



2016 – 2017

**ANNUAL
OFFICIAL REPORTS
OF THE**

TOWN OF PETERSHAM

MASSACHUSETTS

Town of Petersham - Annual Report
INDEX
FY2017(July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017)

List of Petersham Town Officials & Boards & Committees
Selectboard
Advisory Finance Committee
Animal Control Officer
Animal Inspector
Board of Assessors
Board of Health
Broadband Municipal Light Plant Board
Capital Improvement Planning Committee - no report received
Cemetery Commission
Conservation Commission
Council on Aging
Cultural Council
Emergency Management Committee
Energy Committee
Fire Department
Forest & Shade Committee
Highway Department
Historical Commission/Historic District Commission
Inspector of Buildings
Memorial Library Annual Report
Memorial Library Treasurer's Report
Open Space & Recreation Committee
Planning Board
Police Department
Town Accountant
Town Clerk
Election Results State Primary Sept. 8, 2016
Election Results State Election Nov. 8, 2016
Annual Town Election Results March 6, 2017
Special Town Meeting December 12, 2016
Annual Town Meeting June 5, 2017
Raffles, Dog Funds, Marijuana Citations & Building Code Violations
Vital Statistics
Town Treasurer
Tree Warden
Veterans' Services
Zoning Board of Appeals
Petersham Center School Committee & Administration Report
Petersham Center School Financial Statement
Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District Report
Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District Committee

LIST OF PETERSHAM TOWN OFFICERS
FY17 July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017
ELECTED BOARDS AND OFFICERS

Moderator		Term Expiration Dates
Bart Wendell		2020
Selectboard		
Fredrick A. Marsh		2020
Nancy Allen		2019
Henry Woolsey		2018
Tax Collector		
Rene Wingertsman		2018
Town Clerk		
Diana Cooley		2018
Treasurer		
Dana Robinson		2020
Board of Assessors		
Ellen Anderson		2020
Jean W. Robinson		2019
Dana W. Kennan		2018
Board of Health		
Robert Pasic, Chair		2018
Fifi Scoufopoulos		2019
Stephen Loring		2020
Constables		
Denis N. Legare		2019
Richard N. Bartus		2019
Larry A. Robinson		2019
Mahar Regional School Committee		
Heidi Shortis		2019
Petersham School Committee		
Angela Danielson		2020
Janice Coughlan		2018
Lynn Peredina		2019

Planning Board

John Lawson	2020
Fraser Sinclair	2020
Donna Byron	2019
Stephen Herzog	2018
Robert Rocheleau	2018

Trustees of Public Library

Hilary Loring	2019
Kent Byron	2020
Fifi Scofopoulos	2018

APPOINTED/HIRED BOARDS AND OFFICERS**Chief of Police**

Richard D. Cooley, Jr.	2019 (3 year appointment)
------------------------	---------------------------

Sergeant

Randy Horne	2017
-------------	------

Police Officers

Jesse Berard	2017
Jeffrey Boyer	2017
Peter Buck	2017
Marc Duguay	2017
Daniel Kimball	2017
Robert Legare	2017
Jason Lichtenberger	2017
Timothy Wright	2017

Board of Overseers, Central Dispatch

Richard D. Cooley, Jr.	
Petersham representative	2017

Municipal Hearings Officer

(No appointment made)

Fire Chief

Dana Robinson	2017
---------------	------

Assistant Fire Chief

Robert Legare	2017
---------------	------

Tree Warden		
	Melissa LeVangie	2018 (3 year appointment)
Deputy Tree Warden		
	(no appointment made)	
Forest Warden		
	Dana Robinson	2017
Deputy Forest Warden		
	Ronald DeJackome	2017
	Robert D. Legare	2017
	Shawn Legare	2017
Sexton		
	Ellen Anderson	2017
Trench Safety Officer		
	Greg Waid	2017
Montachusett Regional Planning Committee		
	Nancy Allen	2017
Town Accountant		
	Jean Joel	2018 (3 year appointment)
Emergency Management Director		
	Lynne Shaw	2017
Emergency Management Asst. Director		
	Richard D. Cooley, Jr.	2017
Directors of Veterans' Services, Veterans' Agent, and Burial Agent		
	Fedencia Fitch	(Appointed through District)
Northeast Veterans' District Representative		
	Vincent J. Purple	2017
Graves Registration Officer		
	No appointment	(3 year appointment)
Custodian of Tax Title Possessions		
	Dana Robinson	2017

Animal Control Officer & Animal Shelter Manager

Deb Bachrach 2017

Inspector of Animals

Marc Page 4/30/2018

Assistant Inspector of Animals

Deb Bachrach 4/30/2018

Inspector of Buildings

Brianna Skowrya 2019 (3 yr appointment)

Local Building Inspector

Robert Legare 2017

Electrical Inspector

Gary Terroy 2017

Assistant Electrical Inspector

Glenn Tattan 2017

Gas Inspector

Daniel Joly 2017

Assistant Gas Inspector

John Dolan 2017

Plumbing Inspector

Daniel Joly 2017

Alternate Plumbing Inspector

John Dolan 2017

ADA Coordinator

Steven Boudreau 2017

Town Counsel

Kopelman and Paige 2017

TOWN-APPOINTED COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, AND BOARDS
 (Unless noted, appointed on an annual basis)

Board of Health

Robert Pasic, Agent	2017
Fifi Scoufopoulos, Agent	2017
Stephen Loring, Agent	2017
Philip Leger, Agent	2017
Renee Wingertsman, Agent	2017

Board of Registrars

Diana Cooley, Clerk	2019	Annie Woolsey	2019
Alfred Berry	2017	Sandra Myers	2018

Broadband Committee

George Bull	1/24/2020	Gregory Grandbois	1/24/2018
John Blum	1/24/2019	Andre Pierre	1/24/2019
Nancy Allen	1/24/2020		

