

GREATER FALL RIVER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ADMISSIONS POLICY SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES
DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM
251 STONEHAVEN ROAD, FALL RIVER, MA
AUGUST 14, 2025

In attendance: Paul Jennings of Westport, Richard Manuels Jr. of Fall River and Jeffrey Begin of Swansea

Also in attendance were: Donald DiBiasio, School Committee Member, Joan Menard, School Committee Member, Brian Bentley, Superintendent-Director, Leslie Weckesser, Assistant Superintendent-Principal, Linda Griffin, Director of Guidance and Admissions, Jennifer DeMariano, Assistant Principal of Technical Affairs, Gregory Brillhante, Legal Counsel, and Helena Neves, Executive Secretary.

Remote Attendance: Decio Matos

The meeting began with a roll call at 5:15 p.m.

It was moved by Mr. Begin, seconded by Mr. Manuels, and voted to dispense with the reading of the November 7, 2024 minutes and approved them, as recorded.

Mr. Bentley began the discussion on the Go2CTE Software Program and deferred to Mrs. Griffin for an overview of the program. The software program will assist the district with the upcoming lottery system and will be used for the class of 2030. Mrs. Griffin stated that the Go2CTE software program will allow the district to run the lottery as a regular lottery or as a weighted lottery. The platform has the ability to translate the application into any language needed. Families can select a language from a simple drop-down list and it automatically translates the application. The platform will also assist students with shop selection as it allows them to revise their career choice if they change their minds. The platform can be used to submit and/or receive forms and send out mass notifications.

Mrs. Griffin stated that Go2CTE is an upgrade from the program currently being used. There is a one-time set up fee and then after it's a per application fee. Mr. Bentley stated that the platform is currently being used by other schools using the lottery system.

Mrs. Griffin stated that the platform will also assist in collecting data and trends. It will be able to compile data reports for exploratory that can be broken down by demographics, by town, and by shop.

Mrs. Weckesser stated that Go2CTE offers a third party validation form that states they are in control of the lottery which takes any ethics concerns away from the district. Mr. Bentley stated that the platform offers a fair leveled playing field for all applicants.

Mr. Begin asked what is the approximate cost per student. Mrs. Griffin stated that the cost is \$10,435 which includes the initial set up fee. The fee is calculated based on the enrollment of 365 multiplied by two which is about \$7 per student application.

Mrs. Weckesser stated that one of the many benefits of the program is that it will be able to take the enrollment demographics of students accepted this year and compare it to upcoming years to see how the lottery system affects enrollment. Mrs. Weckesser further stated that the platform has features that the district has not purchased but can be added at a later time if needed.

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Mr. Jennings asked that a meeting of the Admissions Sub-Committee be scheduled prior to the September 11th School Committee meeting to discuss the lottery system and the admissions policy.

It was moved by Mr. Manuels, seconded by Mr. Begin, and voted unanimously to adjourn the Admissions Sub-Committee meeting at 5:28 p.m.

Materials Included:

November 7, 2024 Minutes

Respectfully Submitted,

Helena Neves

Helena Neves, Executive Secretary