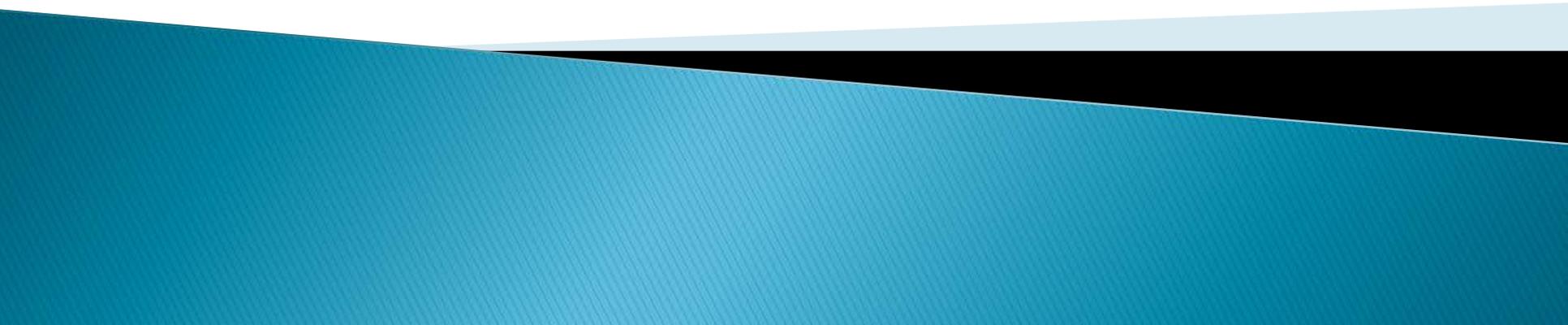


Vocational Education Advisory Committee Report

January 2016



Committee Members

- ▶ Susan Bak, Chair
 - ▶ Anne McNeece
 - ▶ Brigid Bieber
 - ▶ Gary Kushner
 - ▶ Hugh Fortmiller
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Mission Statement

The Committee's mission is to research, evaluate, analyze and recommend the best option or options for Vocational Technical Education that are both academically and financially appropriate for the Town of Boxborough and its students.



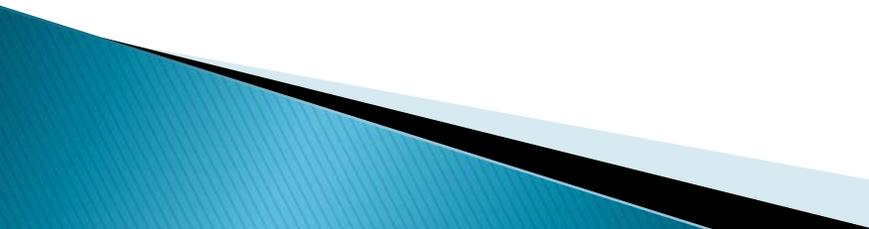
Factors to be considered by the Committee

- ▶ Location
 - ▶ Community Makeup of District
 - ▶ Academic and Vocational tech program offerings
 - ▶ Innovative Education Strategies
 - ▶ Extra-curricular programs
 - ▶ Physical plant
 - ▶ Costs
 - ▶ Pros/Cons of not being a part of a district
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Process used

- ▶ Identified and selected Vocational Ed schools
 - ▶ Toured and compared three schools
 - ▶ Collected and compiled data
 - ▶ Interviewed current and former MM students and parents
 - ▶ Met with the five Boxborough students currently enrolled at MM
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Selected schools to consider

- ▶ Schools in rural communities similar to ours
 - ▶ Schools in close proximity to Boxborough
 - ▶ Schools not heavily weighted toward one town
 - ▶ Considered: Lowell, Worcester, Lawrence and Monty Tech
 - ▶ Selected: Minuteman, Assabet, Nashoba
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Distance from Boxborough

School	Distance from Boxborough Town Hall
Nashoba	11.8 miles
Assabet	13.0 miles
Minuteman	13.6 miles
Lowell	20.1 miles
Worcester	26.7 miles
Monty Tech	26.7 miles
Lawrence	27.0 miles

Comparison of Schools

Programs – current

Program	Minuteman	Assabet	Nashoba
Robotics, Engineering	Yes/Yes	No /Yes	Yes/Yes
Computer Programing and Web Development	Yes	Yes	Yes
Telecommunications & Fiber-optics	To be eliminated 6/2018	No	No
Bio Technology	Yes	Yes	Yes
Environmental Science & Technology	Yes	No	No

Programs continued....

