

GLTS

Greater Lawrence Technical School

**DISTRICT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MEETING #1763
FEBRUARY 4, 2020**

<u>Members Present:</u>	Leo Lamontagne Marilyn Fitzgerald Frank Rossi Zoila Disla Stephany Infante Anngybel Moreta	Lawrence Andover North Andover Lawrence Lawrence Methuen	Chairperson Vice Chairperson Assistant Treasurer
<u>Members Absent:</u>	Francisco Surillo	Methuen	
<u>Others Present:</u>	John N. Lavoie Elizabeth Freedman Maria Silva Gerry DiStefano Esmarlyn Vicente Kyara Cruz Susan Lally	Superintendent-Director Principal Business Manager Treasurer Student Representative Student Representative 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

Christopher Cedano:

Supt. Lavoie read Christopher's biography. Christopher is a senior in the Biotechnology Program. He continuously strives for accuracy by checking his work against rubrics, exemplars and by applying feedback recommendations when making revision of his work. He takes constructive criticism gratefully. This is evidence that he truly wants to grow as a learner, not just get a good grade for a report card. He has revised lab notebook entries to include more pertinent details and has added more depth to reflection writing prompts to better demonstrate his thinking. I have often reminded my students about how important it is to be able to clearly communicate the results of an experiment and the possible impact the information it may have in the world. Christopher has the ability to synthesize a lot of information or data into an organized, concise explanation that is easy for anyone to understand. As a freshman, Christopher wrote that the most important thing to know about him is that "I am very friendly"! He is well liked by most because of his infectious smile, kindness, and positive attitude. He can work with anyone and everyone. He is a team player and enjoys helping others. This year, I asked Christopher what his dream job would be. He answered, "To be a Marine Environmentalist, work for the EPA, habitat protection". Christopher has grown since the ninth grade. He has researched and practiced what it will take to become a scientist, has visited the EPA in Massachusetts and has worked over the summer to help develop algae derived biofuel here at the school. It is clear to me that he wants to make a positive difference in this world using science and his steadfast determination.

3. MINUTES

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to approve the minutes of January 21, 2020

2ND: Ms. Infante

VOTE: Unanimous

#17912

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

#17913

b.) Consolidated Cash Reconciliation Report

No Discussion

c.) Revolving Fund Report

No Discussion

d.) Budget Report

No Discussion

e.) Revolving Accounts for Shop Areas

Ms. Silva reported that we receive scrap metal revenue and the shops want to utilize that revenue. That revenue goes into E & D currently and then they cannot use it until following year. The shops are asking to have a revolving account so this revenue can be used and not put into the miscellaneous revenue account.

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to approve the revolving accounts for shop areas.

2ND: Ms. Infante

VOTE: Unanimous

#17914

f.) Revolving Accounts for Energy Savings

Ms. Silva reported that we have to start to pay back our lease for the Energy Project. The first payment is due in March. With the money we get from Nashoba Tech., we would like to put it into a revolving account instead of miscellaneous revenue account, so we can pay the lease.

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to approve the revolving account for Energy Savings

2ND: Mr. Rossi

VOTE: Unanimous

#17915

Discussion: Supt. Lavoie explained to the new members that there is a solar farm out in North Brookfield, MA in which they provide all of our energy. When we negotiated the contract, we were using about four million kilowatts and since then, have done a few energy projects and are now utilizing about half. We are selling our extra energy to Nashoba Valley Tech, which is about \$100,000 in profit to us per year. Instead of putting that money in E&D account, we did a million-dollar lighting project that was finished over winter break. We took out a loan for \$500,000 and that is why we are asking for a revolving account.

