



**DISTRICT COMMITTEE
OPEN MEETING MINUTES
MEETING #1900
June 17, 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 (late arrival), Mr. Tarbox (virtual), Mr. Hatem (present).*

2. MINUTES

a. Minutes of May 20, 2025

MOTION: Ms. Faris moved to approve the minutes of May 20, 2025.

2ND: Mr. Mejia

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18966

3. 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. Mercedes

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18967

b. Consolidated Cash Reconciliation Report

c. Revolving Fund Report

d. Budget Report

e. Budget Transfers

Ms. Martel asked the District Committee to approve the Budget Transfers.

MOTION: Mr. Mejia moved to accept the Budget Transfers as presented.

2ND: Mr. Jones

Roll Call by District Recorder

Mr. Mercedes Yes

Mr. Tarbox Yes

Ms. Disla Yes

Ms. Faris Yes

Mr. Jones Yes

Mr. Mejia Yes

Mr. Hatem Yes

#18968

4. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Donations

- 2000 Toyota Camry, valued at \$3,100 donated by Thomas Kennedy, Westminister, MA 01473
- 2010 Ford Taurus, valued at \$1,750 donated by Christian Cano Molina, Haverhill, MA 01830
- Approximately 675 pair of work boots in various sizes and styles, donated by Brunt Workwear, North Reading, MA 01864

Ms. Disla questioned the dollar amount of the donated boots. Supt. Lavoie stated a value had not been provide and that GLTS does not put a value on donations. Supt. Lavoie said he'd follow up on values in the future.

b. Articles

- GLTS students show off skills at SkillsUSA
- Perfect Attendance, GLTS Senior hasn't missed school once in 13 years
- 423 Students Graduate from Greater Lawrence Tech

c. Public Participation

Chris Cyr and Christine Smith addressed the District Committee concerning SkillsUSA:

Mr. Cyr spoke in support of Christine Smith referencing a letter and supporting documentation. No investigation has taken place and therefore lacks transparency and creditability. With regards to Dr. Smith, he feels her record speaks for itself. Steps need to be taken to ensure this never happens again.

Dr. Smith expressed her frustration for not being rehired as SkillsUSA and being replaced by someone she feels has no skills advisory background whereas she has 16 years' experience. She reviewed her creditability and feels she has a strong case that can be validated. She wants to be granted school business days which was denied to her and would like the Board to look at why and how the decision was made not to rehire her.

MOTION: Ms. Faris moved to move the Executive Session item up on the Agenda.

2ND: Mr. Jones

Roll Call by District Recorder

Mr. Mercedes Yes

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

#18969

MOTION: Mr. Mercedes moved to enter Executive Session at 6:22PM.

2ND: Ms. Faris

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18970

Enter into Executive Session

Enter into Open Session

5. REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR

a. Update on Admissions Regulations

Supt. Lavoie updated the District Committee on the new Admissions to GLTS' Regulations.

Mr. Mejia mentioned that Districts could opt out and requested the District Committee send a letter to the legislature stating GLTS does not want to participate.

MOTION: Mr. Mejia moved to build a resolution to send to the Massachusetts Legislature against the lottery admission system.

2ND: Mr. Mercedes

Roll Call by District Recorder

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

#18973

b. Update on Veterinary and Animal Science Program

Supt. Lavoie updated the DC on The Veterinary and Animal Science Program stating a meeting had taken place and we've reached out to our attorney to see if it's possible. Another meeting will take place to discuss alternative ways to partner with them.

c. Update on the Leasing of Space at Holy Family Hospital

Supt. Lavoie updated the DC on the Leasing of Space at Holy Family Hospital stating a positive meeting had taken place with the President and Vice President to move some of our medical programs out to the hospital.

d. Update on Five Year NEASC Report

Supt. Lavoie updated the District Committee on GLTS Five-Year NEASC Report

e. Approval of Phase IV Field Contract

Supt. Lavoie updated the District Committee on the Phase IV Field Contract for Beyond Soccer stating the contract consists of a 15-year contract with an extension of five more years – the goal is to start using it in

September. Mr. Mejia questioned if the contract allowed for GLTS to move away from the contract in the future? Supt. Lavoie stated not without violating the contract. Mr. Mercedes asked if they'd requested 15 years to which Supt. Lavoie responded yes. Mr. Jones asked if we have a similar contract with Merrimack College to which Supt. Lavoie responded yes.

MOTION: Mr. Mejia moved for the Approval of Phase IV Field Contract.

2ND: Mr. Jones

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18974

f. Student Handbook Updates

Supt. Lavoie updated the District Committee on the changes to the Student Handbook SY2025-2026.

