



WHITTIER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

A regular meeting of the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School Committee was held on **Wednesday, January 8, 2020**, at 115 Amesbury Line Road, Haverhill, Massachusetts.

Members Present: Dick Early Paul Tucker Ron Fitzgerald
Garry James Dave Irving Charlie LaBella
Brett Murphy Johanna True Chip O'Connor
Lisa O'Connor Tony LeSage

Members Absent: JoAnn Testaverde, Scott Wood, Ben Fichera

Others Present: Maureen Lynch, Superintendent
Chris Laganas, Principal
Kara Kosmes, Business Manager

Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Mr. Murphy began the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

By motion of Mr. Tucker, seconded by Mr. Irving to approve the Minutes of the Regular School Committee meeting for December 11, 2019 as presented.
Unanimous

By motion of Mr. LeSage, seconded by Ms. True to accept the Treasurer's Report for December 2019 as presented. Unanimous

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business posted.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

There was no student representative report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Personnel Action

The Superintendent, Maureen Lynch reported on the hiring of evening school machine technology instructors, evening school registration helpers, and winter coaches.

Budget Update

Ms. Lynch reported that the Executive Subcommittee met January 8, 2020 to discuss the FY21 budget. At that meeting, they began with a 6.79% increase which will be reduced for the next Executive Subcommittee meeting.

MCAS Update

Ms. Lynch reported that an MCAS appeal on a senior for the Biology MCAS exam was received so 100% of the Class of 2020 has passed in all three areas of English, math and biology.

Superintendent's Update

Ms. Lynch reported that on Thursday, December 12, 2019, she met with Elaine Barker and Dougan Sherwood of the Haverhill Chamber of Commerce. On Thursday, December 12, 2019, she attended the Holiday Concert at Whittier. She congratulated the student performers and Linda Urban the choral instructor. She also thanked Chip O'Connor for attending the concert and for his food donation. On Wednesday, December 18, 2019, she attended the Massachusetts School Safety Initiative meeting in Lexington along with a few other MASS representatives, the FBI and Secret Service. They are a small working team developing school safety protocols.

Ms. Lynch reported that DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) submitted an overnight field trip request to attend the DECA State Conference in Boston, February 27-29, 2020.

By motion of Mr. Irving, seconded by Mr. James to approve the overnight field trip request from DECA to attend the DECA State Conference in Boston, February 27-29, 2020 as presented. Unanimous

The Teacher Coach was unable to attend the meeting tonight. Her presentation will be rescheduled to February.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. Chris Laganas, the Principal provided a principal's update. Staff and students are preparing for mid-term exams. They will be held Tuesday, January 21st – Friday, January 24th. During mid-term week, Tia Roy, Director of Community Partnerships will be coordinating the "Half-Time Show". All freshmen will be exposed to a number of engaging presentations and activities. Students will learn about career exploration, shop selection, SkillsUSA, Student Government, Cooperative Education, Clubs & Athletics, and vaping/school safety. Students will also have the opportunity to learn from each other during a series of Team Building activities in small groups in the gym on Thursday, January 23rd. On Friday, January 24th, students will hear from a diverse alumni panel. The Program of Studies is being updated to build the Master Schedule for next year. Before the holiday break, Superintendent Lynch and staff member Alex Valhouli came up with an idea to have a "chili-off" contest. Ten staff members participated in the contest. Staff members paid \$5 each and could sample the chili recipes and judge. All donations went into the Whittier foundation which raised over \$600. Whittier's Attendance Monitor, Karen O'Reilly won the contest and was awarded VIP parking for a month and a trophy. The Holiday fund raised over \$13,000. Between Thanksgiving and the winter holidays Whittier helped over 150 students and their families. Mr. Laganas thanked everyone for their contributions.

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Kara Kosmes, the Business Manager provided the Variance Analysis as required by the annual agenda. She answered a few questions for members.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Murphy went over the annual agenda items for February. Mr. Murphy reported that the 2020 Standard Mileage Rate form the IRS is 57.5 cents. Mr. Murphy asked the Committee to vote on acceptance of the rate.

By motion of Mr. Tucker, seconded by Mr. Irving to accept the 2020 Standard Mileage Rate from the IRS of 57.5 cents. Unanimous

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

The Executive Subcommittee met January 8, 2020. They will meet again on February 5, 2020 at 5:30 pm.

The Instructional Subcommittee has not met.

The Plant Operations Subcommittee has not met.

The Salary & Negotiations Subcommittee has not met.

The Policy Subcommittee has not met. Mr. Irving stated that the Expense Reimbursement Policy – DKC was provided in the packets for a second and final reading.

By motion of Mr. Irving, seconded by Mr. Tucker to approve the Expense Reimbursements Policy - DKC for a second and final reading as presented. Approved – 1 opposed (T. LeSage)

MEETING DATES

The Executive Subcommittee will meet on February 5, 2020 at 5:30 pm. The next Regular School Committee meeting is February 5, 2020 at 6:30 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business posted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session posted.

By motion of Mr. Irving, seconded by Mr. LeSage to adjourn at 6:45 P.M.
Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Rand
Recording Secretary