Capital Improvement Planning Committee

Janice Coughlan (Center School)	(AFC)
John Lawson (Planning)	Irene Graeff (Citizen at Large)
Dana Robinson (Treasurer)	Fran Misiuk (Citizen at Large)
(Citizens at Large appointed by Moderator)	Fredrik A. Marsh (Selectboard)

Cemetery Commission (3 year appointment)

Glenede Albertine	2019
Lynn Shaw	2019
Barbara Hanno	2019
Ann Townsend	2019
Deb Bachrach	2017
Ken Levine	2017
Sheila Youd	2018

Conservation Commission (3 year appointment)

Robert Clark	2019
Henry Woolsey	2018

David Lockesmith	2018
John Baker	2017
Ashley Gabrenas	2017
Ry Parcell	2016
Tyson Neukirch	2019

Council on Aging (3 year appointment)

Wanda Dickson	2019
Janice Olson	2019
Mary Russell	2019
Katherine M. Berry	2018
Pam Chevalier	2018
Brian Miner	2018
Phillip Hanno	2018
Delores Wierman	2017
Lynn Shaw	2019
Sheila Youd	2019

Council on Aging FRTA Advisory Board (1 year appointment)

None

Cultural Council (3 year appointment)

Pam Chevalier	2017
Linda Paquet	2020
Patricia Delhorey Kieras	2017
Christine Word	2018
Monika Agnello	2017
Jeannette Martin	2020
Louise Huppert	2018
Emily Joy Anderson	2019

Emergency Management Planning Committee

James Burke	Dana Robinson
Brianna Skowrya	Lynne Shaw
Fredrik A. Marsh	Chief Richard D. Cooley
Gregory Waid	

Energy Committee

Brian Miner	Max Feldman
Linda Paquet	Diane Nassif
Christine Eaton	Sheila Youd
Max Feldman	

Forest and Shade Tree Committee

Clarisse Hart
Stephen Herzog
Robert Clark

Sheila Youd
Melissa Levangie
Jordan O'Connor

Historic District Commission/Historical Commission (5 year appointment)

Christine Mandel	2020
Marcia L. Shaw	2020
Robert Clark	2019
Jeremy Gabrenas	2019
Nancy Allen	2021
Claudette Bishop	2018
Melissa Martinez	2022

Insurance Advisory Committee

Ann Degnan
Christine Boyer-Thompson

Gregory Waid
Randy Horne

Montachusett Regional School District Rep.

V. Edward Simms

Open Space and Recreation Committee

Robert Clark
Clinton Shaw
Henry Woolsey

Emery Boose
Ari Pugliese
Anne Cavanaugh

Personnel Policy Review Committee

Ann Degnan
Dana Kennan
Fredrik A. Marsh
Gregory Waid

Steven Boudreau
Dana Robinson
Randy Horne

Public Records Access Officers

Diana Cooley
Steven Boudreau
Police Chief Dana Cooley

Sherry Berube
Stacey Ferreira

Rt. 122 Scenic By-way Steering Committee

Nancy Allen

Tax-exempt Committee

Roy Nilson

Robert Paquet

Zoning Board of Appeals (3 year term)

Brian MacEwen	2019
MaryAnn Reynolds	2017
Don Eaton	2018
Donald O'Neil	2018

MODERATOR APPOINTMENTS

Advisory Finance Committee (3 year appointment as of August 1)

James Regan	7/31/2015
Ross France	7/31/2019
Robert Bellefeuille	7/31/2017
Don Clarkson	7/31/2017
Paul Youd	7/31/2018

Capital Improvement Planning Committee

Irene Graeff (Citizen at Large)
Fran Misiuk (Citizen at Large)

PCS Long Range Planning Committee

Lynn Peredina
Angela Danielson
Kevin Shortis
Octavia Willard-Brooks
Hilary Loring
Jim Regan
Lynne Feldman
Katherine Reeves
Barbie Downing
Kerri Lyden
Ann Degnan
Nichole Ruggles



TOWN of PETERSHAM
OFFICE of the SELECTBOARD

3 South Main Street • P.O. Box 486
Petersham, Massachusetts 01366
www.townofpetersham.org • Tel 978-724-3353 • Fax 978-724-3501

Annual Report of the Selectboard, Fiscal Year 2017

July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

The Petersham Selectboard is grateful to and thanks all who participated in this year's town business for the community — town employees, members of the volunteer town committees, and elected officials — working together and with residents on a variety of town needs and projects.

Nichewaug Inn & Academy Project

Work on this project continued throughout the fiscal year with Selectboard Vice Chair Henry Woolsey managing the project. The town's project consultant, Ted Carman of Concord Square Planning & Development (CSP), continued with his property analysis through the Summer of 2016 and a final public meeting summarizing Mr. Carman's studies was held in October 2016. The presentation included the results of a residential market study prepared by subcontractor Bonz & Company, possible redevelopment scenarios, CSP's financial analysis of each scenario, and recommendations for next steps. The low bids from 2015 for the removal of asbestos and other hazardous materials and for building demolition were confirmed in writing as still viable by the low bidding contractor and by the MA Attorney General's Office if the town chose to take action.

Several project-related Articles were developed for voters' consideration at a Special Town Meeting held in December 2016. The Articles were for: asbestos and hazardous materials removal from the building; partial demolition of the building; total demolition of the building; and an Article authorizing the Selectboard to issue an all-options Request for Proposals (RFP) for the possible redevelopment of the property. At the Town Meeting, voters approved two of these Articles: removal of the hazardous materials funded by a combination of the town's Stabilization Fund and by debt exclusion funding; and the issuing of an all-options RFP. As a required follow-up, the Selectboard placed a question seeking approval for the debt exclusion funding on the annual Town Election ballot in March 2017. The ballot vote passed. Contracts for the hazardous materials removal at the Nichewaug Inn and Academy property were signed with Associated Building Wreckers and with the firm of Wilcox & Barton for third party project monitoring. The first project meeting was held on site in May 2017 with all necessary participants present; work commenced and continued well into the next fiscal year.

