

GLTS

Greater Lawrence Technical School

**DISTRICT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MEETING #1741
FEBRUARY 5, 2019**

Members Present: Leo Lamontagne Lawrence Chairperson
Marilyn Fitzgerald Andover Vice Chairperson
Garry Mannion Lawrence Assistant Treasurer
Russell Bourassa Methuen
Barbara Grondine Methuen
Stephany Infante Lawrence

Members Absent: Frank Rossi North Andover

Others Present: John N. Lavoie Superintendent-Director
Denise Zahn HR Director
Susan Lally District Recorder

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. EXCEPTIONAL REGGIE

Supt. Lavoie presented a certificate to Alexia Courtea for her outstanding contributions to the GLTS community.

3. MINUTES

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to approve the minutes of January 22, 2019.

2ND: Ms. Infante

VOTE: Unanimous

#17686

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: Ms. Infante

VOTE: Unanimous

#17687

b.) Consolidated Cash Reconciliation Report

No Discussion

c.) Revolving Fund Report

No Discussion

d.) Budget Report

No Discussion

e.) Budget Transfer

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to approve the budget transfer.

2ND: Mr. Mannion

VOTE: Unanimous

#17688

Discussion: One member stated although she understands why we have a large budget transfer, one million dollars of the transfer was not mandated. She would like to see us do a better job next year with predicting. She asked if the electrical, carpentry and plumbing supplies included in the transfer were for our school or for the educational part of each shop. Ms. Silva reported that it was for maintenance of our school. Supt. Lavoie reported that this was from our summer projects and beyond summer projects that were not built into the budget and was done in-house causing money to be transferred into our maintenance account.

MOTION: Mr. Mannion moved to adjust the agenda at this time to go into Executive Session.

2ND: Ms. Fitzgerald

VOTE:

Roll Called by District Recorder

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

#17689

ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

ENTER OPEN SESSION

5. COMMUNICATIONS

a.) Donations

b.) Articles

c.) Public Participation

Mr. Andy Powell, Field Representative for the American Federation for teachers was the public participant tonight. He served as a firefighter in Dracut for twenty three years before becoming the field representative. He reported that there are supporters here tonight that represent every position and that they are all here to work collaboratively with the administration on solving health care issues while protecting their benefits in an affordable way. He was asked to speak tonight on behalf of the unions and union leadership about what the administration is contemplating on adopting a law. Since 2003, he has been negotiating public sector and retiree's health insurance. At the beginning of the year, the district had to invoke a twenty percent increase in our premium to help sustain the affordability of benefits to all the employees and retirees in the district. After that was in place, the unions heard that this may not be enough to sustain the benefits so they wanted to sit down with the administration in a collaborative way to negotiate health care. The idea from the union was to engage in section 19, coalition bargaining which is a model that promotes a collaborative cooperative approach while working together as a group to solve the issue around health care. He has been working with section 19 since 2003 throughout the Commonwealth and finds it a very successful way to bring everyone together in negotiating health care. He reported to the Committee and administration that they are fully committed to the process to find a reasonable solution that protects benefits and takes into consideration the affordability of maintaining health insurance benefits to the district and employees. He asks the District Committee to respectfully delay the vote to adopt Section 32B, sections 21-23 tonight so that the unions and the administration can continue to negotiate.

6. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR

a.) *State Reporting on Student Information System*

Supt. Lavoie asked Ms. Isobel Gioia, Administrative Student Information Specialist to come and give the Committee a presentation on all our states reporting and student information systems. Ms. Gioia reported on the following reports to DESE: SIMS (Student Information Management System) is the student level data collection system and is reported three times a year. The SCS (Student Course Schedule) is the student course schedule data collection and is reported two times a year. The EPIMS (Education Personnel Information Management System) is the educator demographic and work assignment information and is reported at the end of the year. The SDDR (School Safety Discipline Report) reports and tracks all student offenses and disciplines. This includes all incidents involving drug, violent, or criminal-related offenses on school property and all disciplines that result in a suspension or removal for the student offender. This is reported at the end of the year. The McKinney-Vento (Homeless Students) reports homeless and foster care that has been identified by Guidance. For homeless students, we are asked to identify dwelling arrangement (sheltered, doubled-up, hotel/motel) and unaccompanied youth. The CRDC (Civil Rights Data Collection) reports data on key education and civil rights including student enrollment and educational programs and service, disaggregated by race/ethnicity, sex, limited English proficiency and disability.

