

GLTS

Greater Lawrence Technical School

DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES MEETING #1730

The Regional District Committee met in a regular meeting on September 25, 2018 at 6:00 PM at Greater Lawrence Technical School, 57 River Road, Andover, MA 01810.

Members Present:

Leo Lamontagne	Lawrence	Chairperson
Marilyn Fitzgerald	Andover	Vice Chairperson
Gary Mannion	Lawrence	Assistant Treasurer
Russell Bourassa	Methuen	
Barbara Grondine	Methuen	
Stephany Infante	Lawrence	
Frank Rossi	North Andover	

Others Present:

John N. Lavoie	Superintendent-Director
Maria Silva	School Business Administrator
Gerry DiStefano	Treasurer
Susan Lally	District Recorder

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lamontagne called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM with a pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence. He asked members to remember those who protect us around the world.

2. NEW ADMINISTRATORS

Supt. Lavoie introduced Denise Zahn, Human Resource Director and Ryan Brown, Assistant Principal

3. MINUTES

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to approve the minutes of September 11, 2018.

2ND: Mr. Rossi

VOTE: unanimous

#17588

4. FINANCE REPORT

a.) Cash Balance Report

Mr. DiStefano read the report into the record.

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to approve the Cash Balance Report as presented.

2ND: Mr. Rossi

VOTE: Unanimous

#17589

b.) Consolidated Cash Reconciliation Report

No Discussion

c.) Revolving Fund Report

No Discussion

d.) Budget Report

No Discussion

e.) Final Revenue/Final Budget Member Assessment FY2019

Supt. Lavoie reported that there was a change of our revenue from the state. It has increased from the original number because of the new chapter 74 formulas and the way they calculate our EL Students.

MOTION: Mr. Mannion moved to approve FY2019 Member Assessments as presented

2ND: Ms. Infante

VOTE: Unanimous

#17590

f.) FY2020 Budget Timeline

No Discussion

g.) STEAM Financial Report

Supt. Lavoie discussed the STEAM expenses. He reviewed the handout which was the comparison of Biotech, Engineering, Horticulture and STEAM expenses. Supt. Lavoie reported that some of the STEAM funds come from grants.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

a.) Parent Letter

Chairman Lamontagne reported the school received a thank you letter from a parent.

b.) Articles

Chairman Lamontagne reported the following articles about GLTS that were recently in the press:

- Richard "Dickie" Williams –Class of 1975 (GLTS news)

c.) Public Participation

None

6. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR

a.) Columbia Gas Crisis Update

Supt. Lavoie reported that at 5:00 on Thursday he received a call regarding the Columbia Gas outage. The response and reactions of the administrators and staff were exceptional. They followed procedures and protocols. A plan was put in place right away. The fire alarm was pulled to get students and staff out of the building. The fire department came and turned off our gas. Mr. Lavoie set up command centers in the front and back of the school. Supt. Lavoie reported that communications were sent quickly to parents. There were approximately 250 students at the school and the traffic in front of school made it difficult for students to be picked up. Supt. Lavoie was in touch with the command center in Lawrence and Superintendent Dr. Brandi Kwong of Methuen, who opened up the Timony School for our students to be transferred to so parents, could pick them up. A police escort and three buses were sent over to move our students to the Methuen location. The Mayor, City Council and Dr. Kwong were there to greet them with food and drinks. A thank you letter, a signed football and roses were given to Superintendent Kwong to show our appreciation. Supt. Lavoie wanted to thank Ms. Infante for helping out at the command center and taking care of our students. He wanted to thank Ms. Freedman for her calm and very impressive manor during the crisis and Ms. Bennett who worked at the Lawrence Senior Center where she took donations and helped in any way she could. There was no school on Friday and Monday. The school was open on Monday, for students who needed a place to go and adjust to the situation. Everyone was very supportive and Supt. Lavoie wanted to thank all that helped out. One committee member was at the school at the time of the incident and wanted to give credit to all the administrators and teachers who had not left yet for the day. It was horrifying to the kids and she was so thankful for all the adults that were here to help. She commented on how the parent letter said it all. The swim team donated blankets and the level of care was unbelievable. Supt. Lavoie reported that the last student left at 11:00 and teachers stayed until that last student left.

b.) Athletic Field Project Update

Supt. Lavoie reported they started bulldozing at the site for Phase II of the Field Project. He met with three organizations this week that want to lease our fields and the bids came in stronger than he anticipated. Supt. Lavoie met with the Undersecretary of Finance to finalize the million dollars that GLTS will receive. He stated that even though it has been approved, the Secretary of Finance has to review it first before we receive the funds. The Undersecretary is in favor and as soon as it is reviewed, it will be allocated to us. One member took a ride up to the site and asked if we have the money to continue. Supt. Lavoie reported that the money from the three million dollar bond is being used, and the bond will be paid back over time. Any money up front does not get taken from the bond. We also received a \$10,000 dollar donation last week.