The Petersham Police Department and Fire Department rendered critical support for the hazardous materials removal project by providing daily access to the building and by periodically supplying the water necessary for the work. Town resident Mark Bishop provided invaluable technical support as a volunteer in reviewing contractors' documents. And with thanks to town volunteer Glenn Goodale for his ongoing town web site management, the web page for the Nichewaug Inn project was kept up-to-date throughout the year as project reports, documents, and notices were produced.

Town Broadband Network Project

The Selectboard met with the town's Broadband Committee throughout the year as they continued their work on the town-wide, high speed internet project. During the year the two groups addressed a number of issues including schedule, project funding, preparing for December 2016 Special Town Meeting, working with the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI), and communications with State officials.

Matrix Design Group was the only company who responded to a fully advertised Request for Proposals issued in September 2016 by Petersham. Additionally, no company responded for Petersham's project in a fully advertised regional RFP issued by the MBI in November 2016 with a deadline of January 2017. The Selectboard supported the project funding questions be put before voters at December 2016 Special Town Meeting and where the Article passed (see below). Based on project status, the recommendation of the Broadband Committee, and an earlier vote of approval at June 2015 Annual Town Meeting, in January 2017, the Selectboard established a five-member Petersham Broadband Municipal Light Plant Board (MLPB). Nancy Allen was appointed to sit on the MLPB as a Selectboard representative. In March 2017, after development thru attorneys, both committees signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Matrix Design Group to design and build the network. In Spring 2017, the Selectboard approved the MLPB's recommendation to construct the network equipment room in lower Town Hall.

Special Town Meeting – December 2016

The Selectboard organized a Special Town Meeting held on December 12, 2016, working with the Administrative Coordinator, Advisory Finance Committee, and Moderator. The Meeting Warrant contained Articles for the Nichewaugh Inn & Academy project (noted above); the town broadband network project (noted above); a permanent Town Hall handicap accessible ramp (noted below); request for acceptance of a gift of land to the Center School; request for approval of new cemetery on St. Scholastica Priory property on North Main Street. As is practice prior to Town Meeting, a Public Information Meeting was held in November 2016 for residents to receive information and ask questions about the Town Meeting Articles from the Selectboard, Advisory Finance Committee, and pertinent Committees.

Town Budget & Annual Town Meeting – June 2017

Once again annual town budget development was conducted from January into June 2017 working with the Advisory Finance Committee and Administrative Coordinator and with all town departments and committees. The 41 Articles on the Warrant included budget-related Articles with most departments and committees meeting the request for level funded budgets, a selection of capital improvement projects, and a new Bylaw defining the town's Revolving Accounts. A Public Information Meeting was held in May to answer questions and review Warrant Articles with interested public.

OTHER PROJECTS

• Town Office Restroom Handicap Access Updates and New Water Filter System

The Selectboard and Administrative Coordinator implemented upgrades at the Town Office restroom so the facility met handicap access codes by relocating and adding fixtures and modifying the door entrance. Due to the old plumbing pipes in the building, the Selectboard approved disinfection and installation of a new filtration system for the restroom.

• Town Office Attic Insulation

With thanks to the Energy Committee and their use of MA Green Communities grant funding, insulation of the Town Office attic was completed. Along with the Energy Committee's efforts, the Selectboard thanks the town custodian and members of the Highway Dept. for helping make the attic space ready.

• Town Hall Exterior Painting and Shutter Repair & Painting

The Selectboard developed and issued specifications for bidders interested in the Town Hall exterior projects; six bidders responded to the exterior painting and two bidders to the shutters project. Upon approval by voters at June 2017 Town Meeting, the projects were awarded to the lowest qualified bidders and the Selectboard and Administrative Coordinator proceeded to the contract phase of the projects with start-up scheduled to begin in the summer of the new fiscal year.

- **Town Hall Handicap Access**

At Special Town Meeting in December 2016, voters approved a request for additional funding for construction of a permanent exterior ramp to replace the approximately 25-year old wooden ramp which had fallen into disrepair and was ordered closed by the MA Dept. of Labor. The Selectboard agreed to submit an application to the Historic District Commission (HDC) for the HDC's review of the proposed exterior ramp. Upon HDC review, the Selectboard withdrew the application as based on initial discussion more information was needed by the HDC than was available in the application. In February 2017, the Selectboard created a Handicap Access Committee for Town Hall to investigate solutions for access to the main floor. In June, the Committee submitted a recommendation for construction of an interior three-stop mechanical platform lift and applying for grant funding for the project from the MA Office of Disability. Project review continued into the new fiscal year.

- **MassWorks Grant for Route 101 Work**

The Selectboard met with and approved a grant submission by Highway Superintendent Greg Waid and planning consultant Kevin Flynn for a joint MassWorks grant funding application with Town of Phillipston for resurfacing the length of Route 101 (Popple Camp Road) in Petersham and Phillipston. The joint grant submission was successful with construction to commence in the new fiscal year.

- **Insurance Claim for Hail Storm Damage**

The Selectboard continued with oversight of progress on the hail damage roof repairs on five town-owned building by the town's insurer, their adjuster, and contractors. By June 2017, all roofs had been repaired excepting the largest project at the Center School with that work continuing into the new fiscal year and anticipated completion by Fall 2017.

- **Health Benefit Changes for Retired Employees**

Working with the Administrative Coordinator, the town's insurance representatives, and retired town employees, the Selectboard approved changing retirees' medical coverage from Medex 3 to Medex 2 coverage beginning in fiscal year 2018. The change is projected to translate into savings on annual premiums charges for the retirees and the town.

