



Maine Region Ten Technical High School

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NOTE: These minutes are not official until approved by the Cooperative Board. Such action, either to approve or amend and approve, is anticipated at the August 17, 2015 meeting.

MINUTES OF JUNE 15, 2015 BOARD MEETING

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: David Johnson, Karin VanNostrand, Jeffrey Wolken, James Grant, John Morang, Brenda Clough, Dee Carrier, Janet Connors

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Bill Konzal

SUPERINTENDENTS PRESENT: Paul Perzanoski, Brad Smith

PRINCIPALS PRESENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Barry Lohnes, Director; Cindy Hutchins, Assistant Director; Peter Dawson, Interim Director; David Giroux, Automotive Technology Instructor; Meg Perry, Early Childhood Education Instructor; Jason Darling, Pre Apprenticeship/English Instructor

1. Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by Janet Connors
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Agenda Adjustments – None
4. **Minutes of the March 16, 2015 Board meeting passed with no objection.**
5. Public Comment
None

Old Business:

New Business

6. Operating Budget
Motion: Dee Carrier
Second: John Morang
Vote: Unanimous
To: Vote by written ballot to approve the 2015-16 Region Ten Technical High School Operating Budget in the amount of \$2,076,290.00

Results: Unanimous of members present

7. Budget to Actual, May 31, 2015
Director Lohnes reported revenues up nine percentage points over expenditures. The Natural Gas/Oil overage has been covered by substantial savings in electricity. Overage in Vehicle Maintenance is due to an aging fleet needing work for inspection and the overage in Audiovisual was because of an all-encompassing computer/server virus. The overages in both line items have been covered by savings in other areas.
8. SIT Visitation Committee Report
Assistant Director Cindy Hutchins began a power point presentation of committee findings after visiting three Comprehensive High Schools in Massachusetts and the Manchester School of Technology in New Hampshire.

The committee was excited about the schools they visited and the possibilities for Region Ten Tech. Committee members Meg Perry, Jason Darling and David Giroux highlighted their experience. The working definition given by the committee was Relevance and Reciprocal Relationships noting technical instruction is directly linked to academic instruction and both are linked to the community. Students were invested in and excited about their schools. Worcester Technical High School boasted a 96.8% four year graduation rate, 88% post-graduation acceptance and a 1% drop out rate. Manchester Technical High school operates on a different model and is currently embedding full time high school students into an already existing Technical Center. The building is a work in progress as it grows to accommodate students and classes and operates with only one principal for both the academic and technical programs. The school pride is strong and the school currently has to turn down interested students as there is not enough room for all enrollment requests. The committee feels the next step is building community and industry relationships. Ms. VanNostrand stated Blackstone Valley's key to success was the health, quality, scope and size of the Program Advisory Committees consisting of alumni, community and business members. A large and active Program Advisory Committee gets the public excited about involvement in the school and business members can attract more interest from state legislatures. Ms. VanNostrand remarked the model loosely exists in Maine with JMG and wonders if the two can be related.

Superintendent Perzanoski reminded the Board of the two options before it: Becoming a Comprehensive High School or joining the building project with MSAD75 and converting from a Region to a Center. Mr. Perzanoski stated he and Superintendent Smith will be drafting a letter to the Board Chair of each district outlining Region Ten's investigation into both options. The letter will go out before summer break with Board members to receive a copy. The Board will be kept apprised of information gathered over the summer.

Karin VanNostrand asked if conversion to a Center was a requirement or could Region Ten find a way to attach to the MSAD75 building project without needing to convert. Mr. Smith stated if Region Ten wants to attach to the MSAD75 building project and receive state funding for programs, it has to convert to a Center.

Mr. Perzanoski said research will be done on becoming a Comprehensive High School in Maine as new legislation would need to be put in place as the conversion from Region Ten Comprehensive High School would be the first in the state. Mr. Smith said the superintendents need to conference with the Education Commissioner and Scott Brown regarding logistics. Even conversion from a Region to a Center will take legislation with submission of a reorganization plan, approval by the Commissioner, approval by the State Board of Education, Public Hearings and Referendum.

Mr. Perzanoski presented the idea of using the existing Charter School legislation for conversion to a Comprehensive High School. Karin VanNostrand questioned if using the Charter School legislation would allow the school to draw from other communities as well as. Mr. Perzanoski stated it would.

