



**DISTRICT COMMITTEE
OPEN MEETING MINUTES
MEETING #1899
May 20, 2025**

<u>Members Present</u>	Thomas Hatem	Methuen	Chairperson
	Julio Mejia	Lawrence	Vice Chair
	William Tarbox	North Andover	Asst. Treasurer
	Zoila Disla	Lawrence	
	Annemarie Faris	Andover	
	Bradley Jones	Methuen	
	Edison Mercedes	Lawrence	

Members Absent

<u>Others Present</u>	John N. Lavoie	Superintendent-Director
	Brenda Richardson	Assistant Superintendent
	Melissa Martel	Director of Finance
	Gerry DiStefano	Treasurer
	Cheryl Dennis	District Recorder

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hatem called the meeting to order at 6:00PM Roll *Call by District Record: Ms. Faris (present), Ms. Disla (present), Mr. Jones (present), Mr. Mejia (present), Mr. Mercedes (present), Mr. Tarbox (absent), Mr. Hatem (present).*

2. STUDENTS REPORT

District Committee’s Student Representatives presented the Student’s Report covering: Accepted student’s day, NHS Induction Ceremony, GLTS Art Club Display, Youth Sustainability Fair, SKILLSUSA State Competition, GLTS Wellness Events, Culinary Attends “Day on the Hill”, GLTS Uniforms, GSA Gala, Peer Mediation Forum, Colleen Ritzer 5K, GLTS Cosmetology, Interact Club Memorial Day Flag Event, Spring Sports, Athletics Updates, Adult ESL Literacy, “In Control” Driving Safety Program, Senior Job Fair, Senior Events, Graduation

3. MINUTES

a. Minutes of April 22, 2025

MOTION: Mr. Mercedes moved to approve the minutes of April 22, 2025.

2ND: Mr. Jones

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18955

4. FINANCE REPORT

a. Cash Balance Report

Mr. DiStefano presented the Cash Balance Report.

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to accept the Cash Balance Report as reported.

2ND: Mr. Mejia

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18956

b. Consolidated Cash Reconciliation Report

c. Revolving Fund Report

d. Budget Report

e. FY2022 Audit Information

Chair Hatem partially read from the report. Ms. Martel referenced two finds that were previously corrected stating GLTS was in good standing.

f. Network Renewal for ChargePoint Charging Stations

Ms. Martel updated the District Committee on the cost for renewal for ChargePoint Charging Stations totaling \$34000. Electric car stations consisting of 12 stations – we want to create a 5-year contract. This is for maintenance and oversight of the stations.

Mr. Jones questioned what the \$34000 was specifically for? Ms. Martel stated they manage the rates on all the systems and contact them for maintenance – it's similar to an insurance plan. Set a rate based on what other charging stations are charging and then we set the parameters. Mr. Jones questioned if GLTS breaks even or if it costs us money to do it to which Ms. Martel responded we're covering our costs for it.

MOTION: Ms. Faris moved to approve the Network Renewal for ChargePoint Charging Station for 5 years.

2ND: Mr. Mejia

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18957

5. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Donations

- 2009 Ford Fusion, valued at \$6,588.00 donated by John Naroian of Methuen, MA.
- 2007 Honda Pilot, valued at \$3,225.00 donated by Steven Martinez of Methuen, MA.
- 2014 Jeep Cherokee, valued at \$7,625.00 donated by Wendy Cristina Nunez Delos Santos, Lawrence, MA

b. Articles

Greater Lawrence Technical School Highlights Alumni Excellence: Jean Jimenez and Ignacio Rodriguez of Station 8.

c. Public Participation

Lenin Roa, Lawrence, MA, SC member in Lawrence Public School, stated he came today to address what he views as a problem since 2011 - the current Superintendent has been in office. He is claiming that he's received complaints his salary of \$320,000 only to discover he receives \$365,000. He stated he also had a problem with \$185,000 for an Assistant Superintendent – not worth this. He feels there are many deficiencies in the budget. The current cost to manage the school is too high.

6. REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR

a. Clean Energy Initiative Presentation

Supt. Lavoie introduced Susan Almono, Director of Grants to present on the Clean Energy Initiative.

Ms. Almono reviewed slides stating our state has a clean energy economy. Some highlights included: GLTS received \$1,086,000 grant from the Merrimack Valley Renewal Fund and \$750,000 from MA Clean Energy Center Equipment Grant reviewing how this funding would be used. Ms. Almono also covered grant proposals submitted and underway and what's being done to integrate clean energy into the school programs at GLTS. Supt. Lavoie noted that GLTS is highly regarded by the Clean Energy Center. He also stated that Ms. Almono was the keynote speaker at the summit last week. Chair Hatem questioned how much grant money was brought in this year? GLTS grants are in different categories: some at 1 million, another brought in \$750,000, our day program is a couple hundred thousand every year, workforce development grants are roughly at 1 million dollars. Sometimes there's more funding – been working on grants here for 5 years. Success is all about a team that executes – 20 million dollars in the last 5 years.