- **Regional Building Inspection Services**

At the request of and working with the Building Inspector, the Selectboard worked closely with three area towns — Barre, Hardwick, and New Braintree — to produce a successful Agreement for regionalization of building inspection services which is projected to decrease costs and increase access to inspection services. The final Agreement was signed by all four towns and the Building Inspector in June 2017 for the process to begin in the new fiscal year effective July 1, 2017.

- **Annual Animal Inspections**

The Selectboard met with Animal Inspector Marc Page and Assistant Animal Inspector Debra Bachrach to review their plans for renewal of conducting annual livestock animal inspections in town as required by the MA Dept. of Agricultural Resources. They noted they had nearly 100 locations to check. The Selectboard is grateful for their work and offered support for the effort.

We thank the staff at the Selectboard Office, Steven Boudreau and Sherry Berube, for their work. We relay our grateful appreciation to all who work hard to make Petersham a fine community for residents, businesses, and visitors.

Respectfully submitted – Petersham Selectboard,

Nancy S. Allen
Chair

Henry L. Woolsey
Vice Chair

Fredrik A. Marsh
Clerk

Animal Control

Petersham, MA

Reporting Period: 01 July 2016 thru 30 June 2017

For those residents compliant with the requirement to register dogs, thank you! To those that have not done this, it is the law in Massachusetts to do so and avoids fines. Our Town Clerk assists in making this process easy. Unlicensed dogs are also more likely to be subject to extended shelter stays, at best, and extended quarantine if there is a bite situation or unknown rabies vaccination history.

MA law requires all dogs, cats and ferrets be vaccinated against rabies. Your veterinarian will submit the required documentation to the town, but as an owner you need to bring your dog, cat, and ferret in to your veterinarian or attend a clinic for the rabies vaccination. As always, I am happy to review the mandated requirement with you.

Thanks go to our local dispatch and the PPD for support and contact. Prompt notification of animal related issues allows animal control response to 15-20 calls per month in a timely manner. Additionally, and in compliance with the legislation of 2012, animal control typically aides in requested coverage for surrounding town ACO needs 1-2 times each month.

Monthly call logs are now submitted to and on file with the Select Board. Included in these submissions are all calls related to domestic animals, wildlife, and livestock.

We held another successful rabies vaccination clinic in January of 2017. Animal control is working with the Board of Health to assure the continuance of this clinic.

Please, register your dogs with the Town Clerk (it is the law). Vaccinate your dogs, cats, and ferrets against rabies, and regularly check your fencing.

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Jones Bachrach

Annual Report of the Petersham Animal Inspector

Fiscal Year 2017

Animal Inspector Duties

The duties of the municipal animal inspector are important to both the animals and the residents in the event of an outbreak of a contagious disease. By performing yearly inspections the town has an accurate count of how many animals of each species are in town and where they reside. For this reason barn inspections are designed to conduct a census of the domestic livestock and poultry; to assure that all animals appear to be in good health and free from disease; and to ensure that appropriate housing and ample food and water are being supplied. Additional duties of the animal inspector include rabies control in the domestic livestock population of town and checking the ear tags and date of arrival of all cattle coming into town from out of state.

Each year an effort is made to update the list of town residences with livestock or poultry. Thank you again to those residents with animals who contacted me to make sure they were included on the updated listing.

Town Animal Count by Species

- **Cattle:** 65(includes dairy, beef, steers and oxen)
- **Goats:** 136
- **Sheep:** 78
- **Swine:** 110(includes breeders and feeders)
- **Llamas:** 20
- **Alpacas:** 65
- **Yaks:** 3
- **Horses:** 75
- **Donkey/mule:** 3
- **Poultry:** 1,087(includes chickens, turkeys, ratites, waterfowl, and gamebirds)
- **Rabbits:** 11

I wish to commend the animal owners of Petersham for the high level of care exhibited to their animals. I would also like to give continuing thanks to my assistant Deb Jones Bachrach for her help and support.

Respectfully submitted;

Marc Page

Petersham Animal Inspector



Town of Petersham BOARD OF ASSESSORS

3 South Main Street
P.O. Box 87
Petersham, MA 01366-0087
978-724-6658
Fax 978-724-6660

ANNUAL TOWN REPORT FY 2017

Expense Account	\$ 18,325.00
Deeds, Postage and all Misc Bills	
Point Software, Software Maintenance	
Personal Property, Cartographic, Inc.	
Recertification	
Vision Appraisal-Software Maintenance	\$ 3,820.00
Vision Appraisal-Interim	\$ 3,000.00
Assessor's Salary	\$ 8,460.00
Asst. Assessor Salary	\$ 33,040.00

TAX RECAPITULATION

Total amount to be raised	\$4,416,236.56
Total estimated receipts & revenue	\$1,994,486.55
Net amount to be raised by taxation	\$2,421,750.01

Tax Rate \$ 16.19 per thousand

CALCULATION

Value of Town divided by 1000
 $149,583,076 / 1000 = 148,583$ will equal \$1.00 on tax rate.

Personal Property Accounts are not for public information.

Respectfully Submitted,
Board of Assessors

Dana Kennan, Chairman
Jean Robinson, Clerk
Ellen Anderson, Member



PETERSHAM BOARD OF HEALTH

3 South Main Street • P.O. Box 486 • Petersham, MA 01366-0486
978/724-0057 tel. • 978/724-3501 fax
petershamboh@verizon.net

ANNUAL REPORT July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

The Board of Health has three elected officials, Chair, Robert Pasic RN, Stephen Loring, Fifi Scoufopoulos, and part-time administrative assistant, Renee Wingertsman. Phil Leger continues to act as Health Agent. Office hours are in the Town Office Building on Mondays (except holidays) from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. The Board meets on the first and third Thursday at 7:00 p.m. or 7:30 as posted on www.townofpetersham.org.