Program	Minuteman	Assabet	Nashoba
Automotive mechanics	Yes	Yes	Yes
Automotive collision	No	Yes	Yes
Electrical wiring	Yes	Yes	Yes
Metal Fabrication & Welding	Yes	Yes	No
Machine Tool Technology	No	No	Yes
Advanced Manufacturing	9/2016	Yes	No
Carpentry	Yes	Yes	Yes
Plumbing & Heating	Yes	Yes	Yes
Drafting Design Technology	No	Yes	No

Programs continued.....

Program	Minuteman	Assabet	Nashoba
Painting & Design Technologies	No	Yes	No
Design & Visual Communications	Yes	Yes	Yes
Television, Media/Theater Art	No	No	Yes
Multi-Media Engineering	9/2016	No	No
Business Technology	No	Yes	No
Banking, Marketing, Retail	*Marketing to be eliminated 6/2018	No	Yes

Programs continued....

Program	Minuteman	Assabet	Nashoba
Health Assisting	Yes	Yes	Yes
Health Technology	No	Yes	No
Dental Assisting	No	No	Yes
Early Education, Care	Yes	No	Yes
Culinary Arts & Hospitality	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cosmetology	Yes	Yes	Yes
Veterinary Assistant	No	No	Yes
Horticulture & Landscaping	Yes	No	No

Innovative Strategies

	Minuteman	Assabet	Nashoba
Dual enrollment	Yes	Yes	Yes
Girls in STEM	Yes	Yes	Yes
Co-ops	Yes	Yes	Yes
AP Offerings	Yes	Yes	Yes
Accreditation for Associates Degree	No	No	Working on it

Extra-curricular: variations among schools

- ▶ Academic teams
 - ▶ Vocational clubs
 - ▶ Music, drama, art clubs
 - ▶ Gay/Straight Alliance
 - ▶ Student Council
 - ▶ Yearbook and Newspaper
 - ▶ Sports
 - Baseball, basketball, cross-country, football, volleyball, lacrosse, hockey, soccer, cheerleading, swimming, tennis, golf.....
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Key Performance Indicators

Key performance indicators	Minuteman	Assabet	Nashoba
Student/teacher ratio: 2014/2015	8.5: 1	10.4:1	12.6:1
Accountability level: 2014	Level 2	Level 2	Level 1
Graduation rate: 2014/2015	90.54%	95.24%	98.08%
Academic Attainment Language Arts: 2014/2015	93.21%	92.86%	95.48%
Academic Attainment Math: 2014/2015	68.52%	76.37%	76.13%
Technical Skill Attainment: 2014/2015	98.26%	97.92%	100%
Post graduation 2013/2014			
• Career/Workforce	19%	40%	30%
• Military	6%	3%	7%
• 2 year college	22%	23%	27%
• 4 year college	54%	32%	29%

MCAS – Spring 2015

MCAS % of Students	Minuteman	Assabet	Nashoba
Advanced math	32%	36%	43%
Proficient math	41%	39%	35%
Needs improvement math	21%	20%	17%
Advanced ELA	34%	26%	22%
Proficient ELA	63%	70%	71%
Needs improve ELA	3%	4%	7%
Advanced Science/Tech/ Engineering	15%	24%	24%
Proficient Science/Tech/Engineering	55%	61%	56%
Needs improve Science/Tech/Engineer	29%	14%	18%

SAT 2014/2015

Subject matter	Minuteman	Assabet	Nashoba
Reading	476	466	439
Writing	451	437	413
Math	421	457	452

Post Graduate Opportunities

	Minuteman	Assabet	Nashoba
Accepts in District students ages 18–21	Yes	Yes	Yes
Accepts out of District students 18–21	Yes	Yes	No
Accepts adult students over the age of 21	Yes	Yes	No

Financial: In District

	Minuteman	Assabet	Nashoba
In-District Tuition FY2016	\$27,224	\$11,000 to \$14,000	\$10,000 to \$14,000
Cost per pupil (2013)	\$26,246	\$18,252	\$15,104
Cost of administration per pupil (2013)	\$2,203	\$951	\$774
Cost of administration % of total (2013)	8.39%	5%	5%

Financial: Out-of-District FY2016

	Minuteman	Assabet	Nashoba
Out of District Tuition (SPED & Transportation not included)	\$17,556	\$16,587	\$15,000
Charge for Capital (FY2017)	\$8,121 Per student	\$0	\$0
Cost of transportation out of district -out sourced	\$36,000	\$36,000	\$36,000
Cost to buy-in	N/A	N/A	TBD