After some discussion wherein, District Committee members expressed their frustration about the inclusion of the dress code which they'd voted negatively on at a previous meeting, Supt. Lavoie stated he himself was unaware of it being included and was happy to bring it back to the Handbook Committee for revisions. Chair Hatem stated this item would carry over to the next meeting.

g. *GLTS Alumni Association Golf Tournament*

Chair Hatem reviewed the Golf Tournament which will be held Friday, August 1st in honor of the Messina Joncas family – a long time family association with GLTS. Ms. Faris spoke fondly about Joe saying he was one of a kind.

h. *Admissions Report*

Supt. Lavoie stated all DC members had a copy of the latest Admission Report in their packet.

i. *Co-Op Report*

Supt. Lavoie stated all DC members had a copy of the latest Co-Op Report in their packet.

j. Capital Improvement Approval

Supt. Lavoie updated the District Committee on the Capital Improvement Projects that were approved by the Capital Improvement Committee on June 12, 2025.

MOTION: Ms. Faris moved to approve the Capital Improvement Projects as presented.

2ND: Mr. Jones

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18975

6. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. *District Committee Priorities*

b. *Policy*

8. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Mejia extended condolences to the family of the police officer who passed away from the Lawrence Police Department, Thomas Cuddy – the District Committee honors his memory and service to the community.

9. TABLED MATTERS

10. PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS/REPORT

a. Resignations

b. Leaves of Absence

c. Retirements

d. Appointments

e. Job Postings

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to approve the Equitable Practices Team Facilitators: Summer (up to 2, up to 10 hours each), \$50.00 per hr. 7/1-8/31/25, Funding: Title 1 Grant (see attached)

2ND: Ms. Faris

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#

MOTION: Ms. Faris moved to approve the Extension Block Curriculum Developers, (up to 15 members, up to 20 hours each, \$50.00 per hr. 6/25-8/31/25, Funding: Title 1 Grant (see attached)

2ND: Mr. Mejia

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18976

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to approve MTSS Action Team Members (up to 10, up to 20 hours each), MTSS Action Team Facilitators (up to 2, up to 15 hours each) \$50.00 per hr. 7/1-8/31/25, Funding: Title 1 Grant (see attached)

2ND: Mr. Mejia

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18977

MOTION: Mr. Mejia moved to approve the Clean Energy Curriculum Summer Facilitator, \$50 per hour for up to 100 hours, 7/1-8/31-25, Funding: AGO Funded MVRF Clean Energy Grant (See Attached)

2ND: Mr. Jones

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18978

MOTION: Mr. Mercedes moved to approve the Technology Committee Summer Team, (up to 5 staff members, up to 20 hours each),7/1-8/31/25, Funding: Title 1 Grant (see attached)

2ND: Mr. Jones

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18979

MOTION: Mr. Mejia moved to approve the Curriculum Development - Health Curriculum, Development and revisions to the Freshman/Sophomore Health Curriculum, (DESE Health Frameworks) Hourly, Teacher (1), up to (20) hours total, \$50.00 per hr. 7/1-8/31/25, Funding: Title 1 Grant (see attached)

2ND: Ms. Faris

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18980

MOTION: Mr. Mejia moved to approve the IT personnel salary adjustments including FT and PT staff.

2ND: Ms. Faris

Roll Call by District Recorder

Ms. Disla Abstained

Ms. Faris Yes

Mr. Jones Yes

Mr. Mejia Yes

Mr. Mercedes Abstained

Mr. Tarbox Absent

Mr. Hatem Yes

4 yes', 2 abstained, 1 absent

Motion Passes

#18981

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to modify the title of Ms. Sonia Santana, Grants Manager to Operations Manager with no salary increase.

2ND: Ms. Faris

Roll Call by District Recorder

Mr. Jones Yes

Mr. Mejia Yes

Mr. Mercedes Yes

Mr. Tarbox Absent

Ms. Disla Yes

Ms. Faris Yes

Mr. Hatem Yes

6 yes', 1 absent

Motion Passes

#18982

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to accept the buyback of two weeks' vacation for Ms. Ayala.

2ND: Ms. Faris

Roll Call by District Recorder

Mr. Jones Yes

Mr. Mejia Yes

Mr. Mercedes Yes

Mr. Tarbox Absent

Ms. Disla Yes

Ms. Faris Yes

Mr. Hatem Yes

6 yes', 1 absent

Motion Passes

#18983

MOTION: Mr. Mejia moved to accept the carryover of 9 vacation days for the Supt.

2ND: Mr. Jones

Roll Call by District Recorder

Ms. Faris Yes

Ms. Disla Yes

Mr. Jones Yes
Mr. Mejia Yes
Mr. Mercedes Yes
Mr. Tarbox Absent
Mr. Hatem Yes
6 yes', 1 absent
#18984

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Add item for next meeting related to the transportation company

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Mejia moved to adjourn at 10:24PM

2ND: Ms. Faris

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#18985

Respectfully Submitted



Cheryl Dennis
District Recorder

Minutes Reviewed



John N. Lavoie
Superintendent-Director