

VOTE: Unanimous
#18601

2. STUDENT'S REPORT

The District Committees' student representatives presented the Students' Report reviewing various slides pertaining to Valentine's Day fund raising, CTE month activities, black history month door competition, women's history month, student vs staff faculty basketball game, sports banquet, state champion and regional competition, cheerleading competitions, MIAA Tournament, spring training with Haus of Athletics, SkillsUSA, GSA club, chess club, GLTS talent show, MHL teen poetry contest, national honor society, as well as senior updates and the 2024 superlative winners.

3. MINUTES

a. Minutes from February 13, 2024

MOTION: Mr. Mejia moved to approve the minutes of February 13, 2024.

2ND: Mr. Jones

Roll Call by District Recorder

Mr. Jones	Yes
Mr. Mejia	Yes
Mr. Mercedes	Absent
Mr. Tarbox	Yes
Ms. Fitzgerald	Yes
Ms. Disla	Yes
Mr. Hatem	Yes

VOTE: Unanimous
#18602

4. FINANCE REPORT

a. Cash Balance Report

Ms. Martel read the cash balance report.

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

2ND: Ms. Disla

Roll Call by District Recorder

Ms. Disla	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mr. Mejia	Yes
Mr. Mercedes	Absent
Mr. Tarbox	Yes
Ms. Fitzgerald	Yes
Mr. Hatem	Yes

VOTE: Unanimous
#18603

b. Consolidated Cash Reconciliation Report

c. Revolving Fund Report

d. Budget Report

e. Request to Revote the FY2024 Budget

- Ms. Martel asked the District Committee to revote the FY2024 budget to include the net school spending shortfall from FY2023 of \$1,139,527 making the total budget for FY2024 \$48,344,489.

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to approve to revote on the FY2024 Budget as presented.

2ND: Mr. Tarbox

Roll Call by District Recorder

Ms. Fitzgerald	Yes
Ms. Disla	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mr. Mejia	Yes
Mr. Mercedes	Absent
Mr. Tarbox	Yes
Mr. Hatem	Yes

VOTE: Unanimous

#18604

f. Budget Transfers

- Ms. Martel updated the District Committee to approve the Budget Transfers.

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to approve the Budget Transfers as presented.

2ND: Ms. Fitzgerald

Roll Call by District Recorder

Mr. Tarbox	Yes
Ms. Fitzgerald	Yes
Ms. Disla	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mr. Mercedes	Absent
Mr. Mejia	Yes
Mr. Hatem	Yes

VOTE: Unanimous

#18605

5. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Donations

b. Articles

- \$1.25M Grant to Fund Clean Energy Jobs, Eagle Tribune 2/17/24
Supt. Lavoie indicated this pertained to a grant received which was discussed at the District Committee meeting last month.

c. Public Participation

6. REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR

a. Superintendent's Goals

Referencing their packet, Supt. Lavoie updated the District Committee on his goals stating he'd be happy to discuss any additional goals they'd be interested in his pursuit of. Mr. Jones questioned if the home rule petition had gone through for the purchasing of the building off campus to which Supt. Lavoie indicated it had not been completed as yet. He has reached out to Rep. Moran for an update and is waiting for a response. He will reach out to him again and email members when he knows the status of the project.

b. Equipment & Infrastructure Grant

Supt. Lavoie updated the District Committee on a Grant in the amount of \$750,000 recently received which had been submitted in January that will allow GLTS to develop new programming in the curriculum relative to green and sustainable energy.

c. Update on the Andover Select Board Meeting

Supt. Lavoie updated the District Committee on the Andover Select Board Meeting held at 7:00PM on March 4th where he met with Andover Selectmen to review GLTS plans to purchase the Lawrence hangar. He presented its importance to GLTS and gained their perspective on the purchasing of the Elks which proved favorable. They've requested he present GLTS proposal to the Finance Board and at Town Meeting.

d. Update on the Process for Obtaining a Bond

Supt. Lavoie updated the District Committee on the process of obtaining a bond for 4 million dollars stating a warrant article had been submitted for Town Meeting in Andover and North Andover. We're seeking support from the Mayor of Lawrence and we'll be on the Lawrence City Agenda. Supt. Lavoie indicated he was scheduled to meet with the Mayor of Methuen on Thursday.

e. Update on Legislative Bill for Purchasing of a Building

Supt. Lavoie updated the District Committee on the Bill for the Purchasing of a Building stating he'd met with the Board of Directors of the Elks on several occasions. Currently our biggest challenge is securing property for their relocation. We're working with a commercial real estate agent to that end.

f. Update on Workforce Development

Ms. Susan Almono, Director of Grants and Workforce Development updated the District Committee on Workforce Development.