The responsibilities of the Board, as determined by regulations of the Commonwealth are four- fold:

1. Review and monitoring of septic system and well installation
2. Permitting and inspection of all food establishments and services
3. Adherence to Housing codes
4. Transmittable disease follow-ups and other public health issues

Memberships are with Region II Public Health Coalition, the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards, Wachusett Medical Reserve Corps, and the Mass Toss Cooperative. The Board of Health assists the Selectboard with the operation of the Transfer Station. The Board of Health is responsible for the Public Health portion of the Emergency Management Program in compliance with the Department of Homeland Security.

A recycling grant of \$2100.00 was granted with the help of Fifi Scoufopoulos and Tessa David. A rabies clinic was sponsored in January, in collaboration with the Town Clerk, Animal Control Officer, Board of Health, Highway Department and local veterinarian Alan Bachrach and his wife Deb. Proceeds were donated to PAWS (Petersham Animal Welfare System), the local animal welfare group.

Annual participation in the regional Household Hazardous Waste collection was in Orange this year in September and allowed residents to dispose of unwanted hazardous materials safely. A recycled clothing and textile white bin is at the Transfer Station and accepts clean clothing and textiles at no cost to residents.

Local Board of Health Duties

Perc Tests	5	Food Operations	12
Plan Reviews	3	Temporary Food permits	3
Repair; minor	4	Lyme disease reported	12
Systems Installed	5	Tobacco permit	1
System Haulers Permits	3	Housing Inspection	0
System Installers Permit	4	Outdoor Wood Boiler Permit	0
Private Well Permits	4		
Public Water Systems	6		

The Board of Health would like to thank the other Town Boards, Department Heads and the Town's Residents for their assistance in promoting the work of the Board as it pertains to the health of our community.

Robert Pasic ♦ Fifi Scoufopoulos
Stephen Loring



TOWN OF PETERSHAM
Petersham Broadband Municipal Light Plant Board

Town Office Building
3 South Main Street / P.O. Box 486
Petersham, Massachusetts 01366
www.townofpetersham.org / www.connectingpetersham.com
Tel: 978-724-3353 / Fax: 978-724-3501



**July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017 REPORT OF THE PETERSHAM
BROADBAND MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT BOARD**

The 2017 fiscal year was an important one for the Petersham Broadband MLP as we moved forward in our six-year-long effort to begin offering 100% of the residents, businesses and students of our community ultra-fast fiber-optic Broadband connectivity.

In September of 2016 the Broadband Committee released its RFP for Broadband services. Only one company, the Matrix Design Group, responded to that widely advertised Request for Proposals.

At the historic December 12, 2016 Special Town meeting the residents of Petersham approved by a vote of 299-7, taking \$300,000 from the Stabilization Account and authorizing \$260,000 in short-term borrowing in order to fund Petersham's share of the utility pole Make-Ready work that will be required before Matrix can begin to install its fiber-optic cable and connect Petersham customers to high-speed Broadband.

This allocated funding was passed contingent upon two events:

Petersham would have to wait to see if it was mentioned in the State's November 2016 RFP for cable company offers. On January 23, 2017 the Massachusetts Broadband Institute announced that they had received no cable company franchise offers covering the Town of Petersham.

Funding utilization was also contingent upon Petersham signing up a minimum of 270 paid Broadband subscribers by June 9, 2017.

The Petersham Broadband Municipal Light Plant Board in February signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Matrix Design Group for the installation of fiber-to-the-home Broadband connectivity and active negotiations on the final contract between Matrix and the Town of Petersham continued.

During the three-month sign up period (March 7th to June 9th) a total of 359 residents, businesses and institutions signed up for Broadband services. Each of these signups was accompanied by a pre-connection payment of Two Hundred and Fifty dollars. These funds, totaling \$89,750, are currently being held in an escrow account by the Petersham Town Treasurer.

Having reached and exceeded our signup goal, as of June 9, 2017, we expect to finalize our contract with Matrix early in the fall of 2017. The anticipated schedule for the Broadband project calls for Matrix to complete a detailed Pole Survey, Strand Map, and preliminary Network Design during the following few months. Pole Applications are scheduled to be submitted to Verizon and National Grid prior to the beginning of 2018 followed by Make-Ready work.

We anticipate that Petersham Broadband customers will begin to be connected to the network prior to next year's Annual Town Meeting in June of 2018 and that the entire project will be completed early in 2019.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chip Bull – Chairman Petersham Broadband MLP Board

PBMLP Members – John Blum – Andre Pierre – Gregory Grandbois – Nancy Allen

CEMETERY COMMISSION

JULY 2016 – JUNE 2017

The Cemetery Commission meets at 7:00 P.M. on the second Thursday of each month in the main floor office of the Town office Building to proceed with its responsibilities of selling cemetery lots and overseeing the maintenance of Petersham's nine cemeteries, facilitating burials, and maintaining and updating records. Ellen Anderson is sexton. Barnes Landscaping is contracted to maintain the cemeteries. The town website includes the listing of all fees.

All requests for the Cemetery Commission are to be directed to the Town Office. An intake memo will be generated and forwarded to the Sexton or Cemetery Commission members for attention. Sherry Berube is updating and maintaining records. Listing of veterans is being updated. Barnes Landscaping will install Veteran markers for a fee of \$50. Funeral Homes should notify the Cemetery Commission of veteran burials. St. Mary and Saint Scholastica Church were given approval by the Town for a cemetery on their property.

The following projects have kept the Cemetery Commission busy over the past year. The East Street Cemetery was painted by Barrett Anderson. A railing at the steps of the Goddard Cemetery was constructed by Shawn Graves funded by donations from descendants of families buried in Goddard Cemetery. Work parties have cleaned monuments with D2 and elbow grease. The understructure was rebuilt and a new slate roof was completed on the Hearse House and the interior was cleaned out. Much time was spent organizing and filing cemetery records. Trees were pruned by Melissa Lavangie, tree warden. A list was prioritized for the repair of monuments by TaMara Conde. Memorial Day plantings were done at designated graves.

