

# GLTS

Greater Lawrence Technical School

**DISTRICT COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
MEETING #1739  
JANUARY 22, 2019**

The Regional District Committee met in a regular meeting on January 22, 2019 at 6:00 PM at Greater Lawrence Technical School, 57 River Road, Andover, MA 01810.

<b><u>Members Present:</u></b>	Leo Lamontagne	Lawrence	Chairperson
	Marilyn Fitzgerald	Andover	Vice Chairperson
	Gary Mannion	Lawrence	Assistant Treasurer
	Russell Bourassa	Methuen	
	Barbara Grondine	Methuen	

<b><u>Members Absent:</u></b>	Stephany Infante	Lawrence
	Frank Rossi	North Andover

<b><u>Others Present:</u></b>	John N. Lavoie	Superintendent-Director
	Maria Silva	School Business Administrator
	Gerry DiStefano	Treasurer
	Susan Lally	District Recorder

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Lamontagne called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with a pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence. He asked members to remember those who protect us around the world

### 2. MINUTES

**MOTION:** Ms. Fitzgerald moved to approve the minutes of January 8, 2019.

**2<sup>ND</sup>:** Mr. Bourassa

**VOTE:** Unanimous

#17673

### 3. 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.

**2<sup>ND</sup>:** Mr. Mannion

**VOTE:** Unanimous

#17674

**Discussion:** One member asked about the special education testing numbers. Ms. Silva stated that we only have outside consultants this year and not in house because we had a hard time finding someone. One member suggested that the student's names should be removed from the report.

b.) *Consolidated Cash Reconciliation Report*  
No Discussion

c.) *Revolving Fund Report*  
No Discussion

d.) *Budget Report*  
No Discussion

e.) *Re-vote on the loan for MLC-Municipal Leasing Consultants: \$529,168.00.*  
Supt. Lavoie reported that in October, 2018, the District Committee voted on MLC to lend us \$529,168.00 for the lighting project. Since then the rates have increased to 3.97 percent and our attorneys wanted a new vote to reflect the rate increase.

**MOTION:** Ms. Fitzgerald moved to approve MLC loan.

**2<sup>ND</sup>:** Mr. Mannion

**VOTE:** Unanimous

#17675

#### 4. COMMUNICATIONS

a.) *Donations*

- Peerless Boiler, donated by Gary & Diane Kudalis of Merrimack, NH

b.) *Articles*

- Athletes of the Month: Eric Pechinsky – Swim  
Christine Wahlgren – Track  
Braden Moesta - Wrestling

c.) *Public Participation*

No Discussion

d.) *Substitute rate*

Supt. Lavoie requested permission to increase the substitute rates ten dollars.

Supt. Lavoie reported that we are having a hard time getting substitutes. By increasing the rates it will encourage more to come to GLTS.

**MOTION:** Mr. Mannion moved to adjust substitute rates by ten dollars.

**2<sup>ND</sup>:** Mr. Bourassa

**VOTE:**

Roll Called by District Recorder

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

#17676

Discussion: One member requested if we knew how much was spent on substitutes last year. Ms. Silva stated that we spent \$97,000.

#### 5. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR

a.) *Budget Process Update for 2019-2020*

Supt. Lavoie reported that they are still in the process of meeting with all the directors. When this is complete they will go over the budget to make final adjustments. The government numbers will be out tomorrow.

b.) *Capital Skills Grant Proposal*

Supt. Lavoie reported that he asked Ms. Bennett to come and speak to the District Committee on behalf of our

grants. Ms. Bennett puts in for grants and makes sure we are meeting the demands of the industry. It is very successful and has a positive impact on our programs. Ms. Bennett reported that we received a \$500,000 grant for the purchase of equipment for Metal Fabrication and STEAM. Additionally, we received one last week from the governor for \$125,000 for the purchase of equipment for Healthcare. Ms. Bennett reported the next round of skills capital grants came out again and we are partnering with Northern Essex Community College to receive equipment for Automation Technician and Robotics. They wrote the first grant so we are partnering with them to make the proposal stronger. One member asked if the \$125,000 was for some of the equipment that was asked for at the Advisory Board Meeting. Ms. Bennett reported that it was.

*c.) Report of Lawrence Partners Program Completion*

Ms. Bennett reported that she participated in the Lawrence Leads Program sponsored by Lawrence Partners and it was incredible and thanked the District Committee for allowing her to be part of it. It is made up of thirty Lawrence Lead members from non-profits, corporations, healthcare and education. They met in Lawrence and at the Harvard Business School. It started last summer and through their work they identified areas of focus including workforce development, opioid task force, small business development and revitalization of downtown Lawrence. Ms. Bennett serves on the work force development and opioid team. One member thanked Ms. Bennett for her work with this program. Supt. Lavoie reported that through this program we have built new relationships with community leaders and businesses that have already have an impact. Companies and businesses understand why it is so important for us to work with them. It helps drive our programs in the right direction and have someone we can communicate with for support such as financial or legislative support.

