

GLTS

Greater Lawrence Technical School

**DISTRICT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MEETING #1755
SEPTEMBER 17, 2019**

<u>Members Present:</u>	Leo Lamontagne	Lawrence	Chairperson
	Marilyn Fitzgerald	Andover	Vice Chairperson
	Frank Rossi	North Andover	Assistant Treasurer
	Russell Bourassa	Methuen	
	Barbara Grondine	Methuen	
	Stephany Infante	Lawrence	
<u>Members Absent:</u>	Garry Mannion	Lawrence	
<u>Others Present:</u>	John N. Lavoie	Superintendent-Director	
	Maria Silva	Business Manager	
	Gerry DiStefano	Treasurer	
	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. MINUTES

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to approve the minutes of September 3, 2019.

2ND: Mr. Bourassa

VOTE: Unanimous

#17825

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.

2ND: Mr. Bourassa

VOTE: Unanimous

#17826

b.) Consolidated Cash Reconciliation Report

No Discussion

c.) Revolving Fund Report

No Discussion

d.) Budget Report

No Discussion

e.) GLTS Final Revenue and Assessment FY2020

Supt. Lavoie reported that we received a little more money than we thought. He wanted the District Committee to see the final budget and to vote on it. Ms. Silva reported that for the Foundation Revenues for Chapter 70 Aid, we received \$161,014 more. The final Chapter 70 Aid Revenue is \$27,096,714. The Member Community Contributions were: Andover increased \$673, Lawrence decreased \$8,625, Methuen decreased by \$11,936 and North Andover increased by \$1,585.00. The total Member Contributions are \$4,601,974. The Non-Foundation increased by \$66,851 for school transportation. The Non-Foundation Member Community Contributions were: Andover decreased \$1,313, Lawrence decreased \$53,379, Methuen decreased \$11,057 and North Andover decreased \$1,101. The total Non-Foundation Member Contributions are \$1,982,847 and the total Foundation and Non-Foundation Revenue of \$37,551,823. Supt. Lavoie reported that Ms. Silva will let our communities know of the difference of their assessments.

MOTION: Mr. Rossi moved to approve the GLTS Final Revenue and Assessment FY2020 as presented.

2ND: Ms. Fitzgerald

VOTE: Unanimous

#17827

4. COMMUNICATIONS

a.) Donations

None

b.) Articles

- Former GLTS Student becomes a Business Owner

c.) Public Participation

None

5. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR

a.) Out of State Travel

Supt. Lavoie and Principal Freedman are requesting Out of State Travel to attend the Next Wave in K-12 Education: The Spiritual Core of the Whole Child at Columbia University in New York, NY on November 2-November 4, 2019: Total Cost for both: \$2,150.40.

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to approve the Out of State Travel to attend the Next Wave in K-12 Education: The Spiritual Core of the Whole Child at Columbia University in New York, NY on November 2-November 4, 2019: Total Cost for both: \$2,150.40 as presented.

2ND: Ms. Infante

VOTE: Unanimous

#17828

b.) Business Technology Update

Supt Lavoie reported that he has been meeting with Ms. Freedman and Ms. Jones, CTE Director to put together a plan for Business Technology. Ms. Jones will continue to work closely with the instructors in that department. The first order of business is to take a look at the curriculum to see how it aligns with what we see as job opportunities of the future and how our advisory recommendations align to our curriculum. Last spring we had both of our teachers sign up to be part of a Business Technology framework committee being revised by the state. It was to look at frameworks across the state for the Business Technology Program. The state decided not to continue that effort with Business Technology. They had ten different programs and eliminated five; Business Technology was one of the ones eliminated which was very disappointing. There has been work done by our CTE Director and staff and a copy of the research has been provided. The research has been outlined to help decide what direction the curriculum should be taking with regards to this industry and preparing students for the workforce. We want to make sure we are going down the right path. This year's curriculum will be focusing on some of the things that are critical no matter what you do in business education either skillset or knowledge. We already do work around accounting and software which brings value to a lot of these career areas. Supt. Lavoie reported that our mission and responsibility to every student is to prepare them to go to work in their career area upon graduation. We should also be preparing them to go onto college. We do have articulation agreements with some colleges which gives students credit for

their work done at GLTS. One of the committee members stated that the research done by administration was good, but disappointing that this is all we have. Technology is always changing and she does not want us to fall too far behind. One member asked who is reaching out to the community colleges and four year colleges. Supt. Lavoie reported that Ms. Jones and Ms. Bennett are. Supt. Lavoie reported that the data given tonight is just the highlights of what we have been working on.

c.) October Calendar

d.) Update on Seacoast United

Supt. Lavoie reported that our attorneys have not gotten back to us with regards to the legality of the proposal that Seacoast United has submitted to us. We want to make sure that there are no issues and we are abiding by the law. One member reported that she was happy that we are taking our time because of her reservations of having a massive full profit entity lease our fields, rather than some of the smaller ones.

e.) Field Project Update

Supt. Lavoie reported that the turf is done and we are waiting on the logo. We ran into a problem with the backstop for the varsity baseball field. Merrimack College was to supply the netting but was not there when we picked up the poles. We had to order a net that will be charged to Merrimack College. This will impact Merrimack College because this could cause a delay. However, GLTS can still play soccer on it. The scheduled time for completion is September 26. The dugouts are not done and we have contacted an architect who is coming out next week to look at it with drawings. We think that we can build the dugouts ourselves to save money. Supt. Lavoie reported that he wanted to let the District Committee aware of a new rule from MIAA regarding our hash marks on all high school football fields. They came out with a new rule and are asking for the hash marks to be moved. Supt. Lavoie reported that they are not taking into consideration all of the new football fields that have been built and how much time and money went into building them. Supt. Lavoie will be contacting them.