Cemetery Commission Members

June 30, 2017

Lynn Shaw, Chairperson
Glenede Albertine, Clerk
Ann Townsend, Treasurer
Ken Levine
Barbara Hanno
Sheila Youd
Deb Bachrach



PETERSHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

3 South Main Street • P.O. Box 486 • Petersham, MA 01366-0486
978/724-3353 tel. • 978/724-3501 fax

REPORT OF THE PETERSHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

FISCAL 2017

Regular monthly meetings were held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM. Quorums were not reached for the July 2016 meeting and the January 2017 meeting. A special meeting was held on 21 March 2017 for issuing a Determination of Applicability. Public Hearings and Special Meetings were scheduled to either coincide with regular monthly meetings or between monthly meetings as necessary.

The Commission issued five Determinations of Applicability. No Orders of Conditions were issued during fiscal year 2017. Site visits were conducted for all Determinations of Applicability and for other issues that required Conservation Commission recommendations or approval. One emergency certification was issued.

Seventeen Forest Cutting Plans were reviewed including landowner submissions, DCR Service Forester approvals, and DCR Service Forester final inspections. There were three reviews of DCR Advisory Rulings under the Watershed Protection Regulations and five reviews of Approval Not Required plans from the Planning Board.

The four properties the Conservation Commission manages: the Lewis and Corinne Babbitt Wildlife Sanctuary, the Hallberg and Ganson Parcels, and the Davenport Pond Property total over 269 acres. The timber harvester for the forest cutting plan for the Davenport Pond Property will need to wait for favorable conditions. The property was protected under Chapter 97 with USDA Forest Legacy funds with the expectation for sound forest management. The forest cutting plan is in keeping with the forest stewardship plan prepared for the property as part of the protection with Forest Legacy funds. Cutting was planned in the winter but had to be curtailed because of lack of frost in the ground and will take place another year when conditions are suitable.

The Commission also holds Conservation Restrictions (CRs) on over 840 acres of private land including a 200 foot zone on either side of the East Branch Swift River on Harvard Forest property. The required annual monitoring of CRs continued to be done by John Baker's Clark University Land Conservation Course students which was once again a valuable educational experience for the students as well as a very valuable service to the Conservation Commission. Their work and reports are greatly appreciated. Annual CR monitoring of the Davenport Property was conducted by Harvard Forest and CR monitoring of the Hallberg and Ganson Parcels was conducted by Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust. Annual mowing of the open fields continued at the Babbitt Sanctuary.

Fiscal 2017 marks the thirty-fourth year the Commission has funded the Environmental Education Program at the Petersham Center School through the Lewis and Corrine Babbitt Wildlife Sanctuary Trust Fund. The program continues to be taught by Chris Eaton of Mass Audubon and includes classroom work K through 6th grade as well as field trips to the Lewis and Corrine Babbitt Wildlife Sanctuary. The program provides the students with a lasting appreciation for the natural world around them, helps them to become environmentally responsible citizens, and to grow in their understanding, appreciation, and respect for our environment. As far as is known this program continues to be the only environmental education program in a public school in the Commonwealth funded by a Conservation Commission. Once again, the bluebird trail at the Petersham Center School had a nesting pair of bluebirds and tree swallows.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert A. Clark, Chair
John Baker, Clerk
Ashley Gabrenas
David Lockesmith

Tyson Neukirch
Ry Parcell
Henry Woolsey
Thomas Webber, Associate

PETERSHAM COUNCIL ON AGING ANNUAL REPORT
FISCAL YEAR 2017

Mission Statement: Petersham's Council on Aging dedicates itself to addressing concerns of the sixty-year and older population.

We are an all volunteer organization. We have no salaried positions. Funds to carry out our activities come from an annual grant of \$5,000 from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs and a grant of \$1000 from the Town of Petersham. We are also supported by services from LifePath, Inc., 101 Munson Street, Suite 201, Greenfield, MA.

The Council on Aging Board for FY2017 has met monthly, except for July and August, in order to plan health and entertainment programs for Petersham's seniors and to assure that the meal site meets standards, and that seniors are informed via monthly newsletters of issues and programs of interest. We meet every second Monday of the month at 10:30 a.m. in the Lower Town Hall. We welcome anyone to come and share ideas and concerns.

The Monday Luncheon Club through the LifePath's Meals-on-Wheels Program is in its 23rd year. We meet every Monday at 12:00 in the Lower Town Hall. Mary Russell is our site manager and culinary miracle worker. Her helpers include: Kay Berry, Wanda Dickson, and Janice Olson. The site manager and her helpers have received certification in ServSafe practices, choke saver and heart resuscitation, allergen training and sanitation. We are an approved site. This year 423 meals were served on 36 Mondays. The volunteers that provide this service comply with the requirements of the Massachusetts Department of Health and the Petersham Board of Health. We estimate that the COA volunteers have given 1000 hours of their time wearing several different hats. Thank you for your dedication to the seniors of Petersham. A \$2.50 donation is recommended for lunch. To reserve a meal, please call Mary Russell at 978-724-3233 on Thursday for a lunch on Monday.

The COA newsletter, underwritten by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA), is sent to all Petersham residents 60 years and older. This past year 396 seniors received a newsletter. It has a calendar of local activities, senior program notices, monthly meal site menus, health and legal advisories. The current editor is Kay Berry and our email address is pshamcoa@gmail.com.