One member asked if we get funding for homeless students based on the information that we provide. Ms. Gioia stated that we do not because our homeless students are very low compared to students in the area. Ms. Silva stated that we do get transportation funding for homeless students. Supt. Lavoie asked Ms. Gioia to clarify what it means to be certified. Ms. Gioia stated to be certified, all the reports must be submitted by the due date and must be accurate. If they are not then the end of the year reports could be off.

b.) *Freshman Shop Placement*

Supt. Lavoie reported that Ms. Gioia will explain how the process of selecting shops and how this year was one of our most successful years. Ms. Gioia reported that there was a change in the placement formula. In prior years we pulled in academics and we also had a bumping affect. The formula changed this year after doing research on what would work best to have more students placed in their first choice shops. We got rid of academics and took the average of every shop and gave it a grade which is worth forty percent. Their first choice shop is worth thirty percent, their second choice is worth twenty percent and third choice is worth ten percent. Students were placed into their shops by their overall average and there was no bumping. All first choices were placed into a shop before any second or third choices. We had eighty two percent get into their first choice shops this year. This was the highest percent in the past four years. One member stated that a tenth of our students are still not getting into their shops and it hasn't moved in the past few years. He asked what are we doing to help place them and are they sticking with it when placed. Ms. Gioia stated that there is a waitlist that is created for second or third choice and is maintained by our guidance counselors. Last year we had a good retention rate. One member stated that we are a vocational school and our objective is to put them in a shop in which the student wants. Supt. Lavoie stated that we changed the size in some shops in order to get more first choice students. Another strategy is that the student will work close with their guidance counselor to help them to pick the shop that is best for them and help them understand their choices. We have also looked at the demographics and performance of students, such as special education student or EL students to see if this has an impact. There will always be some students that will not get into the shops they want. One member asked if we are considering putting Business Technology back as an exploratory shop. Supt. Lavoie reported that this was the first year it was not included and he and the staff are looking at this for the following year. He does not want to make any decisions until they meet. One member asked about the thirty eight students that did not get into their first, second or third choice. The guidance counselors had the students rank the five shops that were available and their overall rank is how they were placed. One member asked Supt. Lavoie and Principal Freedman about STEAM and what is going to be done with this shop because the enrollment is still low. Supt. Lavoie reported that he and Principal Freedman are meeting on how to strengthen these shops with low enrollment and come up with a strategy to provide to the Committee with what direction we should go.

c.) *School Calendar (Draft)*

No Discussion

d.) Lighting Project Resolution

Supt. Lavoie updated the Committee on the Lighting Project. The contract was stalled as a result of our attorneys not feeling comfortable with signing off on the contract. The leasing company is making all the changes that were requested. Once the changes have been made the attorneys will sign off on it and we can get back on track with this project. We hope to start on February vacation and finalize it during April vacation. The company doing the work has been very patient and understanding.

e.) Update on Nashoba Energy Sale

Supt. Lavoie reported that we have a fifteen year contract with Nashoba to sell some of our energy from our solar farm. We are receiving a monthly check from them on the agreed upon price. We are benefiting in terms of making financial strengths in our budgets. The money we are making is going back into our energy line item. We feel comfortable that this is a positive outcome of the fifteen year deal. We pay a certain amount and sell it at a higher rate which in bringing in a profit. Once the lighting project is done, we should have more energy to sell and another school is looking into buying our energy.

f.) Admissions Policy and Letter

Supt. Lavoie asked to table Admissions Policy and Letter.

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to table Admissions Policy and Letter

2ND: Ms. Infante

VOTE: Unanimous

#17691

g.) Adoption of M.G.L. 32B, Sections 21-23

Supt. Lavoie asked the District Committee along with conversations with our insurance brokers to vote on adopting M.G.L. 32B, sections 21-23. He reported that it would move the process along but he is committed to work with the unions to negotiate. Supt Lavoie reported that it is in the best interest of the school to adopt. He is not looking to implement or going forward with the law, only to adopt it at this time.

