



**DISTRICT COMMITTEE
OPEN MEETING MINUTES
MEETING #1917
August 25, 2026**

<u>Members Present</u>	Thomas Hatem	Methuen	Chairperson
	Julio Mejia	Lawrence	Vice Chair
	William Tarbox	North Andover	Asst. Treasurer
	Zoila Disla	Lawrence	
	Bradley Jones	Methuen	
	Anne Marie Faris	Andover	
<u>Members Absent</u>	Edison Mercedes	Lawrence	
<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 (via Zoom), Mr. Mercedes (absent), Mr. Tarbox (present), Mr. Chair Hatem (present).

MOTION: Mr. Jones made a motion to move the Alumni Report up on the Agenda from item h to item a.

2ND: Mr. Tarbox

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#19218

2. MINUTES

a. Minutes of June 16, 2026

MOTION: Mr. Mejia moved to approve the minutes of June 16, 2026.

2ND: Mr. Jones

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#19219

3. FINANCE REPORT

a. Cash Balance Report

Mr. DiStefano read the Cash Balance Report.

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to approve the Cash Balance Report as presented.

2ND: Mr. Tarbox

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

b. Consolidated Cash Reconciliation Report

c. Revolving Fund Report

d. Budget Report

4. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Donations

Chair Hatem noted that Second Chance Cars donated \$5,100.00 for six students to complete their driver's education - \$850 per student.

b. Articles

- GLTS students refurbish cars for a cause, Eagle Tribune

c. Public Participation

5. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT-DIRECTOR

a. Alumni Report

Mr. Habib, Alumni Association Treasurer and Director of the golf tournament addressed the District Committee. The Alumni Association provides scholarships, and donates funds to support various projects and funds throughout the school. This year's golf tournament netted \$11,214.00 dollars. The Association has given \$98,000 back to the school in the past ten years and he acknowledged some of the individuals and sponsors who have been supportive and instrumental in its success. Mr. Jones commended Mr. Habib for putting together a solid crew. While also commending Mr. Habib, Ms. Faris suggested that each shop create and donate one item enabling 22 items to be auctioned off. Supt. Lavoie stated he has been discussing ways to increase alumni enrollment at monthly meetings. Having additional alumni-based activities with both Mr. Habib and Chair Hatem will strengthen the association and thereby provide support for the school. Supt. Lavoie would like the District Committee to approve the allocation and building of a space for the Alumni Association to work from. Chair Hatem requested something in writing prior to taking any action on it. Mr. Habib would like the Advisory Board to participate and be involved in the Association. Chair Hatem congratulated Mr. Habib for raising the \$98,000 – your efforts and support are appreciated, as well as you wife, Michelle.

b. Review of the School's Opening Agenda

Supt. Lavoie updated the District Committee on the School's Opening Agenda stating the opening was well planned and organized. He provided a copy of his opening remarks and the activities planned for the next few days, extending an invitation for all to attend and welcome the new freshmen.

c. NECC Health Careers Partnership Update

Supt. Lavoie and Lindsay Gangi, CTE Coordinator, updated the District Committee on the NECC Health Careers Partnership. Ms. Gangi addressed the District Committee reviewing the partnership with Northern Essex stating a lot of work took place over the summer. The agreement itself was signed on August 11th. She recognized all involved in the preparation of the transition and outlined the process in place for students attending this offering. The program will be monitored on a routine basis and adjustments will be made when necessary. Supt. Lavoie recognized that this program and its reality has occurred due to the hard work of three specific individuals: Ms. Gangi, Asst. Supt. Richardson and Lauren Jones. This is the first program of its kind and will serve as a model. Ms. Gangi reported that it will be at the Lawrence campus. Mr. Mejia commended the implementation of this program which is exactly the kind of initiative that will provide the pathway for meaningful careers. Supt. Lavoie recognized that all the programs that have been started and taken place do not

happen without the support of the District Committee.

d. Summer Projects Update

Supt. Lavoie updated the District Committee on the Summer Projects emphasizing that the cleaning and preparation for the building is an enormous task that occurs while operations are ongoing within the school.

- ***New Cafeteria Update***

The Board of Health has visited - all underground changes have been completed and the project should move along fairly quickly once the floor is down.

- ***Autobody Addition***

This project should have been ready for school opening but it has not been completed - contacting attorney to see when we can get the contractor moving on this.

- ***Public Safety Barn***

Only items left are the installation of the handicap lift the and geothermal system. Funded by the clean energy center. Scheduled to open a year from September and should be on target.

- ***Create academic classrooms in former Health/Medical space***

Six classrooms have been put into this space

- ***Expand BRYT Room space***

- ***Create new office for Workforce Development***

Two new offices

- ***Phase IV Field Update***

The turf field bid is going out the end of the week - completion date is the middle/end of November. The field should be ready to play on next spring.

