LVTI JOINT GENERAL ADVISORY COUNCIL AND SCHOOL COUNCIL
March 8, 2017 – 5:00PM to 6:00PM

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Minutes from October 12, 2016
3. LPS / LVTI Website
4. Student Enrollment / Recruitment- Grade 8
5. NEASC Accreditation Visit Update – October 25-28th 2016
6. Technical and Academic Updates
   a. Technical Areas:
      • Technical Programs Update: Engineering / HVAC / IT/ HT
      • Co-Op Update
      • Perkins Grant Status - 2016-17
      • Adult Learning Programs
      • OSHA/CPR / building Update
   b. Academics:
      • District Book Initiative
      • MCAS Academy / Extended Learning Time
      • Online Learning Lab
      • Vocational Math Integration
      • Student Engagement/ Formative Assessments / Instructional Visits
      • Scheduling
7. Open Discussion - Commendations and Recommendations
8. Adjourn

It is the policy of the Lynn Public Schools not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, sexual orientation, and/or disability in admission to, access to, treatment in, or employment in its programs and activities in compliance with Title VI and VII of Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the 1972 Amendments to the Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, and M.G.L. Ch. 76, §5, M.G.L. Ch. 151B, and M.G.L. Ch. 151C.
School Council / General Advisory Committee Minutes
March 8, 2017

- A light dinner was provided by our Culinary Arts program. The meeting began at 5:05PM. The minutes from October 12th 2016 were read with no further discussion.

- **Website:** Mr. Buontempo updated members on the efforts to make improvements to the LVTI website. He informed them that the new Programming and Web Design Instructor has been in contact with the city’s webmaster and plans to work with him and her students to improve usability and assure that it is updated regularly, possibly through a club next year.

- **Student Enrollment:** Total enrollment has been steadily increasing and is anticipated to grow to about 970 students in 2017-18, that we are graduating about 200, had almost 350 applicants, and accepted 279 students this spring. Mr. Scherrer asked about how many seniors began as freshmen. Mr. Buontempo did not have that information but did note that prior to 2015 LVTI's plication pool was in the low 200's. Changes were made in our approach to promote the school including showing what we offer academically including state of the art science labs. These changes attracted a wider range of students and led to increased applications. Mr. Buontempo noted that retention rate among the last two classes has been stronger.

- **NEASC:** Ms. Spinucci updated the NEASC accreditation process with the committee. The committee visited from October 25th through October 28th 2016. She informed the members that he overall report had a positive tone and showed that we have a strong school culture. She further informed them of our providing feedback to NEASC for accuracy in the report, the process of NEASC voting on our approval in April and that we will need to address their recommendations.

- **Technical Programs:** Mr. Buontempo updated the council members on the status of Technical programs Bonnie Carr worked closely with our Engineering program to guide it to Chapter 74 program approval in November 2016. Mr. Buontempo spoke about HVAC, Information Technology and Networking and the 75K grant awarded to expand Health Technology offerings in EKG and Phlebotomy. LVTI was also awarded a grant of $333,293.00 to start the new IT Program and to continue to modernize the Machining Program. An engineering firm has designed plans for HVAC.

- **Co-Op:** Bonnie Carr informed the members of the status of students on Co-Op jobs and internships this year with 85 juniors and seniors working in related fields. Bonnie also spoke about our partnering with WIB and businesses to offer opportunities to students and adults.

- **Perkins:** Mr. Buontempo reviewed the status of 2016-17 Perkins funding expenditures and new requests for 2017-18. He explained LVTI averages $250,000.00 annually and that requests need to be in early enough to provide time for clarification if necessary. He also mentioned the need for PAC committee input and that the technical areas should be projecting 2-3 years out.

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• **OSHA/CPR:** One major issue concerning the upgrading of Metal fabrication’s exhaust system has been addressed by the city and the CPR report has been closed.

• **MCAS and Support:** Mr. Buontempo updated the members on MCAS Academy on Saturday and the District Extended Learning Time of testing math student after each unit and offering remediation. Mr. Buontempo mentioned that he was trying many ways to promote student attendance on Saturday including calls and letters home to at-risk students. Pam MacDonald suggested that students who struggled, regularly attended Saturdays and passed MCAS might be used to speak with students. Student Meghan Molea suggested that this could be done during PEER mentoring extended homeroom. A third suggestion was to have students write down their successes with Saturday attendance and to have the Principal share them with students.

• **Vocational Math:** Mr. Buontempo updated members on the progress of LVTI’s Vocational Math Initiative led by Mark Duchane. He informed them of the need for students to reinforce basics and to be able to apply math to practical problems as well as the benefits to students in their trade areas and to improve Accuplacer results.

• **Online Learning Lab:** The District initiated APEX lab started off the year slowly but has gained popularity among students who need to spend time on credit recovery or need access to online learning.

• **Student Engagement:** Mr. Buontempo mentioned the school wide goal of increasing student engagement in classes and that LVTI was focusing on Formative Assessments or teachers checking for understanding at key points in the lesson to assure that students are learning. This will help teachers to hopefully reflect on teaching practices and make adjustments as needed. He informed the group of LVTI’s intent to engage in instructional visits for departments to share such best teaching practice.

• **Scheduling:** Mr. Gallo discussed scheduling changes for the 2016-17 school year. He reflected on the effectiveness of changing the sophomore schedules to minimize student movement which results in more on-time learning. He mentioned that he would like to see this format used with freshmen in the future. Mr. Buontempo mentioned that teachers must adjust and plan their lessons for longer class times if they are expected to make effective use of time.

• Mr. Buontempo asked for committee recommendations and concerns as well as commendations that could also be emailed to himself or to Chairperson Pam MacDonald.

• Meeting adjourned 6:03PM