

ESSEX NORTH SHORE AGRICULTURAL & TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
562 MAPLE STREET, HATHORNE, MA 01937-0346

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

MAY 14, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: G.R. Harvey, Essex, Chairman
M. Sweeney, Marblehead, Vice Chairman
M. Patterson, Department of Agriculture
D. Blake, Beverly
M. Amato, Boxford
W. Marquis, Danvers
M. Teixeira, Gloucester (Arrived 7:15 p.m.)
D. Ketcham, Hamilton
J. Sabella, Manchester (Arrived 7:05 p.m.)
A. Liteplo, Middleton
E. Johnson, Nahant
J. Liacos, Peabody
T. St. Pierre, Salem
W. Nichols, Wenham

MEMBERS ABSENT: L. Siewko-Story, Department of Agriculture, Secretary
P. Anderson, Lynnfield
B. Perkins, Rockport
W. Jackson, Swampscott
C. Robinson, Topsfield

OTHERS PRESENT: D. O'Connell, Superintendent-Director
B. Morgan, Principal
M. Znamierowski, Business Manager
C. Worth, District Treasurer
C. Levesque, Recording Secretary
A. Marquis, Student Representative
H. Marchant, Student Representative

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The recording secretary called the roll. It was noted that a quorum was present.

Mr. Harvey introduced and welcomed new members Ms. Esther Johnson from Nahant and Mr. James Liacos from Peabody.

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. St. Pierre and unanimously VOTED to move Item 7c, 7a and 7b Out of Order.

7c. Natural Resource Management (NRM) Presentation Mr. Crofts and Students

Mr. Crofts stated that the District was awarded a grant to study Natural Resource Management and the District matched those funds.

Mr. Crofts reported that the Mission Goals of Natural Resource Management are to create an improved educational resource on campus, improve water quality, to continue assessing and mapping hydrology, reduce negative impacts on our wetland and create a scenic area for visitors to relax in and enjoy. They are collaborating with Carpentry, Plumbing, Landscape/Arbor, Biotechnology and Design and Visual Communications Career and Technical Education (CTE) areas.

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Mr. Crofts explained that the importance of wetlands is Education, Community Drinking Water, Flood Control, Habitat and Aesthetics & Recreation.

Mr. Crofts reported that NRM aims to legally improve and restore our wetland through scientific mapping and analysis. NRM seeks to nurture working relationships with other CTE areas, professionals, and state government agencies to implement our management plan.

The 12th grade students that participated in this project were: Beth Arnold and AJ Leno from Peabody; Devin Baker and Christine Cafiso from Methuen; Tyler Clements and Nick Gagnon from Beverly; Talon Ouellette from Salisbury; Bradley Cole from Haverhill and Wilson Alvarez from Lawrence.

7a Recipient of the Walter J. Markhum Award

Mr. O'Connell introduced Sydney Lovelace recipient of the Walter J. Markhum Award. The Markhum Award recognizes a graduating senior from an approved Chapter 74 program who exhibits leadership, good school attendance, excellence in technical studies and excellence in academic achievement.

Mr. O'Connell reported that no student has ever won this award in the history of Essex Aggie, North Shore Tech or Peabody Vocational.

Mr. O'Connell stated that Sydney Lovelace is a senior in the Health Assisting Program and resides in Rockport. Sydney is a diligent student who has earned a 4.4 GPA throughout her high school career. Sydney chose to take a math class last summer at a local college to be sure that she was in the highest level math class in her senior year. She had participated in externships at local facilities where she has worked with adults who have developmental disabilities and Alzheimer's. Sydney is First Aid and certified in CPR and OSHA and a Certified Nursing Assistant.

Outside of the classroom Sydney was a member of the Community Service Club, Skills/USA and the National Honor Society. Sydney has given up two summers to participate in medical camps at John's Hopkins University and Babson University. Sydney will attend Boston University in the fall in the pre-med program.

7b. Recipient of the MVA Student of the Year

Mr. O'Connell introduced Douglas Bean, recipient of the MVA Student of the Year scholarship.

Douglas is from Danvers and a senior in the Electrical program a. Doug has earned a 4.61 GPA and challenges himself by enrolling in the most rigorous course load to help him prepare for college. Doug is a member of the National Honor Society, Peer Mentoring Program and the Drama Club.