- ***Painting (Inside & Outside)***

- ***Install 100 TVs in Academic Classrooms***

- ***Facilities work and move into NECC Health/Medical***

Almost complete - minimal amount of work at minimal cost.

e. Grants Update

Supt. Lavoie provided an update on the CTI Grant for \$824,000. He indicated that this was the more recent grant received during the summer which enables GLTS to continue working to train unemployed and underemployed individuals in our community. He went on to review additional grants received which included: CTE framework alignment grant for \$40,000, college work grant for \$12,460.00, Mass Clean Energy grant for \$750,000.00, Cummings Foundation for workforce development - \$20,000.00, LSIC for \$6,300.00, \$1,000,000.00 from the Fidelity Foundation, CTE planning for \$25,000.00, and \$10,000.00 from the United Way. We're encouraging our administrators to become more involved in acquiring grants.

f. Admissions Report

Asst. Supt. Richardson provided an update on Admissions and noted the numbers tend to fluctuate at the start of the school year. As of today, there are 492 freshmen enrolled, two others have accepted an offer and are in the process. We have six open spots and have sent out an additional six offerings today. We're hoping to get to

500 in early to mid-September. We accepted six transfer students. Currently have 497 students in the sophomore class and 485 juniors. Every year the dc reviews the admission policy and we'll probably present that at our September meeting. Ms. Disla questioned if there was a different lottery for transfers to which Asst. Supt. Richardson responded yes.

g. Meeting with Methuen City Council

Supt. Lavoie updated the District Committee on an upcoming meeting with the Methuen City Council and indicated he had reached out to schedule a meeting with the president to strengthen our relationship - want to improve the work that we do with them. She's agreed to put something together for myself and the Council to meet.

h. Building Addition Update

Supt. Lavoie updated the District Committee on the Building Addition and stated that the addition being constructed on the back of the school was for the expansion of the health program. The architect has been hired and we've reached out to a potential project manager.

6. REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. District Committee Priorities

b. Policy

8. NEW BUSINESS

9. TABLED MATTERS

10. PERSONNEL CONSIDERATIONS/REPORT

a. Resignations

- Robert Desario, Electrical Instructor, July 6, 2026
- Clancy Krueger, Career Transition Specialist, June 30, 2026
- Katherine Martinez, Cafeteria, June 30, 2026
- Agneris Vazquez, BRYT Academic Coordinator, June 30, 2026
- Debbie Bettencourt, Advanced Manufacturing Instructor, June 30, 2026
- Nicole Mahone, Math Instructor, June 30, 2026
- Annemarie Guertin, Early Childhood Instructor, July 7, 2026
- Andrew String, Robotics & AuChair Hatemation Instructor, July 28, 2026
- Alisha Dolan, Instructional Coach, July 28, 2026

b. Leaves of Absence

c. Retirements

d. Appointments

- Tia Gerber, Workforce Development Coordinator August 25, 2026
- Annie Mojica, Administrative Assistant, August 25, 2026
- Ryan Sarmanian, Math Instructor, August 25, 2026
- Lauren Potvin, Special Education Instructor, August 25, 2026
- Angela Polizzotti, Early Childhood Instructor, August 25, 2026

- Kimberly Carpinone, Special Education Instructor, August 25, 2026
- Joao Santos Oliveira, School Security, August 25, 2026
- Erica Maldonado, Aviation Instructor, August 25, 2026
- Arianna Barnes, Math Interventionist, August 25, 2026
- Lizbert Acosta, Math Instructor, August 25, 2026
- Shamaika Marcellus, ML Instructor, August 25, 2026
- Carrie Hartigan, Special Education Instructor, August 25, 2026
- Susan Maille, Dental Instructor, August 25, 2026
- Nicolas Troisi, Biotechnology Instructor, August 25, 2026
- Matthew Moll, Environmental Science Instructor, August 25, 2026
- Lance Little, Electrical Instructor, August 25, 2026
- Daniela Greene, BRYT Clinical Coordinator, August 25, 2026
- Carrie Brooks, Electrical Instructor, August 25, 2026
- Edwin Lurvey, Advanced Manufacturing Instructor, August 25, 2026
- Jennifer-Ann Caruso, Director of Day Care, August 19, 2026
- Annie Mojica, Administrative Assistant, August 25, 2026
- Joao Santos, School Security, August 25, 2026
- Jake Fogarty, School Security, August 25, 2026
- Amy Desrochers, School Security, August 25, 2026
- Jose Perez, PT Custodian Weekends, August 25, 2026
- Alan Navarro, School Security, August 25, 2026
- Angie Acosta, BRYT Academic Coordinator-Para, August 25, 2026

Internal Transfers:

- Steven Martinez, transferring from School Security to Early Education and Child Care Paraprofessional
- Madisyn Portorreal, transferring from the Guidance office (Admissions Support Specialist) to the Business office (Business Office Specialist)
- Ivan Perez is transferring from a Child Care Assistant to Early Education and Child Care Paraprofessional
- Paula Thompson, transferring from Administrative Assistant to PT Substitute Teacher Coordinator

e. Job Postings:

- Early College Program Lead, September, 2026-June, 2027, Grant Funded, New Position, (See attached).
- PT School Security, 3pm-8:45pm, Grant Funded, New Position (See attached).
- Part-time IT Helpdesk Support (See attached)
- Workforce & Industry Partnership Developer (See attached)
- Paraprofessional: Vocational (See attached).

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to approve the Job Postings as presented.

2ND: Mr. Mejia

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#19221

Ms. Disla questioned if the transfers had been posted to which Supt. Lavoie reported that they were and individuals have applied. Mr. Jones questioned if staffing were adequate or were additional employees required? Supt. Lavoie responded that some additional hiring was necessary but very little.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to enter into Executive Session at 6:59PM.

2ND: Mr. Mejia

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#19222

ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

ENTER OPEN SESSION

13. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Jones moved to adjourn at 7:41PM.

2ND: Ms. Faris

VOTE: Unanimously Approved

#19225

Respectfully Submitted



Cheryl Dennis
District Recorder

Minutes Reviewed



John N. Lavoie
Superintendent-Director