



WHITTIER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

A regular meeting of the Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School Committee was held on **Wednesday, June 12, 2019**, at 115 Amesbury Line Road, Haverhill, Massachusetts.

Members Present: Alana Gilbert Chip O'Connor Dick Early
Paul Tucker Garry James JoAnn Testaverde
Brett Murphy Johanna True Tony LeSage

Members Absent: Charlie LaBella, Lisa O'Connor, Ben Fichera, Scott Wood,
Dave Irving

Others Present: Maureen Lynch, Superintendent
Kara Kosmes, Business Manager
Catherine McNulty, Student Representative

Ms. Gilbert called the meeting to order at 6:34 P.M. Ms. Gilbert began the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

By motion of Mr. Tucker, seconded by Mr. LeSage to approve the Minutes of the Regular School Committee meeting for May 8, 2019 as presented. Unanimous

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

By motion of Mr. Tucker, seconded by Mr. LeSage to authorize the District Treasurer under the provisions of Section 6(g) of Chapter 156 of the Acts of 1967 and Chapter 134 of the Acts of the 1972 and with the approval of the Chairperson of the District Committee, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of revenue for the 12-month period beginning July 1, 2019 and to issue a note of notes therefore, payable within the fiscal year 2020." Unanimous

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Gilbert reported that she has received 10 of the evaluations for the Superintendent from Committee members. She asked that members if they would like to go over the

results or wait until the August meeting so the members that have not submitted one can do so.

By motion of Mr. Early, seconded by Mr. LeSage to review the results of the Superintendent's evaluation at the August meeting. Unanimous

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Catherine McNulty provided an update on sports and activities of the different clubs. The GSA wished everyone a happy Pride month. It has been a pleasure working with the LGBT and students and their allies at Whittier. The Chess Club had a considerable increase in members this year. They had their first in-house tournament, which was won by 9th grader Brian Lindsey. Chess Club is looking forward to a strong start next year and moving forward with more tournaments, as well as break-out sessions to work on strategy and different aspects of the game. Student Government finished the year off strong by having a few meetings with their newly elected members and planning for the next school year. They honored veterans for Memorial Day with a special Memorial Day tribute. Students sang the Star Spangled Banner and God Bless America, recognition to one of Whittier's own fallen heroes Evan O'Neil, and they also participated in the Haverhill Memorial Day Parade. Peer Leadership recruited 55 members for the 2019-2020 academic year. They are welcoming new peer leaders at a meeting this week and will start leadership training by running a workshop on oral presentation skills. DECA wrapped up with 11 students attending the State Conference Competition and have been working on competitions for the fall. There will be an open meeting for all interested members at the start of the new school year. Interact Club wrapped up the year by hosting a Wildcat Walk. With the help of Peer to Peer and track, they are donating \$375 to the Haverhill Relay for Life. There will be an open meeting for all interested members at the start of the new school year. The Drama students sang the Star Spangled Banner at graduation. Some seniors from music classes, drama and choral clubs participated in the Senior Variety Show on their last day of school. The Multicultural Club had a meaningful year getting to know one another and learning about new customs in the community. They sponsored student presentations, discussions, games, music and movies from other cultures. They continue to advocate for the appreciation of the diverse culture at Whittier and throughout the area. The Key Club elected their new officers and looking forward to next year. At their last meeting, they discussed summer community service ideas and