Outside of the classroom Doug is involved with the Holy Trinity United Methodist Church in Danvers, has rebuilt playgrounds, volunteers with Special Olympics and works with a hospice support group for children who have lost a parent. Doug is known for his leadership abilities, compassion and work ethic. Doug will attend Electrical Engineering at Rochester Institute of Technology.

2. Student Representatives Report

Ms. Marchant reported that the Drama Club performed the full version of "Almost, Maine" on May 8th and 9th at 6:00 p.m. in Smith Hall's auditorium.

Skills/USA State Leadership and Conference

Ms. Marchant reported that the following students placed at the Skills/USA State Competition:

Tom Gallione, Bronze, Masonry

Brett Manzi, Silver, Design & Visual

Tyler Clements, Beth Arnold and Matthew Brown, Silver, Career Pathways Natural Resources
Brooke Miles, Jessica Locke, Isabel Clarke, Silver, Career Pathways Industry & Engineering Tech
(The students that placed in Career Pathways Showcase are former students of Essex Aggie and the newest members of Skills/USA)

Prabhjot Kaur was elected State Officer and will attend the National Leadership Conference in Louisville, KY with Victoria Ambrifi and Angelina Spanks.

Ms. Marquis reported on the results of the boys and girls spring sport programs.

Essex Tech's First Annual Auction was held on May 7th in the gymnasium and raised over \$9,000.00. This event is a major fundraiser for all four classes. Local restaurants were on hand for a "Taste of the Region" and there were many great items to bid on.

3. Tentative Regular Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2015 for Approval
A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. St. Pierre and VOTED to approve the Tentative Regular Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2015 as presented. Abstentions: Ms. Teixeira, Mr. Ketcham and Mr. Nichols.

4. Business Manager's Report
Mrs. Worth, District Treasurer, reported that Mrs. Znamierowski is absent tonight as she is attending the MASBO Conference.

Mrs. Worth reported that there are no issues with cash flow. Mrs. Znamierowski is following up with the communities that have not yet paid their assessments or tuition.

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and VOTED unanimously to approve the November 30, 2014, December 31, 2014, January 31, 2015 and February 28, 2015 Balance Sheets as presented.

5. Communications
Communications included in the packet were read and accepted.

Notice of Retirement

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Dr. Patterson to accept with regret and gratitude Ms. White's notice of retirement effective December 31, 2015.

Dr. Patterson stated that Ms. White stepped up when the Superintendent's position was vacated at Essex Aggie and did a fantastic job. Dr. Patterson felt strongly that the transition was enhanced by her efficient work.

Mr. O'Connell talked about how helpful Ms. White was in the merger transition and she was a valuable Ag Tech Leader for the merger of Essex Aggie and at Essex Tech.

Mr. O'Connell reported that some changes will be made to the Administrative Organization Chart. Part of his plan is to create positions that will result in a cost savings.

Mrs. Amato suggested that moving forward the administration consider succession planning i.e. temperature of the staff, suggestions for improvement, poised to adapt, recruiting and training of new employees. She felt this is something the administration could work on over the summer.

Dr. Patterson suggested a year end assessment may be useful as the District moves forward. He added that Committee members could also find this information helpful when preparing for the NEASC Accreditation visit.

Mr. Morgan stated that the Committee and staff will participate in the CSCI survey which could be tailored to the District. Currently the Mission Statement is being developed and after it is reviewed and approved by the School Council it will go to faculty and staff for input.

Mr. Sabella stated that the School Committee should be part of the decision process for the Mission Statement. Mr. O'Connell replied that the DESE protocol would be followed.

6. Superintendent-Director's Report – Mr. O'Connell

2015 Essex Heritage Partnership Grant Award

Mr. O'Connell reported that Essex Technical High School has been selected to receive an Essex Heritage Partnership Grant in the amount of \$1,500.00.

North Shore Community College/UMASS Stockbridge Early College Update

Mr. O'Connell reported that he has a verbal commitment from UMASS Stockbridge to offer dual enrollment for students enrolled in the agricultural-tech programs. The goal is that students could receive 30 credits and UMASS has agreed to reduce fees for Essex Tech students.

Mr. O'Connell reported that he has a Memorandum of Understanding with North Shore Community College for students enrolled in the CTE programs.