f.) School Building Update

Supt. Lavoie reported that the two projects in the building that are not finished are the new principal's office and the guidance office. He wants to take the District Committee on a tour when they are completed. The two offices can now be accessed from the main lobby which is more efficient for parents and students.

g.) Superintendent's Checklist

Supt. Lavoie reported that every year the DOE sends a checklist. He is working with many staff members to complete the list. Much of it is done by Ms. Gioia and we met on a weekly basis. She is in the process of building a calendar that all the staff will have access to. This will allow us to stay on top of the timeframe of what needs to be done. Finance is additionally part of this checklist. One member asked what local meant in one of the columns. Supt. Lavoie reported that it represents all action items that have to be done within the school, but does not have to be reported to the Department of Ed. They know it is complete when they do their reviews and look at the evidence.

h.) Back to School Night

Supt. Lavoie reported that Ms. Ouellette, will be opening our new school store on back to school night, Tuesday, October 10, 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Business Technology Coop Students will manage the store. Ms. Ouellette is very excited and puts in good ideas.

i.) House Building Project Update

Supt. Lavoie reported that we started our house project. We were supposed to start last year, but got held up by the Andover Community Trust. We will email you the address so you can see and take a drive by. Carpentry Instructor, Mr. McGee will provide pictures along the way. Involved in this project is our Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, HVAC and Horticulture Programs. Mr. McGee also works as project manager and will be paid a stipend by Andover Trust. The house is a duplex on a cul-de-sac and is next to a house going up by Habitat for Humanity. It will give an opportunity for lower income families to purchase a house below market cost and to live in Andover. One member asked if we usually have an instructor act as project manager on their own time. Supt. Lavoie reported that this was started about three years ago on the recommendation of our attorneys. When the permits are pulled, they are now in the name of Andover Trust which lessens the liability on us.

that this was started about three years ago on the recommendation of our attorneys. When the permits are pulled, they are now in the name of Andover Trust which lessens the liability on us.

j.) Concession Stand Update

Supt. Lavoie reported that all the block work is done. We need the contractor to finish the floor and we may paint it ourselves. The ceilings are not sheet rocked yet and will be when the electrical students finish their work. We will hire a sheet rock company to come in and finish the job. This hopefully will be completed in October, but at least, it should be done for our Thanksgiving Day game.

k.) Meeting with Mr. Lane Glenn, President of NECC

Supt. Lavoie reported that the Merrimack Valley Commission, in which he is a board member, looks at the economic development in the Merrimack Valley and promotes ways of encouraging industry to come into the area. We look at that skilled labor surrounding these industries. They also oversee busing in this area. The Executive Director, Ms. Conrad, loves what we do here and also works closely with NECC as well as we do. There is an opportunity for us to work with a corporation that is looking to give one million dollars to move the textile industry into the Lawrence area. In order to better recruit industries in the area, they looked at the work we have done with AFFOA and MIT around Advance Fabric. I am meeting with the corporation, Ms. Conrad and Mr. Glenn to see what their vision is for utilizing this money to build a program and provide all the equipment and to gain a better understanding of who we are targeting in the area and to see what our training would look like. The meeting will be the last week in September. Supt. Lavoie reported that he and Ms. Bennett have worked with different organizations. This program does good work for the Merrimack Valley to help provide growth in this area. One member asked if you see this as an extension of STEAM or would you create their own shop, like we did for fashion. Supt. Lavoie reported that he is not sure yet and will know more after he has his meeting.

6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

7. OLD BUSINESS

a.) District Committee Priorities

No Discussion

b.) Policy

No Discussion

8. NEW BUSINESS

One member reported that she was happy to see that we finally hired a School Psychologist. She had requested a copy of the job description and would like to know who the person will report to. The job description states that the person reports to the Director of SPED. Ms. Silva reported that there are now two positions, School Psychologist and School Adjustment Counselor. The School Psychologist will report to the Director of SPED and the School Adjustment Counselor will report to the Director of Guidance. One member reported that she is happy that we hired a qualified person to do testing so we do not have to pay for an outside consultant. She would like to see in a few months, how much we have saved from doing this.

9. PERSONNEL CONSIDRATIONS/REPORT

a.) Resignations

- Ms. Erin Frey, Math Instructor, Effective September 6, 2019

b.) Leaves of Absence

- Guidance Counselor, Effective August 27, 2019

c.) Retirements

- Ms. Mary Blanchette, SPED, Effective, September 15, 2019

d.) Appointments

- Mr. Steven Desgroseilliers, Auto Body Instructor, Local 1707, Effective September 3, 2019, Replacement Position
- Ms. Erica Arrington, Math Instructor, Local 1707, Effective, September 16, 2019, Replacement Position.

e.) Job Postings

- None

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: moved to go into Executive Session

2ND:

VOTE:

Roll Called by District Recorder

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

#17829

ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

ENTER OPEN SESSION

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to adjourn at 7:00 p.m.

2ND: Mr. Rossi

VOTE: Unanimous

#17832

Respectfully Submitted:



Susan Lally
District Recorder

Minutes Reviewed:



John N. Lavoie
Superintendent-Director