c.) Facilities Summer Projects Update

Supt. Lavoie reported the new space for the discipline office is almost complete. The plumbing department is still working on the plumbing for the bathroom. The STEAM labs are about 90 percent done. One lab is all moved in and the second lab is waiting for a few smaller items. We will have an open house when completed. The Graphic's move is about 98 percent complete with a few electrical issues. The closet next to the Business Manager's office is not complete. Everything is close to being finished. One member was concerned about the lighting in the pool and if the lights could at least be changed. Supt. Lavoie reported that the fixtures are on order and should be in soon and completed by November. One member stated that the STEAM open house should not be close to our regular open house if we are going to have two.

d.) Health Insurance Update

Supt. Lavoie reported he met with the Insurance Advisory Committee to look at ideas of how we can find an alternative solution to the low funds. He also met with our insurance broker who met with our Insurance Advisory Committee. Next meeting is scheduled for October 9, 2018 to discuss any other possibilities. The committee will meet month to month and will not make any changes right now. We will wait for the Insurance Advisory Committee to come back with recommendations that the teachers feel comfortable with. Also we are looking at a consortium to join.

e.) Out of State Travel

Supt. Lavoie is requesting out of state travel for Christopher Waterworth, Machine Technology Teacher to attend HAAS New England Regional HTEC Conference at Nashua Community College in Nashua, NH on November 2, 2018.

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to approve the out of state travel

2ND: Ms. Infante

VOTE: Unanimous

#17591

7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

8. OLD BUSINESS

a.) District Committee Priorities

b.) Policy

c.) Admissions

One member asked about the 192 students that are on the wait list that is reported on the Admissions Report. Supt. Lavoie reported that as of October 1st he can take in about eight more students into the Horticulture Shop but needs to look at the Academics to make sure we maintain a balance between the academic classes and the vocational shops.

9. NEW BUSINESS

10. PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS/REPORT

a.) Resignations

- Helen Sullivan, Math Teacher, effective October 5, 2018

b.) Leaves of Absence

c.) Retirements

d.) Appointments

e.) Job Postings

- Feb/March MCAS Retest Tutors, up to two tutors each for ELA, Math and Biology, effective January-March, 2019 (annual positions)
- Spring MCAS Tutors, up to two tutors each for ELA and Biology and up to three tutors for Math, effective Jan-March, 2019 (annual positions)
- WIDA Professional Development Instructors, up to two instructors for WIDA professional development workshop for GLTS faculty, effective Oct.-Nov, 2018 (annual positions)

- LTS English Teacher, effective December 10, 2018 – April 12, 2019 (replacement position to cover LOA)
- Reggies on the Move Instructor, effective immediately (annual position)
- Greater Lawrence Technical School/Merrimack Valley Performing Arts Manager, effective September – June, 2018, after school stipend position from Facilities Rentals Account (new position-job description attached)
- Math Instructor, effective school year 2018-2019 (replacement)
- Physics Teacher, effective school year 2018-2019 (replacement)

MOTION: Mr. Rossi moved to approve the job postings as presented.

2ND: Ms. Fitzgerald

VOTE: Unanimous

#17592

Discussion: One member inquired about the new Performing Arts Manager position. Supt. Lavoie stated it is an opportunity for the kids to participate in theater. He wants to bring more arts programs to our school. One member asked if we had someone in the school for this position. Supt. Lavoie says there is a person that is outside of our school that is interested and has strong relationships with the community arts organizations.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to enter into executive session at this time for contract discussions.

2ND: Ms. Infante

VOTE:

Roll Called by District Recorder

Mr. Bourassa	Yes
Ms. Fitzgerald	Yes
Ms. Grondine	Yes
Ms. Infante	Yes
Mr. Mannion	Yes
Mr. Rossi	Yes
Mr. Lamontagne	Yes

#17593

ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

ENTER OPEN SESSION

13. ADJOURNMENT at 8:00PM.

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to adjourn.

2ND: Ms. Infante

VOTE: Unanimous

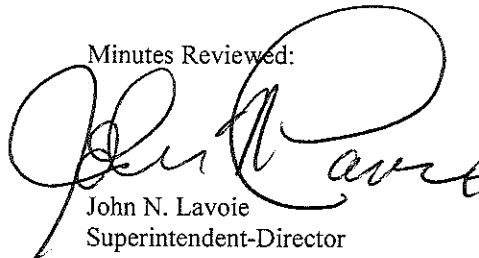
#17596

Respectfully Submitted:



Susan Lally
District Recorder

Minutes Reviewed:



John N. Lavoie
Superintendent-Director