started making plans for the fall. Girls' varsity lacrosse finished strong with much improvement this year. It was the first year of both varsity and JV teams. Boys' track finished out the season placing 3rd overall in the CAC's. They had seven athletes move on to the Division 3 State Track and field championships at Merrimack College. Joshua Rousseau placed seventh overall at the shot put at the States and fourth overall at discus. Joshua then qualified for the All States at discus and finished out as the twelfth overall discus thrower in the State of Massachusetts. There are several athletes who are going on to compete at the Division 2 and 3 collegiate level next fall. The boys' lacrosse team finished the season with a 5-13 record. Four (4) members of the team were selected as CAC All-Stars and will participate in the All-Star game on Friday, June 14th. The boys' baseball team lost a heartbreaker to Wakefield 2-1 in the quarterfinals of the North MIAA State Tournament. The boys had an amazing year going 17-3 and being named the CAC Champions. The girls' softball team continues their quest for the state championship when they play Gloucester High School on Wednesday, June 12th at Lowell Cawley Stadium at 3:30 pm. In the quarterfinals, Whittier knocked off MVC powerhouse Dracut High School 3-2 in 9 innings.

Ms. Lynch stated there are four (4) individuals retiring at the end of the school year and they were at the meeting. She introduced Ilona Closs, school nurse; Lynn Messman, English instructor; John (Jack) Ulrich, CAD instructor; and Earl Corr, carpentry instructor. Ms. Lynch presented each of them Citations from Senator DiZioglio's Office and Representative Lenny Mirra's Office along with certificates from Whittier. Ms. Lynch thanked them for their years of dedicated service to Whittier and wished them luck in their retirement.

Ms. Lynch introduced Tracy Fuller from the YMCA. Tracy is the Regional Director for the YMCA. She provided a presentation to the Committee on the Early Learning Center they are opening at Whittier next school year. She stated they have 32 open slots for staff and students to bring their children. If there are open slots after Whittier staff and students have had the opportunity to enroll their children, they will open it up to members of the community.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Personnel Action

The Superintendent, Maureen Lynch reported on the hiring of a CAD instructor, English instructor, individuals to work in the biology grade 10 spring MCAS after school program, a substance abuse diversion program/curriculum developer, Title I program evaluators, a Special Education program and procedure manual developer, individuals

to work in the summer 2019 MCAS enrichment program, individuals to work in the project discovery summer 2019 program, individuals to work in the summer 2019 sports program, cluster chair/department heads for 2019-2020, a working forer, nurse to update student health and immunization records, articulation agreement coordinator, class/club advisors for 2019-2020, game clock officials and event ticket collectors and a peer leadership advisor.

Budget Update

Ms. Lynch reported that Whittier has an approved budget with the last city council meeting with Haverhill on Thursday, June 19, 2019.

MCAS Update

Ms. Lynch reported that on May 21st and 22nd, Whittier administered the math MCAS to all grade 10 students on the iPad. On June 4th and 5th, Whittier administered the biology MCAS to all grade 9 and 10 students on paper. There were approximately 650 students that took the exam. The Class of 2019 was the 13th graduating Class at Whittier with 100% graduating with their high school diploma and completing the MCAS requirement. The Class of 2020 has one student who needs to pass the science MCAS requirement. Whittier will be running a free MCAS prep program for incoming 9th and current 9th grade students on Mondays – Thursdays from July 8th – August 1st from 8 am – 12 pm.

Superintendent's Update

Ms. Lynch reported that on Monday, May 13, 2019, she attended the Merrimac Town meeting with Kara Kosmes. On Tuesday, May 14, 2019, she attended the Kiwanis Tradesperson of the Year ceremony at Whittier Tech. She congratulated Peter Kelleher for winning that award and also thanked the Haverhill Kiwanis Club for their ongoing support. On Tuesday, May 14, 2019, she attended the Ipswich Town meeting with Kara Kosmes and Garry James. On Thursday, May 16, 2019, she attended the Amesbury City Council meeting with Kara Kosmes and Tony LeSage. On Monday, May 20, 2019, she attended a meeting at DESE as a member of the Madison Park Task Force. On Monday, May 20, 2019, she attended the Salisbury Town meeting with Kara Kosmes and Alana Gilbert. On Tuesday, May 21, 2019, she attended the Newburyport City Council meeting. On Friday, May 24, 2019, she met with Marjorie Ringrose from the Smith Foundation to discuss how we can expand vocational education. On Tuesday, May 28, 2019, she attended the prom at the Atkinson Country Club. On Thursday, May 30, 2019, was the graduation for the Class of 2019. The weather held out and it was a wonderful night. She congratulated the Class of 2019 on their many