Janet Connors remarked the sending district towns need to be kept apprised due to the financial commitment they have made to Region Ten.

9. Evaluation Committee Report

Assistant Director Cindy Hutchins reported Region Ten Tech is ready to pilot the new PE/PG model next year. The draft brought to the Board in March went through three more vetting sessions; one with Mary Payne from MDOE, the Region Ten staff and the Evaluation Committee. The largest obstacle at the moment is turning the information from Pre and Post testing into a 1,2, or 3 score. The committee decided to have instructors set goals and expectations at the beginning of the year and over time those goals and expectations will become benchmarks for the program. The committee will meet as a whole in the fall and will work to amend the tool as issues arise and gauge how to determine its effectiveness.

Brenda Clough asked if she was correct in thinking only two administrators would be responsible for observations and evaluations. Mr. Perzanoski stated capacity is not an issue with the size of the Region Ten staff. Director Lohnes remarked peer mentors would participate in observations over the course of the year as well. Mr. Smith reiterated the peer observations are part of the project but not included in the summative report. Mr. Smith and Mr. Johnson congratulated the committee on the completion of the project, and it being the first technical school in the state to complete.

10. MELMAC Committee Report

Assistant Director Hutchins gave the report. Region Ten is in the third of year of receiving MELMAC grant funding to assist senior students with the transition to post-secondary education. This year, Region Ten received \$14,000, half of which was used to send students on college visits to NECI in Montpelier, VT, Washing County Community College, and University of New England just to name a few. Additional funds were used to sponsor the recent Alumni Barbeque and will serve to put on the 2015 Senior Barbeque in August.

67.5% of the graduating class of 2015 are committed to post-secondary school, certificate program, apprenticeship program or the military.

11. Pre and Post Testing, Region Ten Students, 2014-15

Director Lohnes addressed a hand-out highlighting pre and post-test averages and growth rates for each program. All programs but two showed growth, the two not showing will be testing at the two year mark. Brenda Clough asked if the tests were performance or written exams. Director Lohnes stated both were represented. Ms. Clough asked if the student testing could be used in the PE/PG Teacher Evaluations. Director Lohnes stated indeed the testing results are a part of the Teacher Evaluation Instrument. Karin VanNostrand asked if the pre and post-test averages were the same students. Assistant Director Hutchins said the results are looking at just one year for the same students. Both Commercial Art and Early Childhood Education will perform the post-test at the two year mark. Ms. VanNostrand asked that data be pulled out for ease of interpretation. Superintendent Perzanoski asked how the assessments were chosen. Director Lohnes stated all assessments were chosen by recommendation of individual instructors and vetted by administration. Ms. Hutchins added the assessments meet or come as close as possible to CTE National Standards. Mr. Perzanoski stated in time, he hopes Region Ten can create its own.

12. Policy Committee Report

Director Lohnes stated the Policy Committee has been working toward presenting the Board with policies required by law.

Second Reading:

School District Commitment to Learning Results (ADA), Drug and Alcohol Testing of School Bus Drivers (EEAEAA), Drug and Alcohol Testing of School Bus Drivers Administrative Procedures (EEAEAA), Drug-Free Workplace (GBED)

Motion: James Grant

Second: David Johnson

Vote: Unanimous

To: Accept all policies presented for second reading as new policies for Region Ten Tech

13. Renewal of Contracts

Motion: Dee Carrier

Second: John Morang

Vote: Unanimous

To: Renew the contract for Assistant Director Cindy Hutchins for the 2015-16 school year

Motion: Dee Carrier

Second: John Morang

Vote: Unanimous

To: Renew the contract of the following teachers for the 2015-16 School year: Richard Belanger, Garry Carr, Jason Darling, David Giroux, Marcel Giroux, David Lewis, Margaret Perry, William Ross, David Smith, Gerard St. Denis, Ellen Turcotte

14. Approvals for the Carl Perkins Grant

Region Ten's allotment for the Carl Perkins Grant this year is 67,186

Motion: James Grant

Second: David Johnson

Vote: Unanimous

To: Approve the Region Ten Technical High School Cooperative Agreement and Live Work Policy as required by the Carl Perkins Grant

15. Election of 2015-16 Cooperative Board Officers

James Grant nominated Karin VanNostrand as Chair

Vote: Unanimous

Dee Carrier nominated David Johnson as Vice Chair

Vote: Unanimous

16. Appointment of Designated Superintendent

Dee Carrier questioned not rotating designated Superintendent as outlined in the Cooperative Agreement and as part of past practice. Mr. Perzanoski stated the rotation has been difficult with the many retirements in the past ten years and he volunteered to serve again as he has an established relationship with Peter Dawson and felt it would make for a smooth transition.