*d.) Summer Connecting Activities Proposal through Masshire*

Ms. Bennett reported that she and Supt. Lavoie were looking for ways to expand the Lawrence High School Program to provide more access for students in our district. They met with Masshire which is the new name for WIB who has money through a Connecting Activities Grant. It is a work to learn program and provides training in the summer combined with paid work experience. Some of the areas are IT, Advanced Manufacturing and Construction. Supt. Lavoie reported that there are other programs that our school does not offer such as Pipe Fitting and Auto Cad Programs. They can earn up to 1,000 hours over three years in the summer which can be put towards their licenses. Supt. Lavoie reported he met with the licensing board, Mr. Charles Borstel to get this approved. WIB would fund the jobs and the students would work three hours and go to school for five hours. We are also looking at private grants and advocates working for vocational education. One member asked if any vocational schools offer the Pipefitting Program. This program is usually offered in the evening but we have a piece of pipefitting in our plumbing and HVAC curriculum. We will work with the unions and state to get more training to add to their existing licenses. It will provide more opportunities for our own students and our community students. It will allow them to go on coop the beginning of their senior year instead of the end. We spoke with the secretary of labor who loved the concept and will work with the Capital Skills Committee at the governor's level to help with the funding.

*e.) February Calendar of Activities*

No Discussion

*f.) Merrimack College Lease Agreement*

**MOTION:** Ms. Fitzgerald moved to table this until the final agreement is presented.

**2<sup>ND</sup>:** Mr. Mannion

**VOTE:** Unanimous

#17677

Discussion: One member reported that the contract refers to GLTS instead of the Superintendent or designee throughout the contract. Supt. Lavoie stated that he will talk with our attorneys to get that changed. One member asked for clarification regarding the use of the field by Merrimack College and GLTS. Supt. Lavoie reported that in September, they will build the schedule around GLTS's schedule and we will always take precedent. Supt. Lavoie reported that Merrimack College wants a fifteen year contract because of their investment. They are moving their entire program to GLTS and have other investments such as the scoreboard, backstop and the material cost for the dugout. One member feels it is going to cost more than fifty thousand dollars a year to maintain. Supt. Lavoie reported that the contract for fifteen years is one million dollars and it is the cost for the baseball field only. It is not for the entire facility. Merrimack College will be practicing on off hours and playing in their games only.

*g.) Field Project Update*

Supt. Lavoie reported they stopped work for now because of the weather conditions. They are still further along than predicted and should be one month ahead of schedule.

*h.) Admissions Update and Policy*

Supt. Lavoie reported that the admission policy change was highlighted. The amount of time to appeal a decision went from fifteen days to thirty. Also, the letter sent out to parents was also included for the District Committee to review. A student can appeal to the Guidance Director if their attendance, grades and discipline changes. If denied, the student can still appeal to the principal. One member would like the letter to be a little more detailed or include the policy with the letter.

**MOTION:** Ms. Fitzgerald moved to table the admissions update and policy

**2<sup>ND</sup>:** Mr. Mannion

**VOTE:** Unanimous

#17678

*i.) Business Technology Closing Discussion*

No Discussion

**6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**7. OLD BUSINESS**

*a.) District Committee Priorities*

*b.) Policy*

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

**9. PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS/REPORT**

*a.) Resignations*

*b.) Leaves of Absence*

*c.) Retirements*

*d.) Appointments*

*e.) Job Postings*

- Art Club Facilitator, stipend position, effective immediately, new position
- Director of Special Education, MAPSA contract, effective SY 2019-2020, replacement position.

**MOTION:** Ms. Fitzgerald moved to approve the job postings as presented.

**2<sup>ND</sup>:** Mr. Mannion

**VOTE:** Unanimous

#17679

**10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Ms. Silva reported that she will be giving the District Committee a budget transfer in the amount of three million dollars at our next District Committee meeting. The reason for the transfer is because the Department of Education had us change our function code to align with the EPIMS Report. Ms. Gioia handles the report for the FTE teachers, administration and staff. Ms. Silva stated she handles the report for the financial. Ms. Silva reported that she had to create new accounts and had to switch people out of their old account and put them into a new account. That is the reason for the large transfer.

**11. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION:** Ms. Fitzgerald moved to enter Open session at this time.

**2<sup>ND</sup>:** Mr. Bourassa

Roll Called by District Recorder

Mr. Bourassa                      Yes

Ms. Fitzgerald                    Yes

Ms. Grondine                      Yes

Ms. Infante	Absent
Mr. Mannion	Yes
Mr. Rossi	Absent
Mr. Lamontagne	Yes

**12. ADJOURNMENT** at 8:30 PM.

**MOTION:** Ms. Fitzgerald moved to adjourn.

**2<sup>ND</sup>:** Mr. Bourassa

**VOTE:** Unanimous

#17682

Respectfully Submitted:



Susan Lally  
District Recorder

Minutes Reviewed:



John N. Lavoie  
Superintendent-Director