Adjustment of Agenda:

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to adjust the agenda for the Student's Report

2ND: Ms. Infante

VOTE: Unanimous

#17916

g.) Student Representatives, Esmarlyn Vicente and Kyara Cruz reported on: The Biotechnology senior class of 2020 honored Henrietta Lacks by demonstrating many unique projects. In this Celebration, the seniors taught masses of people about the life of Henrietta Lacks and the importance of her cells. With the help of Graphics, Carpentry, Machine Tool Technology and Metal Fabrication their ideas came to life. The Event Coordinators: Roandy Herrera, Esbalni Gonzalez, and Christopher Cedano organized and scheduled this Celebration, inviting teachers to bring their students, providing food from the Reggie Cafe and welcomed family members as they came to view the wonderful student work. Some examples of the exceptional projects during the Celebration were paintings, a children's book, a tribute hand drawn sketch and etched plaque, and a thoughtful garden design. Teachers and staff were so impressed

that they recommended the seniors to publish the children's book, install the garden this spring and offered to buy the paintings!

Student Government

- Food Drive
- Toy Drive
- Election for the GLTS student government day representatives
- Work has begun on creating a Student Voice Survey in which they will use to collect data on how GLTS students are feeling about different subjects such as career and college readiness as well as health and safety. They hope to use the data to make student focused goals with Principal Freedman. Be on the lookout for results.

Athletics

- Senior Night Basketball & Cheer Monday Feb 10 @ 5:15pm
- First Cheerleading Competition is this Sunday at Central Catholic, \$10 per person. Junior Varsity competes @ 11:10 and Varsity competes @12:00
- Winter Sports Banquet March 5th
- Wrestling has a Division 2 tournament this weekend @ North Andover High
- Women in Sports Banquet this Friday GLTS Representatives are Kimberly Lara & Lyric Irola they will be accompanied by our cheer coaches Rebecca Marino and Stephanie Thompson as well as AD Mike Nelson
- Swim & Track Just finished the winter season both having incredible success @ CAC meets
- Boys Basketball is predicted to make it into both the state and vocational tournament
- CAC Update: Chelsea & PMA are leaving CAC, Innovation Academy & Lowell Catholic Joining CAC beginning Fall 2020
- The girls' soccer team is getting recognized by Lawrence City Council tonight for their historic Championship season. The girls will also be recognized on Wednesday at the State House. Special thanks for Stephany Infante for coordinating these events.

Discussion: One member asked if the senior night for basketball was for the boys and the girls' teams. The student representative reported that it was for the boys only. They do not have a date for the girls' senior night yet. One member asked about the Reggie's Potluck event. One member reported that she went to the Reggie's Potluck event. There were a great number of parents and students. The parent connection team provided activities including having a paper tree taped to the wall and asked "I hope that" in which they would fill in the blank and tape it to the tree. Additionally, Reggie gear were raffled off. One member reported that the girls' soccer team is being recognized tonight by the Lawrence City Council and she spoke to the president about adjusting the agenda so that our members could attend. One member reported that at a prior District Committee meeting, we spoke about recognizing the girls' soccer team at one of our meetings. Chairman Lamontagne, requested that the recognition be done at our March 3rd meeting. One member reported that the team will be visiting the State House tomorrow and was confirmed by Representative Frank Moran's office. The students will be leaving GLTS at 10:30.

Adjustment of Agenda:

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to adjust the agenda for the STEAM student's presentation.

2ND: Ms. Infante

VOTE: Unanimous

#17917

h.) STEAM Presentation

Ms. Freedman reported that she wanted to recognize these STEAM students for winning the first round of the "Lexus Eco Challenge" national competition. They were awarded \$10,000. The team submitted their original research on their algae biofuel project entitled "Carbon Free Lawrence". This took up a lot of their own time and had the support of their teachers. Students, Yasmerlin Ortega, Andy Morales, Alexis Gonzales and Isabel Chae gave a presentation and showed a two-minute video. One member thanked the students and teachers and reported that there is an organization in Lawrence that is focused on pushing the City of Lawrence away from gas and into reusable energy. This may be a good partnership for the group and STEAM. Supt. Lavoie reported that he attended Learn Launch 2020 Across Boundaries last week at the Hynes Convention Center where the STEAM students presented. The students were very impressive, and their professionalism and knowledge were quickly recognized. I was very proud of what they did. The results of all their hard work, will help work towards a better future. Congratulations and thank you.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