James Grant nominated Paul Perzanoski to serve as designated Superintendent for the 2015-16 school year

Vote: Unanimous

17. Stipend Procedures for Cooperative Board

Board members receive \$10 for each Cooperative Board meeting and each subcommittee meeting attended throughout the school year. Kellie Gardner will email a spreadsheet of attendance to all Board members to confirm and an invoice will be sent to Chris Davis, MSAD 75 Payroll Specialist.

18. Director's Report

A. Senior Awards, 2015 – Over 400 people in attendance. Thanks to Brunswick High School for the use of facilities. Overall a successful event.

B. Susan P. Ripa Scholarship Recipient – Parker Woodbury (MTA) \$1000

C. Gallagher Scholarship Recipients – All Brunswick High School students: Kari Thurlow (2014) \$1500, Faith Robshaw \$1500, Zoe McCrary \$1500, Samantha Merrill \$500

D. Peter Groves Scholarship – Automotive Technology students – Tom Miller (FHS) \$1000, Chris Staples (BHS) \$1000, Devon Drew (MTA) \$500

E. LeBourdais Scholarship Recipient – Marian Newby (BHS) \$400

F. Student Activity Scholarship Recipient – Tyler Walter (MTA) \$500

G. Barry J. Lohnes Award Recipient – Elizabeth Hinkley (LHS) \$500. Award created by Region Ten staff to honor Director Lohnes' years of service to the school, his passion for reading, writing and the outdoors.

Jack Minnis Scholarship Recipients – Alyssa Neilsen (FHS) \$500, Nate Sprague (MTA) \$500. Assistant Director Cindy Hutchins created two scholarships in honor of her father who passed in December. Mr. Minnis was a professor of English at Drexel University who went on to become a founder of the Community College of Philadelphia.

H. National Technical Honor Society Installation – Well attended and successful event. Thank you to Mr. Perzanoski for his participation.

I. Alumni Barbeque, June 11, 2015 – First ever event in an effort to start a Region Ten Alumni Association. Forty Region Ten graduates signed up to be a part of the Alumni Association

J. 2015 Senior Barbeque, August 6, 2015 – The second annual recent graduate event will be held in August with MELMAC funds. This event is meant to bring graduates together to keep them excited about attending college and offer assistance if needed.

K. 2015-16 Enrollment Projections – Currently 270 students starting in September with an additional ten enrolled in Tech Ten Basic for the second semester

L. Other – The numbers for post-graduate activity for the 123 Region Ten 2015 Graduates: 41% Associates Degree Program, 8% Baccalaureate Degree Program, 9% Certification Program and 9% Military
Brenda Clough asked if the Student Activity Scholarship was as it sounds, money earned by students. Director Lohnes stated it is money earned by students throughout the year that students vote on dispensing.

Brenda Clough asked if any programs were under enrolled for the 15-16 school year. Director Lohnes stated many could use one or two more students but none are under enrolled or in danger. Janet Connors asked if the decline in enrollment was following the overall decline in area high school enrollment. Mr. Lohnes stated he felt it was a cyclical dip and Region Ten is faring better than other local technical schools.

20. Communication

Director Lohnes read a letter to the Board addressed to Kellie Gardner from the Ronald MacDonald House in thanks for Region Ten Tech's donation over \$400 from Metal Fabrication/Welding aluminum recycling which will house a family in need for 41 nights.

David Johnson stated he received a voicemail from a fellow fisherman who was a MTA graduate who recently completed the Composites Course and felt it changed his life. The gentleman would like to contact Region Ten and talk to students about the program and what it can do for them.

21. Executive Session

Motion: Dee Carrier

Second: James Grant

Vote: Unanimous

To: Enter into Executive Session at 7:55 to discuss a personnel matter, pursuant to M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(A). Session to include Superintendents' Advisory Committee, Director and Interim Director

Return from Executive Session at 8:00 PM

22. **Meeting adjourned at 8:01 to no objection**