Bay Health	755,420.52
Warrant 2102-3	dated 12/10/21	Lowell Five Credit Card Fees	2,251.84
Warrant 2102-4	dated 12/10/21	Dotcom Communications	147.30

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

## **REPORT OF GENERAL COUNSEL**

There was no report of general counsel.

## **REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR**

Superintendent Davis began by informing the committee that she would be seeking their approval for two separate donations. The first is a donation to the Automotive Technology Department of a 2001 BMW 530i from Mr. & Mrs. Greenland of Acton with an estimated value of \$2,500. This vehicle will be used for educational purposes until it is no longer viable.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Tatseos, seconded by Mr. LeMay to accept the donation of a 2001 BMW 530i.

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

Superintendent Davis continued with the second donation, also to the Automotive Technology Department, from Mr. Steve Lytle from Advanced Auto Parts of Dracut. The estimated value of these items is over \$3,000 and would be used for educational purposes to help with demonstration and operation within the shop & related class areas.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Tatseos, seconded by Mr. Morin to accept the donation of a tools and parts from Advanced Auto Parts.

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

Superintendent Davis informed the committee that the number of senior students participating in cooperative education employment opportunities reported as of November 30<sup>th</sup> has increased from 149 senior students to 160 senior students as of the night of the meeting, which represents approximately 33% of the class of 2022. Ms. Davis noted that, through the hard work of the Director of Cooperative Education – Ms. Bezanson, new partnerships are developing with TARK in Billerica, Lowell Community Health Center, Suffolk Construction and UMASS Lowell Facilities.

Superintendent Davis provided an update on the General Health and Safety Practices and Protocols. She informed the committee that due to the new variant, the mask mandate could be extended beyond January 15, 2022. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education would be providing an update in early January.

Ms. Davis asked the Mr. Michael Barton, the Assistant Superintendent/Principal to present the changes to the Student Handbook, Athletic Handbook, and the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan, noting that each of these would require approval following.

Mr. Barton informed the committee members that the changes consisted only of language additions based on an upcoming mid-cycle review which focused on civil rights and special education policies. He noted that the recommendations came from the Department of Education in terms of our policy in regards to civil rights and special education. Assistant Superintendent/Principal Barton reviewed the revisions for each area, which included updates to the school's philosophy, notice of non-discrimination, bullying definitions, reporting bullying/harassment, disciplinary measures with regards to students with disabilities, restraint of students, suspension, appeals to suspension, procedural requirements applied to students not yet determined to be eligible for special education, complaints of harassment or discrimination grievance procedure, and appendix G.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Morin, seconded by Mr. Tatseos to approve the revised 2021-2022 Student Handbook

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

Mr. Barton continued on to the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan, as well as the Athletic Handbook and noted the changes made were the same as discussed earlier for the Student Handbook with regards to the notice of non-discrimination so that they would be consistent in all our documents.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Gitschier, seconded by Mr. LeMay to approve the revised 2021-2022 Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan

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

**MOTION:** by Mr. Gitschier, seconded by Mr. Tatseos to approve the revised 2021-2022 Athletic Handbook

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

Ms. Davis informed the committee that she would be seeking their approval of the revised Admissions Policy and asked Ms. Lisa Martinez, the Director of Technology, Enrollment and Information to present the changes and answer any questions.

Ms. Martinez informed the committee that the overall format, including the headings and language, has changed and been added to reflect the DESE model template from the new chapter 74 CVTE equitable student access guidelines. She noted that much of our current admission policy content and language is now merged into this new policy. Ms. Martinez presented a detailed breakdown of each section, reviewing all changes in each specific area with a question and answer period.

Upon reaching the language changes pertaining to the Selection Process, Ms. Martinez noted these changes to be the most significant to our current policy. After presenting the revisions, discussion amongst the members pertaining to the language changes regarding suspensions and/or expulsions was held, noting their concerns and if the revisions could be changed or altered. Ms. Martinez responded, because the revisions are based on the new regulations, they could not.

Ms. Martinez continued to present the changes of the remaining areas and upon completion, asked if there were any further questions.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Morin, seconded by Mr. Gitschier to approve the revised Admissions Policy.

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

## **REPORT OF BUSINESS MANAGER**

Mr. Knight informed the committee that he would be seeking their approval for disposal a 1996 Ford F250 truck formerly used by the Maintenance department. The truck had not been used in recent years, as a new truck had been purchased. He also included the condition of the truck would require numerous repairs to be usable.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Gitschier, seconded by Mr. Tatseos to declare the 1996 Ford F250 truck as surplus, offering the vehicle first to the Automotive Department for educational purposes and if of no use to them, discard following the property disposal policy.

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

Mr. Knight informed the committee that he would be seeking their approval for disposal a three (3) medical beds from the Health Assisting program that are no longer functioning. He included repair attempts had been made without success and replacements beds are being ordered.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Morin, seconded by Mr. Tatseos to declare the three (3) medical beds as surplus and discard following the property disposal policy.

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

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Outstanding Items from Previous Meetings**

1. Policy Sub-Committee and the Superintendent develop a District Wellness Policy for the school that may include the distribution of condoms to students. (Boutin)
2. Athletic Hall of Fame (O'Hare)
3. Superintendent's Wall (O'Hare)
4. Superintendent examine feasibility regarding card swipe security for each employee and associated cost to implement same. (Giggey)
5. Superintendent research the probability of adding modular classrooms to the campus to develop comprehensive academic programs at Greater Lowell Technical High School.

## **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 Giggey 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 – Administrators.

**MOTION:** by Mr. Tatseos, seconded by Mr. LeMay to enter into executive session.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** 6 Yes, 1 Absent (Mr. Bahou), 1 Abstain (Mr. Gitschier)

Mr. Giggey noted there would no votes needed in open session after Executive Session.

**ADJOURN**

**MOTION:** by Mr. Gitschier, seconded by Mr. Morin to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** 8 Yes

Respectfully submitted,

  
Colette Edmonds  
Recording Secretary

**Meeting Documents:**

Meeting Notice

Agenda

Minutes for Approval:

November 18, 2021

Copy of Donation Letters

November 2021 Cooperation Education Report

Copy of Revised Student Handbook

Copy of Revised Athletic Handbook

Copy of Revised Bullying Prevention & Intervention Plan

Copy of Revised Admissions Policy

Memo from Mr. Knight regarding Truck/Medical Beds Surplus

Year-to-Date Budget Report