a.) Donations

b.) Articles

- Baker, Polito celebrate Career Tech Initiative in Andover, Eagle Tribune, January 23, 2020.
- Baker-Polito Administration Launches Career Technical Initiative, Mass.gov Press Release, January 23, 2020.
- STEAM Students Win First Round of the Lexus Eco Challenge National Competition.
- Footloose the Musical, North Andover High, Thursday, Feb. 6th 7:30PM, Friday, Feb. 7th, 7:30PM and Saturday, February 8th, 2PM and 7:30PM.

c.) Public Participation

None

6. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR

a.) Student's Report (Adjusted on Agenda)

b.) Shop Selection Report

Supt. Lavoie reported that Ms. Gioia will be presenting the freshman shop selection numbers and help you understand the process. Many shops this year were filled by 1st choice selections. Ms. Gioia reported on the freshman placement for YOG2023. The freshman placement formula is 40% Exploratory Average, 30% 1st choice grade, 20% 2nd choice grade and 10% 3rd choice grade. Students are placed into their 1st choice by overall rank. All 1st choices are placed into a shop before any second or third choices. This year we had 71% of students (308) receive their 1st choice shop, 12% of students (53) receive their 2nd choice shop, 6% of students (24) receive their 3rd shop and 11% of students (47) not placed. Six shops were filled with their 1st choice shops, Auto Tech., Electrical, IT, Medical Assisting, Metal Fabrication, Plumbing. The top three shop choices were Electrical, Plumbing and Medical Assisting. One member asked if we ever ask the students why a shop was chosen? Is it because higher paying job or do they like the teacher? One member reported that she remembered when a teacher left a particular shop, the numbers dropped. Ms. Freedman reported that we do have two initial surveys, one when they are in exploratory and one when they pick their shop. The exploratory survey the student does give a reason, but the second survey they do not. We can work on incorporating that. Students currently, do reflections of what they think of the shop. One member wanted to thank Ms. Gioia for her presentation and how easy she makes it so they can understand the process. Thank you, Isobel.

c.) Field Bid Opening

Supt. Lavoie reported that we had the bid opening on January 29th for the Field. There were eight companies and Heimlich was the lowest bidder. The Phase III Field Project will be around \$745,000. They were very cooperative during Phase I and II and kept the extras way down.

MOTION: Mr. Rossi moved to award the bid to Heimlich for Phase III of the Field Project.

2ND: Ms. Fitzgerald

VOTE: Unanimous

#17918

Discussion: One member asked how we are paying for this. Supt. Lavoie reported that we have \$400,000 left over from the state and the remainder will be taken out of E & D. We have 1.6 million dollars in E & D and at the end of the year, we will have additional money which will take us over 5% so we will have to spend some of the money or we will have to send it back to the cities and towns.. The original bid was to not remove all the topsoil and put drainage in every five yards. The second quote was to remove all the topsoil and put down stone. That cost was an additional \$198,000. We will need an additional \$500,000. Once the District Committee votes yes, then the town and cities need to approve. The cost will be added to this year's budget. We will be replenishing the E & D account at the end of the year when we balance our budget.

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to approve to utilize funds from the E & D account for the use of the Phase III of the Field Project.