Supt. Lavoie introduced Ms. Almono stating she has amazingly performed in this position for roughly four years. She will be presenting an update on her work and her efforts to benefit our students and the citizens of the community at large. Ms. Almono addressed the District Committee stating we have a tremendous facility and we want to create access to technical training for the diverse communities of the Merrimack Valley which needs to be supported by grants. Thankfully a lot of grants are available in Massachusetts the sources of which she reviewed via slides. Our goal is to build the workforce in our area. We currently have funds to get through 2026 but we want to apply for additional grants. The goal of Workforce Development is to prepare individuals to go to work. We need three more FT positions to perform the work we do. Ms. Fitzgerald expressed her gratitude for the report asking how we identify or recruit for the After Dark program and how are the underserved actually recruited. Ms. Almono responded with regards to Workforce Development for adults, we made the decision for the majority of our grants, we would not to be the recruiter. We do some outreach but we partner with local organizations, our main partner being MassHire Merrimack Valley Career Center which handles recruitment and assessment. For After Dark, we facilitate presentations at different high schools as well as word of mouth. Supt. Lavoie indicated it was a challenge to acquire teachers for these programs and that Principal Zielinski does an outstanding job fulfilling that. We could have more training but we need qualified teachers. We've strategized on that by visiting companies and speaking with their employees to train our students. We've very successful placing students that complete the program. We're building relationships with companies to ascertain the skills they're looking for. We don't want to run programs if there's no employment upon completion.

g. Update on Building Construction Projects

Supt. Lavoie updated the District Committee on the Building Construction Projects which include: Hangar 1, Hangar 2, Horticulture and Cafeteria. Supt. Lavoie stated hangar 1 went out to bid and came in as expected from the subcontractors at approximately 2.7 million. We will obtain the general contractor bid next Tuesday.

The completion of that building is estimated at 5 million dollars and we expect to begin in April – five-month project. Hangar 2, we’re building per FAA requirement - building located to the right of garages that has already begun and the walls and trusses are up and we’re ready to start the roof - hope to complete in early May. Horticulture landscape building – totally a student project. The cafeteria equipment is in and installation of the kitchen equipment has begun - completed by the end of the school year.

h. Admissions Report

Asst. Supt. Richardson updated the District Committee on Admissions

Asst. Supt. Richardson stated we’re sending out first round of admission decisions on Friday, March 15th. Our priority deadline is Feb 1st but we will continue to process applications through June 1st. As of today, 1447 complete applications have been completed which is an increase of 139 applications over last year. Andover: last year 24 - this year 29 / Lawrence: 961 to 1059 / Methuen: almost the same / N. Andover: 29 last year / 54 now. Today 154 transfer applications for the Class of 2027 and 51 applications for the Class of 2026. Supt. Lavoie asked what the total number of students that applied this year? Asst. Supt. Richardson responded over 1600 applications. Supt. Lavoie what happens to applications that do not contain all of the required information? Asst. Supt. Richardson stated we continue to reach out to middle schools for missing information, we reach out to new students from another country with limited documentation, etc. We make every attempt to complete as many applications as possible. Mr. Tarbox asked if an accepted student decides not to attend, how does that play out to fill that opening? Asst. Supt. Richardson we use Go to CTE, send out initial decisions via email to accept or decline the offer and we fill all the slots throughout the summer and into September. Mr. Jones questioned if notifications were sent through emails only to which Asst. Supt. Richardson responded an email is sent initially and followed up with a letter. In addition, we’ve instituted online enrollment this year that goes through X2.

i. Principal’s Report

Principal Zielinski presented the Principal’s Report reviewing slides pertaining to professional learning opportunities, safe office data, digital wellness, literacy promotion, early college planning grant, freshmen career area selection, parent career night, and DESE comprehensive review scheduled for March 11 - 15. Mr. Mejia asked if the District School Committee focus group had been selected to which Supt. Lavoie responded three volunteers from the District Committee were needed for a meeting taking place via Zoom - Ms. Fitzgerald, Mr. Jones and Mr. Mejia volunteer. Supt. Lavoie indicated he would send an email containing a link to attend the meeting. Ms. Fitzgerald said the reports were wonderful tonight.

7. REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

8. OLD BUSINESS

a. District Committee Priorities

b. Policy

9. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Fitzgerald noted a new map at the entrance to the pool but stated the floor was bare and the tile was taken up. The floor in the landing has been replaced with large tiles that look fabulous and is hopeful the same will be done with the area when first approaching the pool to which Supt. Lavoie indicated it would.

a. District Committee Regular Meetings

Mr. Mejia brought up according to the school charter we should meet the second and fourth Tuesday of the month and questioned when a change took place. Chair Hatem responded it was changed last year and he would ask Susan Lally to send out a new schedule. Mr. Mejia asked when the reorganization would take place?

Chair Hatem stated the meeting for committee officers would take place on April 1, 2024, at 6pm. Supt. Lavoie indicated he would send out invites and post it.

10. TABLED MATTERS

a. *Faculty Dress Code*

Supt. Lavoie recommended this item be removed from Tabled Matters for the time being.

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to remove Faculty Dress Code from Tabled Matters.

2ND: Mr. Jones

Roll Call by District Recorder

Mr. Mercedes Absent

Mr. Tarbox Yes

Ms. Fitzgerald Yes

Ms. Disla No

Mr. Jones Yes

Mr. Mejia No

Mr. Hatem Yes

VOTE:

4 yes', 2 no's

Motion Passes

#18606

11. PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS/REPORT

a. *Resignations*

- Ms. Fatma Ekim, Programing Instructor, Effective June 30, 2024
- Ms. Denise Rosa, Child Care Assistant, Effective March 28, 2024

b. *Leaves of Absence*

c. *Retirements*

d. *Appointments*

- Ms. Brenda Richardson, Assistant Superintendent, Effective February 26, 2024

e. *Job Postings*

- Club Advisor (s) – Girls Flag Football: The Advisor/coach(s) will coach flag football in a new flag football league supported by the New England Patriots. The league begins in April and ends in June. There are two games one night a week and they'll be 102 practices a week, Coaches (2): \$1,625/each (pending numbers), New Position (See attached flyer).
- Physics Teacher: Per teachers CBA, Effective Date April, 2024, new position
- Math Teacher: Per teachers CBA, Effective Date April, 2024, new position (Academic Teacher Job Description attached for both)

MOTION: Mr. Mejia moved to approve the positions as presented.

2ND: Ms. Fitzgerald

Ms. Fitzgerald voiced her concern the Girls Flag Football may negatively impact girls' varsity sports depending on the scheduling of it. Supt. Lavoie indicated it will begin at 6:30/7:00 which is after regular sports.

Roll Call by District Recorder

Mr. Mejia	Yes
Mr. Mercedes	Absent
Mr. Tarbox	Yes
Ms. Fitzgerald	Yes
Ms. Disla	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mr. Hatem	Yes

VOTE: Unanimous

#18607

- Social Studies Teacher: Per teachers CBA, Effective Date April, 2024, new position
- ELA Teacher: Per teachers CBA, Effective Date April 2024, new position
- Saturday Attendance Recovery Tutor: Reporting to the Administrative Dean and Assistant Principal of SAFE, responsibilities include tutoring students who are enrolled in the Attendance Recovery Program on Saturdays starting 4/1 and engaging with students supporting them with their academic work., Per Local 1707 contract (grant funded), 4/1/24-6/15/24, 2-3 tutors, 8am-12pm Saturdays, total hours 140 among all tutors, New Position.

MOTION: Mr. Mejia

2ND: Ms. Fitzgerald

Mr. Mejia questioned if these were vacated positions or if they were being added and who would be or is teaching them now. Supt. Lavoie responded they were new positions which the teaching staff still required discussion.

Roll Call by District Recorder

Mr. Jones	Yes
Mr. Mejia	Yes
Mr. Mercedes	Absent
Mr. Tarbox	Yes
Ms. Fitzgerald	Yes
Ms. Disla	Yes
Mr. Hatem	Yes

VOTE: Unanimous

#18608

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to enter Executive Session at 7:43PM

2ND: Mr. Jones

Roll Call by District Recorder

Ms. Disla	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mr. Mejia	Yes
Mr. Mercedes	Absent
Mr. Tarbox	Yes
Ms. Fitzgerald	Yes

Mr. Hatem Yes

VOTE:

#18609

13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ms. Fitzgerald moved to adjourn at 8:54PM

2ND: Mr. Jones

Roll Call by District Recorder

Mr. Mejia	Yes
Mr. Mercedes	Absent
Mr. Tarbox	Yes
Ms. Fitzgerald	Yes
Ms. Disla	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mr. Hatem	Yes

VOTE: Unanimous

#18613

Respectfully Submitted:



Cheryl Dennis
District Recorder

Minutes Reviewed:



John N. Lavoie
Superintendent-Director