accomplishments. On Tuesday, June 11, 2019, she attended the MAVA Officers' meeting at the DESE in Malden. At that meeting, they met with Commissioner, Jeff Riley. There is much discussion about some regulatory changes to vocational education. Friday, June 14, 2019 is the last day of the 2018-2019 school year. She thanked students, staff and faculty. She reviewed the many accomplishments of the school year: a new Allied Health Center for dental assisting, medical assisting and health assisting programs was opened; added a dental assisting program and a \$420,000 Capital Skills Grant; 100% graduation rate; an increase in cooperative education with 65% of the senior class working in co-op jobs in their field; a visit from the Governor and Lt. Governor to kick off their inauguration with a pep rally at Whittier; more Skills USA winners than ever before. Whittier had 100 students attend the state competition with 25 of those students winning medals. There will be 15 students going to Louisville, Kentucky at the end of the month; established a new childcare center for the 2019-2020 school year; had 45 seniors earning college credits while they were at Whittier; Social Emotional Learning initiative throughout the District in order to not only take care of the educational needs but the emotional needs of students as well; instituted a peer leadership group; increase in evening school students and adding programs such as a cosmetology program; increase in alumni relations; a new food service company for the cafeteria; post-secondary opportunities expansions; new security badges and new front entrance; The Health, Business, Marketing and Culinary Arts students hosted an educational Alzheimer's Event that raised \$7,000 for research at Brigham and Women's and Massachusetts General Hospital; the masonry, carpentry, electrical, metal fab and autobody students and staff built a beautiful new welcome sign; Whittier had the most in-district applications (612) for the Class of 2024 in the school's history. The incoming freshman class is approximately 370 students; The Whittier Tech Foundation hosted a golf tournament and Kentucky Derby event that raised approximately \$30,000 for the foundation for scholarships and to help students in need.

Ms. Lynch reported that the Business Manager has provided a list of items that have been donated to benefit Whittier's educational and vocational programs and requests acceptance of them from the Committee.

By motion of Mr. Tucker, seconded by Mr. LeSage to accept the following donations with gratitude: equipment to be used in the electrical shop from the Estate of Lionel Crete, c/o Steven Hardy of Merrimac; equipment to be used in metal fabrication machine shop from Jaimie Bezanson, Tru Form Precision Manufacturing of Plaistow, NH; cutting tools to be used in metal fabrication machine shop from Michael Munday, Arwood Machine Corp.; 14 electrical wall sconces, box of drills, taps, dies, end mills and 1 modern new in box to be used in electrical and machine shops from Charles Rollins of Merrimac; 3 degreasing tanks and a large box of various sizes of new hardware to be used

in auto body and metal fabrication from Michael Moulton, Fairview machine Corporation; drawer fronts, face frames and drawer guides to be used in the carpentry shop from Evie Hantzopoulos of Peabody; a monetary donation to be used in the Business/Marketing Credit for Life Program from Thomas Faulkner, President of the Kiwanis Club of Haverhill; furnaces, boilers and heaters to be used in HVAC from Bay State Gas, d/b/a Columbia Gas, Andre M. Wright of Merrillville, IN; and carbide inserts to be used in the machine shop from A.W. Chesterton Company of Groveland for a total value of donations of \$41,232.80.
Unanimous

Ms. Lynch recommended that the School Committee establish up to four (4) maintenance co-op positions. She stated these students would perform light maintenance work alongside the maintenance staff.

By motion of Mr. LeSage, seconded by Dr. Testaverde to establish up to four (4) maintenance co-op positions as presented. Unanimous

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

There was no Principal report.

BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT

Ms. Kara Kosmes, the Business Manager reported that the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 requires schools to provide the same level of support for lunches served to students who are not eligible for free or reduced lunches. This requirement needs to be reviewed annually to assure compliance with the paid lunch equity requirement. It was recommended that lunch prices for students be increased to \$3.25 for all standard meals and an optional premium meal be added at a cost of \$3.70 for students; breakfast prices be increased to \$1.75 per meal and milk to 60 cents for students and adult/staff meal prices be increased to \$4.00 for all standard meals, premium meal lunches be added at a cost of \$4.45, adult breakfast be increased to \$2.00 and milk be increased to 65 cents in order to be in compliance with the requirement that adult meal prices be at least the reimbursement rate for free lunch plus the USDA commodity food allowance rate plus applicable taxes.

By motion of Mr. Tucker, seconded by Mr. Murphy to increase lunch prices for students to \$3.25 for all standard meals and an optional premium meal be added

at a cost of \$3.70 for students; breakfast prices be increased to \$1.75 per meal and milk to 60 cents for students and adult/staff meal prices be increased to \$4.00 for all standard meals, premium meal lunches be added at a cost of \$4.45, adult breakfast be increased to \$2.00 and milk be increased to 65 cents in order to be in compliance with the requirement that adult meal prices be at least the reimbursement rate for free lunch plus the USDA commodity food allowance rate plus applicable taxes. Unanimous

Ms. Kosmes, provided FY19 budget line item transfers in the amount of \$405,562. She reported that this will allow the District to move forward with the purchase of equipment, supplies and repairs needed for next year and bring other accounts into balance.

By motion of Ms. True, seconded by Mr. Early to authorize budget line item transfers in the amount of \$405,562.00 as outlined in the Business Manager's memorandum of June 4, 2019. Unanimous

Ms. Kosmes provided an FY19 capital outlay appropriation transfer request in the amount of \$42,315.30. The transfer request will appropriate savings from the boiler and other building improvement projects to fund the Allied Health equipment and the athletic turf field project.

By motion of Mr. Early, seconded by Mr. James to authorize reallocation of FY19 capital outlay funds as outlined in the Business Manager's memorandum of June 4, 2019. Unanimous

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

Ms. Gilbert went over the annual agenda items for June. There are no policy updates at this time. There will be a meeting in August. She asked who would like to attend the MASC/MASS conference in November. The following members said they would like to attend: Johanna True, Tony LeSage, Garry James, Jo-Ann Testaverde and Dave Irving.

By motion of Dr. Testaverde, seconded by Mr. Early to nominate Dave Irving as delegate for the MASC/MASS Joint Conference. Unanimous

By motion of Dr. Testaverde, seconded by Ms. True to nominate Garry James as alternate delegate for the MASC/MASS Joint Conference. Unanimous

Ms. Gilbert stated there is no need for a July meeting unless there is an emergency and in that case the Chair would call a meeting.

By motion of Dr. Testaverde, seconded by Mr. Murphy to forego the July meeting unless there is an emergency at which time the Chair would call for a meeting.
Approved – 1 Opposed (P.Tucker)

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

The Executive Subcommittee has not met.

The Instructional Subcommittee has not met.

The Plant Operations Subcommittee met June 12, 2019.

The Salary & Negotiations Subcommittee has not met.

The Policy Subcommittee met May 8, 2019. They will meet on August 14, 2019 at 6:15 pm.

By motion of Dr. Testaverde, seconded by Mr. LeSage to approve the minutes of May 8, 2019 as presented. Unanimous

MEETING DATES

The Regular School Committee meeting is August 14, 2019 at 6:30 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business posted. Ms. Gilbert told the Committee with great sadness that she will have to resign from the Committee at the end of August because she is moving to NH.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session posted.

By motion of Mr. LeSage, seconded by Mr. James to adjourn at 7:26 P.M.
Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Rand
Recording Secretary