



## Minutes from MSAA Vocational Administrators' Meeting

through Zoom by Karen Guenette on June 11, 2021, from 9 – 9:40 a.m.

***In attendance:*** Mark Wood (Tantasqua), Karen Guenette (Bristol-Plymouth), Kathy Duff (Newton), Eric Duda & Carrie Auffrey (Pathfinder), Tom Browne (Monty Tech), Andrew Rebello (Diman), Justin Krantz (McCann), Mark Hollick (Assabet), Alan Gates (Dean), Joe Bianca (Smith), and Ron Driskoll (Norfolk-Aggie)

The meeting began at 9 a.m. Discussion points included the following:

- Good luck and congratulations to Eric Duda as Superintendent and welcome to Carrie Auffrey as Principal of Pathfinder
- Discussion about DESE's new initiatives and programs that have recently been published: OPTIC calibration, Roadmap for Equitable Recovery and Accelerated Learning Programs that have 13 online sessions that started on June 7<sup>th</sup>.
- MSAA Summer Institute in Plymouth, MA, and Bill Gaine's retirement and recognition to MSAA and MIAA for over 40 years of service to these organizations; Kathy, Karen, Andrew, and Carrie attending; Kathy gave an overview of the new venue, guest speakers, prizes, and how this MA organization runs our Summer Institute compared to other states.
- Alan Gates from Dean informed the group that the school is moving to a week on/week off schedule for 2022-23 with a 7-period day schedule, and if anyone had any sample schedules to send to him, he'd appreciate any ideas or templates. His email address is [agates@hps.holyoke.ma.us](mailto:agates@hps.holyoke.ma.us)
- Discussion about DESE's admissions policy and that the 6 schools that have been working closely with DESE have had simulations run; the feeling is that DESE is getting one step closer to a lottery system and there were lots of questions around the outcome of the simulation results; overall, a good representation of the entire district population when not being compared to just the cities in which the vocational-technical schools are located; but DESE continues to push for lottery; another meeting with DESE next week to continue to look at simulation results; there was further inquiry made to DESE about whether or not there would be a sample template posted for a new admissions policy and criteria for schools to use as a guide; to date, there has been no formal response to this inquiry.
- The members thanked Mark Wood for organizing our meetings over the last school year, as well as Kathy Duff for being our vocational-technical voice at MSAA and DESE these past two years. It was agreed that we would meet over the summer, if needed, and all members were wished a wonderful and restful summer. All look forward to having the time to prepare for a new school year with putting many school practices and functions in place that were successful, prior to the pandemic.
- The meeting ended at 9:40 a.m.

LEADERSHIP MATTERS



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