Interviewed Minuteman Parents and Students

What MM parents & students liked best

- ▶ Hands-on learning experience
 - ▶ Balance of traditional academic learning with the skills learned in a vocational program
 - ▶ Reasonable class sizes
 - ▶ Got to know teachers well because of small class sizes
 - ▶ Flexibility of MM administration to offer credit for independent study
- 

MM Parent and Student interviews

Drawbacks of going to MM

- ▶ Pressure from peers to go to ABRHS
 - ▶ Misperception that students that go to MM are not college bound
 - ▶ Not as many AP offerings
 - ▶ Long commute
 - ▶ Does not have band or a theater program
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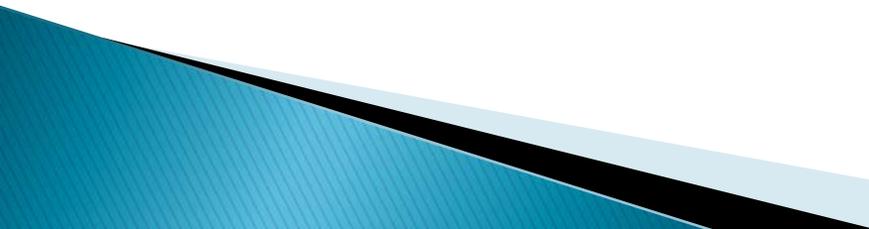
MM Parent and Student Interviews

Additional feedback

- ▶ Teachers want their students to succeed.
Available to offer extra help
 - ▶ Very happy w/ high school experience at MM
 - ▶ Involved in extracurricular activities
 - ▶ Some students were planning on college, some were undecided
 - ▶ Some were concerned that students would have struggled at ABRHS because of competitiveness
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Options Available to Boxborough

Options to consider

- ▶ **Stay at Minuteman**
 - ▶ **Withdraw from MM**
 - Join another District
 - Enter into an Inter-municipal Agreement (IMA) with another District
 - Go it alone – not join another District
- 

Stay at Minuteman: Amended Agreement

- ▶ Higher tuition under the amended agreement
 - All inclusive: tuition, transportation, SPED, capital
 - ▶ Representation on School Committee is pro-rated based on enrollment
 - ▶ State-of-the-art building once construction is complete if approved
 - ▶ Minimum of one student rather than five
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Minuteman: FY2017 Preliminary estimate

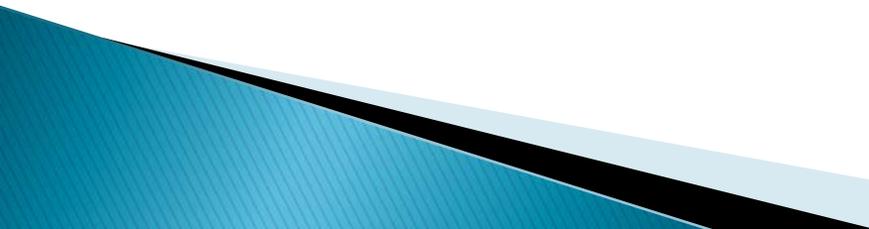
Amended Agreement	Estimated
<u>Operating Costs</u>	
Minimum required Contribution	\$108,137
Transportation	\$10,003
Operating Assessment	\$51,132
Sub-total operating	\$169,272
<u>Capital Costs</u>	
ESCO Lease	\$6,698
Enrollment Share	\$17,729
Combined Effort Share	\$9,989
Capital Base Contribution share	\$30,129
Sub-total capital	\$64,545

Minuteman FY2017 Preliminary Estimate

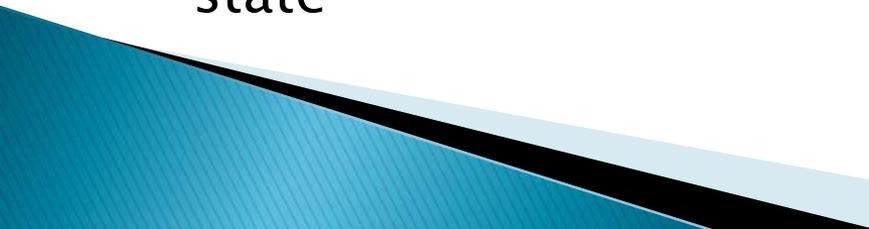
Amended Agreement	Estimated
Operating Assessment	\$169,272
Capital Assessment	\$64,545
Total Assessment	\$233,817
Per pupil cost (based on 5 students)	\$46,763