Motion: Mr. Bourassa moved to adopt M.G.L. 32B, sections 21-23.

2nd: Ms. Grondine

VOTE: Unanimous

#17692

h.) Principal's Report

Ms. Freedman is requesting approval for out of state travel for Mr. Laderoute and Mr. Ouellette of Machine Tech with 23 students to visit DMG Mori, 111 Ledge Road, Seabrook, NH, to see equipment not available in school and explore a possible coop opportunity, Feb 12, 2019, no cost.

Motion: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to approve the out of state travel as requested

2nd: Ms. Infante

VOTE: Unanimous

#17693

i.) Student's Report

Ms. Freedman reported that both student representatives were unable to attend tonight's meeting. She reported that thirteen senior dental assisting students have passed the test and all junior and seniors are in field placement three days a week either at Tufts Dental School or local dental practices. On January 31st the swim and dive team had their CAC championships. One member reported that an official that was at that meet, raved about how wonderful our students and coaches were. Additionally on January 31st, the 10th graders in the STEAM Program went to Advanced Functional Fabrics of America (AFFOA) to pitch product ideas to the company and receive feedback. AFFOA was very impressed by the student's ideas and presentation skills and are looking forward to seeing the student's next phase of their design process in their upcoming presentations on February 14, 2019. On February 1st, four students from the STEAM Innovation Program presented their Arduino Bioreactor Project at the Learn Launch Conference at the Hynes Convention Center in Boston. On February 3rd, the boys and girls indoor track teams competed in the CAC League Championship at Lynn Tech. The boy's team captured their 2nd straight league championship and is also the Dual Meet Champions this season. The girl's team finished the League Championship Meet with their highest point total in the history of the program. The girls were also the Dual Meet Champions this season.

7. **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

a.) *District Committee Priorities*

One member reported that our girls' basketball team made the tournament. Please let the Committee know when that date is.

b.) *Policy*

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

10. **PERSONNEL CONSIDRATIONS/REPORT**

a.) *Resignations*

b.) *Leaves of Absence*

- Guidance Counselor, maternity leave, effective SY19-20, return approximately January 15, 2020.

c.) *Retirements*

d.) *Appointments*

- LTS Automotive, Brian Cassidy, effective January 28, 2019

e.) *Job Postings*

- Math Instructor for STEAM (LTS), March 21-April 22, 2019, Replacement Position
- 2019 Spring Season Coaches:

Outdoor Track

Head Coach

Asst. 1

Asst. 2

Asst. 3

Tennis

Head Coach -Girls

Head Coach - Boys

Boys Volleyball

Head Coach

Asst. 1 (JV Coach)

Baseball

Head Coach

Asst. 1 (Assistant Varsity)

Asst. 2 (JV)

Asst. 3 (freshman)

Softball

Head Coach

Asst. 1 (Assistant Varsity)

Asst. 2 (JV)

Asst. 3 (freshman)

Game Workers

Site Coordinator/Security

Track - Field Event & Timing Officials

- Tutors for students on Medical Leave, Provide 5 hours per week, after school, to students in various subjects, \$35.00/hr., effective ASAP-March 8, 2019, replacement position
- Cafeteria Workers (2), 5 hours/day, \$16.10/hour, effective ASAP, replacement positions

Motion: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to approve the job postings as requested

2nd: Ms. Bourassa

VOTE: Unanimous

#17694

11. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to adjourn at 8:00pm.

2nd: Ms. Bourassa

VOTE: Unanimous

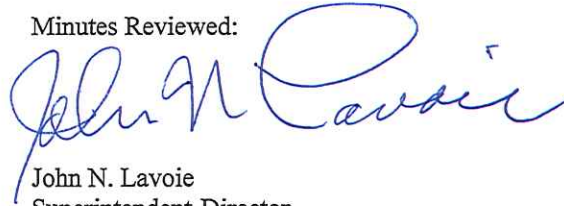
#17695

Respectfully Submitted:



Susan Lally
District Recorder

Minutes Reviewed:



John N. Lavoie
Superintendent-Director