



**DISTRICT COMMITTEE
OPEN MEETING MINUTES
MEETING #1901
June 26, 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 (Remote)
	Susan Lally	District Recorder

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hatem called the meeting to order at 5:15PM Roll Call by District Record: Ms. Faris (present), Ms. Disla (present), Mr. Jones (present), Mr. Mejia (present), Mr. Mercedes (absent), Mr. Tarbox (present-remote), Mr. Hatem (present)

Supt. Lavoie discussed the letter that was sent from Governor Maura Healey notifying Greater Lawrence Technical School a Career Technical Initiative Round 10 Grant in the amount of \$1,320,000.00 which will allow to continue our work for people in our community with new careers.

Chair Hatem asked the committee to add a job posting to the agenda.

Motion: Mr. Mejia moved to add a job posting to the agenda as presented

2nd: Mr. Jones

VOTE: Unanimous

#18985

2. REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR

a. Questions Regarding Supt. Evaluation

Chair Hatem asked the committee if they had any questions regarding the Superintendent’s evaluation. Ms. Disla reported that she asked to have this added to the agenda, because it was supposed to be addressed the last meeting. Chair Hatem reported that it wasn’t addressed because not all evaluations from the committee had been submitted. The evaluations have not been compiled. Ms. Disla reported that this should be a public process and should be brought for final approval after it is compiled. Supt. Lavoie reported that Ms. Lally takes the evaluations and calculates the standards and it gets submitted to Isobel, which is reported to DESE. This needs to be submitted by July 1st.

b. Out of State Travel

Ms. Gioia, Coordinator Student Information and Ms. Moran, Student Information Manager would like to attend the PowerSchool University Training event, September 30-October 3, 2025 in Harford, CT. Total Estimated Cost is: \$5,111.11.

MOTION: Ms. Faris moved to approve the out of state travel for Ms. Gioia, Coordinator Student Information and Ms. Moran, Student Information Manager to attend the PowerSchool University Training event, September 30-October 3, 2025 in Harford, CT. Total Estimated Cost is: \$5,111.11.

2nd: Mr. Jones

VOTE: Unanimous

#18986

c. Student Handbook Approval

Supt. Lavoie reported that he brought back the student handbook changes to the District Committee after not approving some change in the language regarding the dress code. The changes that were recommended by our attorney will not be incorporated in the handbook. We will keep the same language. The only changes will be the language about the black T-shirt. The other changes presented will be updated in the handbook.

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to approve the changes in the handbook

2nd: Ms. Disla for discussion only.

Ms. Disla reported that the last time we discussed footwear. We need to add some language that includes footwear. Supt. Lavoie reported that anything regarding safety wear, including footwear will be the same and there will be no changes in footwear. Ms. Faris asked what the change is to the uniforms for shop and academic weeks. She asked if all four grades will wear black shirts for shop and academic weeks? What was in the handbook was acceptable to us. I know that some of us didn't want uniforms, but I believe we have gotten over that hump. Why can't the handbook be left alone? Ms. Disla reported that wearing black t-shirts for both academics and shops makes sense. It is very clear and clean. Ms. Faris does not agree to this. The school is going to run into other things. Who decided this? Supt. Lavoie reported that this was discussed at the last meeting. He suggested that if the committee does not agree to this, we can discuss this further at the next meeting. Ms. Fairs does not believe she voted on this. Juniors and Seniors are going to have problems. I am not in favor of this. Ms. Disla stated that this is as simple as it gets. Everyone is going to wear their shop uniforms. Ms. Faris reported that Freshman and Sophomores will not be the problem, it will be the Juniors and the Seniors. They are older. I am for choice and can't see the students wearing black shirts for 10 days. Mr. Jones reported that one color is good, once they get used to it.

Ms. Disla reported that on page 76 in the handbook regarding nurses outside school events should be attended by a person who is certified to do CPR. Supt. Lavoie reported that we always have a trainer with them.

Ms. Disla wanted clarification on page 77 that refers to student failing classes and eligibility to participate in Athletics. Supt. Lavoie clarified that it is the responsibility of the Coaches to determine this.

MOTION: Ms. Disla moved to approve the changes to the handbook as presented.

2nd: Mr. Jones

Roll Call by District Recorder

Mr. Tarbox	No
Ms. Faris	No
Ms. Disla	Yes
Mr. Jones	Yes
Mr. Mejia	Abstain
Mr. Mercedes	Absent
Mr. Hatem	Yes

VOTE:

3 Yes, 2 Nos, 1 Abstain, 1 Absent

Motion passes

#18987

d. Job Posting

- Cooperative Education Summer Liaison

Supt. Lavoie reported that the full-time Cooperative Coordinator has been covering the summer in the past, but will not be doing that this year. This is a summer position only.

MOTION: Mr. Mejia moved to approve the job posting as presented.

2nd: Mr. Jones

VOTE: Unanimous

#18988

MOTION: Ms. Disla moved to move to executive session at 5:50PM.

2nd: Mr. Jones

VOTE: Unanimous

#18988

Enter Executive Session

Enter Open Session

Vice Chair Mr. Mejia Julio took over for Chair Hatem

MOTION: Ms. Faris moved to go into open session at 6:25PM.

2nd: Mr. Mercedes

VOTE: Unanimous

#18990

MOTION: Ms. Faris moved to approve the teachers' contract as presented.

2nd: Mr. Tarbox

Roll Call by District Recorder

Mr. Jones Yes

Mr. Mercedes Yes

Mr. Tarbox Yes

Ms. Faris Yes

Ms. Disla Yes

Mr. Hatem Yes

Mr. Mejia Yes

VOTE:

#18991

MOTION: Ms. Faris moved to approve the MAPSA contract as presented.

2nd: Mr. Tarbox

Roll Call by District Recorder

Ms. Disla Yes

Mr. Jones Yes

Mr. Mercedes Yes

Mr. Tarbox Yes

Ms. Faris Yes
Mr. Hatem Yes
Mr. Mejia Yes

VOTE:
#18992

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to approve the buyback vacation days for the IT Department

2nd: Ms. Faris

Roll Call by District Recorder

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

VOTE:
#18993

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to approve the buyback of ten sick days for Supt. Lavoie

2nd: Ms. Faris

Roll Call by District Recorder

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

VOTE:
#18994

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to approve the buyback of vacation days for MAPSA one time only.

2nd: Ms. Faris

Roll Call by District Recorder

Mr. Mercedes

Discussion asked by Mr. Mercedes at the time. Vice Chair clarified that there is not discussion. It was discussed in Executive Session. Mr. Mercedes apologized for attending late and does not know what he is voting on. Supt. Lavoie reported that it was requested was that the Director of Facilities could not take all his vacation time and to be consistent we had to offer to all of MAPSA. This is the one and only year.

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

VOTE:
#18995

4. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Jones move to adjourn at 6:35PM

2ND: Mr. Mercedes

VOTE: Unanimous

#18996

Respectfully Submitted



Susan Lally
District Recorder

Minutes Reviewed



John N. Lavoie
Superintendent-Director