Withdraw from Minuteman

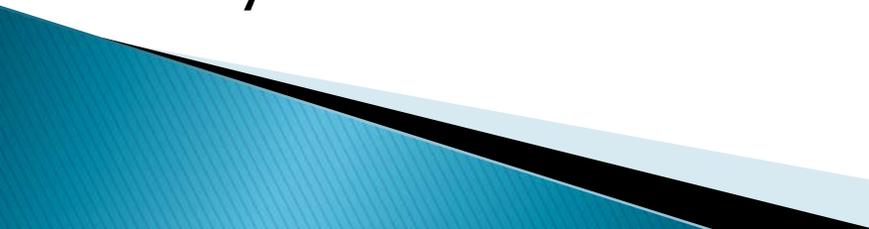
Join another District

- ▶ Assabet is unlikely to accept new member Towns into their District.
 - ▶ Nashoba will consider accepting new member Towns.
 - ▶ Member Towns would have to vote to accept Boxborough into the District. And Boxborough would have to vote to become a part of the new District
 - ▶ District agreement would have to be amended
 - ▶ Negotiate a buy-in cost to join the new District
 - ▶ Process could take several years
 - ▶ Cost per student all inclusive: tuition, transportation, SPED and capital
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Enter into an Inter-municipal Agreement

- ▶ Neither Assabet nor Nashoba have any inter-municipal agreements with any sending non-member Towns
 - ▶ Under an IMA the Town designates a “preferred” vocational school
 - ▶ The preferred vocational school holds a specific number of slots open for Boxborough students, provided they qualify for admission
 - ▶ Pay out-of-district tuition plus the cost of transportation plus SPED and capital (if charged)
 - ▶ No reimbursement for the cost of transportation by the state
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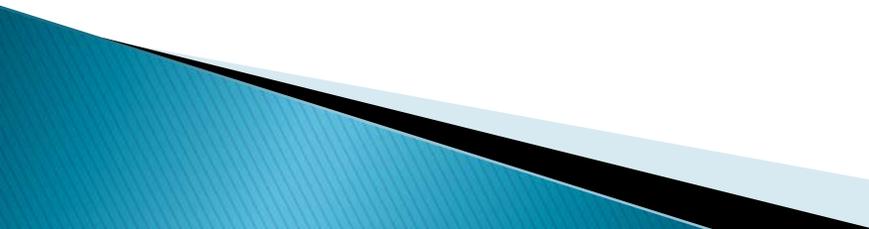
Do not join a District – go it alone

- ▶ Could designate a “preferred” school provided the Town gives clear and timely notice to students and their families well in advance
 - ▶ Students could go to a school other than a “preferred” school if the preferred school does not offer a specific program
 - ▶ Pay out-of-district tuition plus the cost of transportation plus SPED and capital (if charged)
 - ▶ No reimbursement for the cost of transportation by the state
- 

Transportation

Out-of-District

Transportation: Out-of-District

- ▶ Town responsible for transportation if not a member of a District
 - ▶ No State reimbursement for transportation
 - ▶ Options:
 1. Purchase and operate van
 2. Outsource
 3. Piggy back w/ another Town
 4. Reimburse parents for mileage
- 

Cost of Transportation

Options	Cost
Purchase and operate a van	\$25,000
Outsource	\$36,000
Piggy back with another Town	<\$36,000
Reimburse parents for mileage	\$2,643 Per student

Options to consider

- ▶ **Stay at Minuteman**
 - ▶ **Withdraw from MM**
 - Join another District
 - Enter into an Inter-municipal Agreement (IMA) with a District
 - Go it alone – not join another District
- 

What's in the best interest of the students?

- ▶ **Town is a member of a District**
 - ▶ **Retain a voice on the School Committee**
 - ▶ **Qualified students have a guaranteed place and access to programs**
 - ▶ **No disruption**
 - ▶ **Favorable student/teacher ratio**
 - ▶ **State of the art facilities and programs**
 - ▶ **School accreditation**
- 

What's the financial impact on taxpayers?

	Minuteman In-District New Agreement	Assabet Out-of-District Estimate	Nashoba Out-of-District Estimate
Per pupil cost	\$46,763	\$28,200	\$26,700
Per household Per pupil*	\$25.14	\$15.16	\$14.36
Per household @ 5 students	\$125.70	\$75.80	\$71.80
Per thousand Per pupil*	.0458	.0276	.0261

Based on \$1.021B Town valuation
and average house valuation of \$548,990

Thank you!