A review of the programs and activities highlighted in this year's newsletters included:

- The Fitness Program for seniors consisted of two 10-week sessions led by YMCA instructors on Mondays and Fridays on the main floor of the Town Hall.
- Floor and chair yoga was held on the main floor of the Town Hall on Tuesdays for two 10-week sessions led by Pat Roix.
- North Quabbin Community Senior Picnic at Silver Lake Park pavilion in Athol.
- Senior trip to the Eastern States Exposition on Sept. 22, 2016
- Fraud Squad Players presented a program to make seniors aware of the ways they can be cheated or led to give out their personal information on Oct. 24, 2016.
- Quabbin Valley Healthcare delivered coupons for free pies for Thanksgiving.
- Petersham Center School chorus and band rehearsal at the school in Dec. 2016.

- 10 weeks of t'ai chi classes led by Valerie and Nick Wisniewski and funded by the Petersham Cultural Council began Mar. 6, 2017.
- Quabbin Valley Healthcare catered a free meal as part of their QVH Outreach to the Community on March 27, 2017
- Pam Chevalier and Kay Berry did the Meals-on-Wheels Walk and contributed \$155 from Petersham which was matched by the Greenfield Savings Bank on April 29, 2017.
- Respiratory Therapy program which included tips on "Better Breathing" on May 1, 2017.
- LifePath, Inc. moved to Greenfield, MA.
- Steve Henderson's *An Accidental Wedding*, funded by the Petersham Cultural Council held on June 12, 2017
- Luncheon excursion to Montachusett Regional Vocational Tech School.

The Council wishes to thank all that helped to make 2016/2017 a successful year.

- Nicholas Barishian, Grant Chairman for the Eastern States Exposition, for approving our request for admission and bus transportation.
- The Selectboard for their support of all the COA's activities.
- Bob Laford for basic CPR and Anti-Choke Saver class.
- Steven Boudreau, Administrative Coordinator, for all his assistance in coordination the use of the Town Hall and keeping us updated on needed information.
- Assistant Administrative Coordinator, Sherry Berube, for help with our files and paperwork.
- Road Superintendent Gregory Waid for keeping the walkways clear and sanded.
- Neil Legare for maintenance and cleaning of the Town Hall.
- Thank you to all unsung volunteers who have helped keep us going.

Respectively submitted,
Council on Aging Board Members

Katherine Berry, Chairman and Treasurer
Wanda Dickson
Janice Olson, Corresponding Secretary
Mary Russell, Meal Site Manager
Pamela Chevalier, Recording Secretary

Michael Huppert
Brian Miner
Lynn Shaw, Co-Vice Chairman
Delores Wierman
Sheila Youd, Co-Vice Chairman

Petersham Cultural Council Annual Report for FY 2017

Members:

Jeannette Martin, Co-Chair
Trisha Delohery Kieras, Co-Chair
Pam Chevalier, Treasurer
Christine Word, Secretary
Monika Agnello
Louise Dwyer Huppert
Emily Joy Anderson
Linda Paquet

Twenty Local Cultural Council grants were distributed in the FY 2017 grant cycle and totaled \$6267. Funding from the state amounted to \$4400, \$1000 from a private donation and the balance from funds that were raised locally in past few years.

Planning for an Art Show had to be postponed due to the lack of the handicap ramp at the Town Hall.

In January, Linda Paquet was reappointed to the Council and accepted the co-chairmanship position in June as Trisha Kieras stepped down from the position. Also in late June, Monika Agnello's appointment expired. We are always interested in having more members; please contact one of the members if you are interested in joining the group.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Paquet, Co-Chair

Petersham Emergency Management Committee
Annual Report FY 2017

The Committee continues to be active in preparing for and responding to emergencies for our Town as well as being ready to assist other towns or work with them as they assist us. The Town was fortunate to not have to deal with any major disasters this year, but the committee remains diligent in assuring the Town has the necessary resources to respond if necessary. The EMD and Assistant EMD monitor all state and national alerts and make necessary response plans when warranted with our first responders.

The Town's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan has been updated as required annually by the Commonwealth and FEMA, as has been informed that there will be major changes to the requirements and documents over the next several years. The EMD will attend a number of meetings to be educated on the updates and maintain the Town's compliance.

Continuing works includes:

- The EMD applying for grants that are made available to the Town for emergency preparedness and response activities
- Maintain the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
- Continue Active Shooter training as offered by the Massachusetts State Police in conjunction with the police department and mutual aid law enforcement agencies.
- Continue Emergency Planning and training initiatives with Quabbin Retreat .

The Committee wishes to thank the men and women who continue to serve as first responders in our Town.

Self preparedness is the basis for community preparedness. In the event of a disaster of any type: local, state or national, all residents are encouraged to pre-plan for their families by having:

- A comprehensive Home and work safety plan
- A communications plan with family and friends
- A plan for pets or farm animals
- Food, water and first aid supplies

Visit <http://www.ready.gov/are-you-ready-guide> for individual disaster preparedness information. Additional information and Federal disaster alerts are also available on the Town's webpage.

Emergency Management Director Lynne Shaw
Assistant Emergency Manager Chief Dana Cooley



PETERSHAM ENERGY COMMITTEE

FY 17 TOWN REPORT

The Energy Committee has completed all work that can be done with Green Communities grant funding over the past six years. All town buildings have received lighting and insulation upgrades, completely new heating systems were installed in the fire station and town hall and indoor window insulation was installed in the Town Office Building, the Town Hall and the old section of Center School. \$34,000 was given Free Cash as a result of a law suit from a project that was approved but not delivered to the Town for solar generation.

At present the town no longer qualifies for any projects that are offered through the Green Community Program. Consequently, the committee has ceased to meet, but will continue to annually monitor energy usage in the town buildings and vehicles. For FY 17, there was an approximate 11% decrease in energy usage.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Paquet, Chairperson
Chris Eaton
Max Feldman
Brian Miner
Sheila Youd

**Annual Report of the Petersham Fire Department
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

To the Citizens of Petersham:

I herewith submit my report of activity by the Petersham Fire Department for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2017.

During the Fiscal Year the Department responded to the following calls for assistance.

