

# Vocational Education Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2015

7:00 a.m.

Boxborough Town Hall

PRESENT: Susan Bak, Hugh Fortmiller, Anne McNeece, Brigid Bieber, Gary Kushner

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 a.m.

1. The minutes of the November 3rd meeting were accepted.
2. Discussion on Nashoba Tech:
  - a. The per pupil cost at Nashoba is about  $\frac{1}{2}$  the cost per pupil at Minuteman.
  - b. The fee to join the Nashoba district would probably be at least \$550,000. This might be able to be spread out over a number of years.
  - c. The capital cost for Minuteman may be around \$46,000 per year – for 30 years.
  - d. Nashoba has the lowest tuition in the state; Minuteman has the highest.
3. Options:
  - a. If Boxborough students went to a different Vocational School logistics would probably still be handled through the counseling department at R.J.Grey and parent involvement.
  - b. If we weren't part of a district, we might be able to have a "preferred" school where we might have an inter-municipal agreement that would give our students preferred status.
4. Questions to be answered:
  - a. If a student goes to a different vocational school because the program they want is not offered at the district school, who pays tuition costs?
  - b. How did Ayer pay for their buy-in?
  - c. If the Minuteman building fails, how would the renovation proceed? Would Minuteman lose its accreditation?
  - d. Why are the costs of Minuteman and Nashoba Tech so different? (Brigid will pull expenses and compare costs.)
  - e. What would the warrant article look like?
  - f. What happens if the amendment is approved?
5. Next steps:
  - a. Plan for presentation:
    1. Make clear why we only looked at the 3 schools.
    2. What information from comparison sheet should be emphasized?
    3. Compare: class sizes, extra curricular offerings, student teacher ratios, accountability levels (Brigid will check on definitions), % of college-bound students, MCAS scores, post graduation plans.
  - b. Compare our actions with the charge given us by the selectmen.
  - c. Review options and questions documents.

6. The Assabet tour will be Friday December 11. We will meet in the town hall parking lot at 8:15.

7. Next Meeting will be Wednesday, December 2nd at 7 AM at Town Hall

Meeting Adjourned at 8:08 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Anne McNeece