b. Teaching and Learning Presentation

Principal Jackson spoke about his team, all of whom could not attend this evening. Ms. Athinelis acknowledged the importance of having some of the team members here tonight - we work well together. She reviewed her report via slides outlining the Plan of Action for SY 2024-2025. Students are at the center, followed by educators, administrators, district administration – every layer supports our students. Our approach equals multiple perspectives - MTSS: multi-tiered system of support. Ryan Brown addressed student centered learning measuring our student's ability to converse about their actual learning – not simply recalling yes or no. Brendan Sullivan spoke to the implementation of the HMH platform in the English Department. Supt. Lavoie asked how it compares to the past to which Mr. Sullivan stated it's a very thorough, rigorous curriculum. Lauren Jones spoke to Career readiness which encompasses soft skills, communication, collaboration, resume from 9th grade through the entire rotation and reviewed the positive placement rate. Mr. Mercedes questioned if job positioning were being tracked and how? Ms. Jones responded that all the graduates from the previous year are contacted through social media, email, cold calling. Our goal is to collect responses from 65% of our graduates to discover what they're doing, where they're working, what career path they took, etc. Ms. Faris questioned how far back this went for comparison to which Ms. Jones stated the last 5 years. Chair Hatem stated he was very impressed that the Principal was standing with and supporting the team.

c. Summer Projects

Supt. Lavoie updated the District Committee on summer projects which included the addition of four new classrooms, completion of the new cafeteria, completion of clean energy, the upgrading of the fire alarm system, the replacement of some of the rooftop ceilings and the IT Dept would be replacing 130 Wi-Fi routers. Ms. Disla asked about going back to the main room for District Committee meetings. Supt. Lavoie said that hasn't occurred because the camera to stream must be moved and mentioned the possibly of relocating to 709 in the interim. Chair Hatem questioned the location of a mock house to which Supt. Lavoie stated to the left of the tennis courts. Mr. Jones asked if the energy house would be on a foundation to which Supt. Lavoie responded yes.

d. Graduation Update

Supt. Lavoie stated that everyone is invited to the Four Winds for a luncheon one hour prior to the graduation.

e. SkillsUSA Update

Supt. Lavoie said success really begins with the instructors emphasizing that this does not replace their regular curriculum. GLTS had a very successful showing this year. A luncheon was held for all the medal winners in the Four Winds recently with their teachers.

f. Supt. Lavoie's Goals

Supt. Lavoie requested District Committee members to review the handout he provided. Broken down to two goals and highlighted items worked on in conjunction with the administrative team. Any questions can be discussed at our next meeting. Evidence and documents supporting the handout would be emailed to District

Committee members.

g. Supt. Lavoie's Evaluation

Referencing a form in their packets, Supt. Lavoie requested District Committee members complete and submit them to the Chair which Sue will receive them and tally. Chair Hatem requested sealed envelopes for all members- Supt. Lavoie said he'd supply them. Ms. Mejia when are the evaluations due? Supt. Lavoie indicated he'd email a new form to everybody tomorrow.

h. Out of State Travel

- Ms. Nairi Melkonian, Athletic Trainer will travel to the NATA's Annual Clinical Symposium in Orlando, FL, June 19th-June 28th (June 19th is a holiday), total estimated expenses: \$1707.65 (see attached).

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to accept the travel as presented.

2nd: Ms. Faris

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18958

- Teachers, Ms. Brooke Leavitt, Ms. Allyson Ligor and (student) Julisse Sanchez will travel to SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference on June 23rd-June 28th, 2025, Atlanta, Georgia, total estimated expenses: \$7,875.00.

MOTION: Mr. Mercedes moved to accept the travel as presented.

2ND: Mr. Mejia

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18959

7. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE

8. OLD BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS

10. TABLED MATTERS

11. PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS/REPORT

a. Resignations

- Ms. Alicia Mellor, School Psychologist, Effective 6/30/25
- Ms. Jillian Shannon, Health Assisting Instructor, Effective 6/30/25

b. Leaves of Absence

c. Retirements

- Ms. Ellen DeRosa, Administrative Assistant, Effective 6/30/25

d. Appointments

e. Job Postings

12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Ms. Faris moved to enter into Executive Session at 7:55PM.

2ND: Mr. Jones

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18960

MOTION: Ms. Faris moved to renew the Treasurer’s contract at the current terms.

2ND: Mr. Tarbox

Roll Call by District Recorder

Ms. Disla	Yes
Ms. Faris	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mr. Mejia	Abstained
Mr. Mercedes	Yes
Mr. Hatem	Yes

#18963

MOTION: Mr. Mejia moved to allow the Superintendent to pursue a personnel matter on the Director of Facilities.

2ND: Mr. Mercedes

Roll Call by District Recorder

Mr. Mercedes	Yes
Ms. Disla	No
Ms. Faris	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mr. Mejia	Yes
Mr. Hatem	Yes

#18964

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Ms. Faris moved to adjourn at 9:55PM.

2ND: Mr. Mercedes

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18965

Respectfully Submitted



Cheryl Dennis
District Recorder

Minutes Reviewed



John N. Supt. Lavoie
Superintendent-Director