2ND: Mr. Rossi

VOTE: Unanimous

#17919

Discussion: One member asked when we have to spend the \$400,000 by. Supt. Lavoie reported that the \$400,000 was money left over by the state. By the time we received the funds, Phase II was almost complete. We used some for Phase II and the rest will be used on Phase III. The money has to be utilized by September 1, 2020. One member reported when do we have to let the towns and cities know about our use of the E & D account and get permission. Supt. Lavoie reported that it will be put in our new budget and appear as a line item.

d.) Gym Floor Bid Opening

Supt. Lavoie reported that the bid opening for the gym floors was on January 30, 2020. The bid came in at around \$300,000 which is about \$100,000 lower than what we thought. We had an architecture review the bid and we feel confident that it is a good bid. Supt. Lavoie reported that we will be starting this project on April vacation and it should be done by the summer. The Athletic Director is looking at the spring activities and will make accommodations.

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to award the bid to the lowest bidder for the Gym Floor Project

2ND: Ms. Infante

VOTE: Unanimous

#17920

Discussion: One member asked if we have recommendations from other schools in which this company worked. Supt. Lavoie reported that they have, and they have a good reputation. The money for this project is coming out of our facilities rental. We are not using any educational money and there is no cost to the cities and towns.

e.) Principal's Report

- *STEAM Presentation (Adjusted on Agenda)*

f.) Review of the Employee Benefits Trust Fund

Supt. Lavoie reported on the Employee Benefits Trust Fund. Since we made the changes to our health benefits, our trust fund continues to grow and continue to be in the positive. We are taking more money in then we are putting out in claims. We do not feel we need to have an increase in rates. We meet with our insurance committee once a month to go over the numbers.

7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

8. OLD BUSINESS

a.) District Committee Priorities

b.) Policy

9. NEW BUSINESS

10. PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS /REPORT

a.) Resignations

b.) Leaves of Absence

c.) Retirements

d.) Appointments

e.) Job Postings

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Student Opportunity Act

One member would like to see as a future agenda item is the school's plan for the "Student Opportunity Act". The requirement of the act is to have participation with the District Committee and Community Stake holders on. Districts are required to submit a plan on how they are spending the funding by April 1, 2020. Supt. Lavoie reported that we have not started the work yet and we will after we finish the budget which should be the end of this week. We then look at what the plan will look like and put together some preliminary actions for the next meeting.

Girls' Soccer Team

One member would like to see the girls' soccer team be recognized at a future District Committee meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Rossi moved to have the girls' soccer team be recognized at the March 3, 2020 meeting

2nd: Ms. Fitzgerald

VOTE: Unanimous

#17921

Parade.

Supt. Lavoie reported that in place of a float we would like to have our students who are part of a championship team march. The theme this year is the "Community of Champions". We want all students, not just athletically, but academically be part of this. One member suggested that they all be dressed in the same shirt except for athletics, which they can wear their uniforms.

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to appropriate a budget of \$2,000 to buy materials and or shirts for the St Patrick's Day Parade.

2nd: Ms. Infante

VOTE: Unanimous

#17922

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

MOTION: Mr. Rossi moved to go into Executive Session

2ND: Ms. Infante

VOTE:

Roll Called by District Recorder:

Ms. Disla	Yes
Ms. Fitzgerald	Yes
Ms. Infante	Yes
Mr. Lamontagne	Yes
Ms. Moreta	Yes
Mr. Rossi	Yes
Mr. Surillo	Absent

#17923

ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

ENTER OPEN SESSION

MOTION: Mr. Rossi moved to approve the part-time IT position to a full-time position

2ND: Ms. Fitzgerald

VOTE: Unanimous

#17926

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to adjourn at 7:10 p.m.

2ND: Mr. Rossi

VOTE: Unanimous

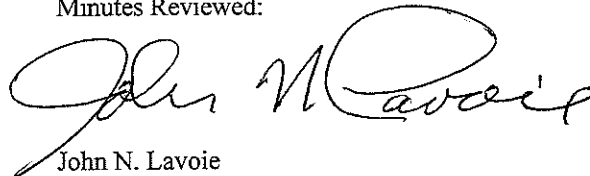
#17927

Respectfully Submitted:



Susan Lally
District Recorder

Minutes Reviewed:



John N. Lavoie
Superintendent-Director