Negotiations Update

Mr. O'Connell reported that mediation with the Bus Drivers will be scheduled in the very near future. Proposals have been exchanged with Support Staff.

Negotiations with representatives of AFT and the teachers continue to move slowly and the last two negotiating sessions were cancelled.

Healthcare Update

Mr. O'Connell reported that he is waiting for amended language to healthcare for the district to be approved by the legislation.

Sports Complex Update

Mr. O'Connell reported that the project has received approval from MEPA and received letter of support from the Sherriff and the town of Danvers.

Mrs. Amato asked where this project stands as a priority. Mr. O'Connell answered that it is not a priority but a phenomenal opportunity for the school and surrounding communities.

Superintendent-Evaluation Timeline

Mr. O'Connell distributed his evaluation timeline for members to review.

7. Principal's Report

Senior Week Activities

Mr. Morgan reported that Senior Week Activities from June 1st to June 5th. The Senior Prom is scheduled for Thursday, June 4th at the Black Swan Country Club in Georgetown. Graduation is scheduled for Friday, June 5th at Essex Technical High School Stadium.

Out of State Field Trips

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. St. Pierre and VOTED unanimously to approve the Out of State Field Trip for Companion Animals and Vet Science to New York City, NY – Westminster Dog Show on February 13-16, 2016.

8. Old Business

There was no Old Business to report.

9. Sub-Committee Reports

There was no meeting or report by the **Finance & Property Sub-Committee.**

There was no meeting or report by the **District Policy Sub-Committee.**

There was no meeting or report by the **Personnel Policy Sub-Committee.**

School Building Committee

A motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Mr. Marquis and VOTED unanimously to approve Change Order #15 in the amount of \$132,799.00, as recommended by the School Building Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Ms. Teixeira to approve DesignPartnership's Amendment #7 in the amount of \$8,600.00, as recommended by the School Building Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Mr. Marquis and VOTED unanimously to approve progress payment requisition #33 for work through April 2015 not to exceed \$1,049,010.59 and requires Gilbane Co. to verify all past payments to vendors, as recommended by the School Building Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Ms. Teixeira and VOTED unanimously to approve DEP invoice for Response Action Outcome in the amount of \$2,455.00, as recommended by the School Building Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Mr. Marquis and VOTED unanimously to approve Wakefield Moving invoice for services rendered in the amount of \$85,000.00, as recommended by the School Building Committee.

10. New Business

Ms. Teixeira requested a copy of Mr. O'Connell's contract to review for the upcoming evaluation.

Mr. O'Connell reported that he gave members of MSBA a tour of the school and overall members were very impressed with the school and agricultural buildings.

Public Comments

Ann Marie Sirois, parent of a sophomore student, stated that she emailed the Principal on October 24, 2014 expressing her concerns with the school lunch program. Mrs. Sirois stated that there is not enough variety and not appetizing. Mr. Morgan stated that he has met with the Food Services Director and are looking to change some vendors and add salad bars. Mr. Morgan added that the culinary students could open the bakery/café after school to offer student athletes items before practice and/or games.

11. Warrant

A motion was made by Mr. St. Pierre and seconded by Mrs. Sweeney and VOTED unanimously to accept the warrant of May 14, 2015 and place it on file for audit.

12. Executive Session

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Marquis to enter into Executive Session to discuss security devices and would return to public session for the sole purpose of adjournment.

A Roll Call Vote was taken to enter Executive Session.

YES – Beverly, Boxford, Danvers, Gloucester, Hamilton, Manchester by the Sea, Manchester, Nahant, Peabody, Salem, Wenham, Marblehead, Essex, Dr. Patterson

NO - None

YES – 14

WEIGHTED – 26

NO – 0

WEIGHTED – 0

Motion Carries Unanimously.

The Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School Committee entered Executive Session at 9:17 p.m.

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The Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School Committee returned to Open Session at 9:40 p.m.

13. Adjourn

A motion was made by Mrs. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Blake and VOTED unanimously to adjourn.

Mr. Harvey, Chairman, declared the meeting adjourned.

The Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School Committee adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary

All reference documents and reports are filed in the Superintendent-Director's office.

Meeting Handouts

- Superintendent-Director's Evaluation Timeline
- Essex Tech Senior Week Activities
- "Almost, Maine" Drama Club
- CMMA – 21st Annual Awards Program