Structure Fires	0
Chimney Fires	3
Brush Fires	9
Motor Vehicle Accidents	10
Alarm Activations – No fire	17
Carbon Monoxide Alarm Activation	5
Smoke/Fire Investigations	2
Ice Rescue	1
Fluid Spill	1
Public Assistance	3
Medical Emergencies	37
Mutual Aid	<u>11</u>
Total	99
Permits Issued:	
Smoke/ CO Inspections	24
Oil Buner Permits	9
Fuel Transfer Tank Permits	1
Propane Storage Permits	16
Burning Permits	<u>323</u>
Total Permits Issued	389

The Annual Town Meeting funded the fourth year of a five year hose replacement program. Much of the hose carried by the Department prior to this program was purchased 35 to 40 years ago. With the second and third allotment, we replaced 1500 ft. of 4 inch supply hose and completed the process of replacing our 2 1/2 inch large stream attack/supply hose. The department also took delivery of 12 new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus units in the beginning of the fiscal year. The units purchased meet all of the current requirements of the NFPA. The members of the department evaluated units from Scott and MSA both leaders in their field. After careful consideration the units were purchased from Scott as they offered a trade-in allowance on our old units of \$800.00 each. This savings allowed the department to purchase a specialized RIT pack (Rapid Intervention Team) that would be used in the event of a firefighter rescue.

Other new equipment purchased or replaced included a new light weight ground deluge set. This ground mounted nozzle flows large amounts of water at a large fire and makes it easier for the firefighter to apply the water without having to hold onto larges hose lines. A second compact thermal imager was also

purchased to complement one that was acquired a few years ago from donations received from a private fundraiser.

Throughout the year training was provided at our bi-monthly meetings. In the good weather months practical training evolutions were conducted to refresh and hone firefighting skills. Several firefighters took part in a live burn conducted by the Phillipston Fire Department and also trained with the Athol Fire Department at their burn building on two occasions. In the cold weather months First Responder refresher classes were conducted to keep our emergency medical skills current. Most members were recertified in CPR in April of 2017. In house and local instructors were utilized for all training sessions.

More residents took advantage of the on-line burning permit system this year. The on-line system has eliminated busy signals on the permit phone line and has been a great success. This year almost half of the burning permits issued were self-issued through the on-line system. The burning permit telephone line remains active for those who do not have access to a computer. The on-line system can be found at www.c8burnpermits.com.

The department is always looking to recruit new members. In our busy world it can be a delicate balance between work and family commitments with little time left to volunteer. IF you are looking for a way to contribute or give back to the community please consider being a firefighter. The Department meets on the First and Third Wednesdays of the month. We are in need of individuals that are available both during the day and at night. Daytime calls provide the biggest challenge for response as more of our current firefighters work out of town. Training is available at our regular meetings and can be attended regionally at no cost other than your time. Anyone interested is urged to contact the chief or a member of the department for more information.

I would like to thank the Highway Department and the Police Department for their assistance throughout the year. Good working relationships between departments is essential for success in a small community.

As always I want to thank the men and women of the department for their dedication and support. It is not always easy or convenient to respond to calls in time of need and it is important that you know your efforts are truly appreciated. Thank you as well to the wives, families and significant others for your support. Finally, thank you to the citizens of Petersham for your continued support at Town Meeting and the kind words of appreciation that make the job of serving our community worthwhile.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Dana C. Robinson
Fire Chief**

The Petersham Forest & Shade Tree Committee – Town Report for FY2018

The PFSTC meets typically on the third Thursday of the month at the Country Store from 5:30-7pm. (Meeting times and agenda are made available on the Town's website.) Last year the committee continued to make great strides to benefit our beloved town trees:

- In April the Town received a Department of Conservation and Recreation challenge grant for "Planting Petersham's Future" in the amount of \$14,114.00. We have funds to plant trees on town gateways, and at the Center School. Funds also support providing public workshops on tree care (planting, pruning, invasive species, and grafting); funds also supported treating invasive species at the Town Transfer station. Trees will be planted as a continuation of closing out the grant this April 2018 for Arbor Day
- Continued making re-useable bags provided at the Country Store (and at Arbor Day)
- Continued our educational tree themed postcard series to residents
- Continued our all-volunteer Wood Bank program (now in our 5th heating season winter) that leverages grant funds for the Mass. DCR and private donations. In the heating year of 2017-8 we have administered 38 vouchers (19 cords) of firewood processed from downed roadside trees at the time this report was submitted.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Forest & Shade Tree Committee,
Melissa LeVangie, Member

Town of Petersham
Highway Department
Annual Report
2016-2017

Chapter 90 Work

Crack sealing was done on parts of East st. South st. New Athol rd. Guide rails replaced at browns pond and installed on Nelson rd. paving done on South st. and New Athol rd. Asphalt Shimming on East st. and Old Barre rd. Compacting roller was purchased for dirt road maintenance.

General Highway

Roads were swept. Dirt roads graded Graveled and rolled. Catch basins cleaned and road sides mowed. General clean up of limbs brush and debris from road sides. Culverts were installed on doe valley road and Camel Hump rd. Edging and ditching and graveling parts of Narrows Lane rd, Choate rd. and Camel Hump rd . The Glen Valley road bridge was removed and replaced with an Acrow bridge. Rt. 101 edging and ditch work was done.

Snow Account

The snow and ice season had an early start in October and a late finish in April. The months of December and March were the busy months of the season. The estimated usages are. 550 tons of salt and 550 cubic yards of sand was used for the snow and ice season. Once again the Part-time help was greatly appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gregory Waid
Highway Superintendent



PETERSHAM HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
and PETERSHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION

3 South Main Street • Petersham, Massachusetts 01366 • 978-724-3353 tel • 978-724-3501 fax

Annual Report for July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

The Petersham Historic District Commission & Historical Commission met monthly throughout the year. The Commission received Project Applications and held Public Hearings for two projects during the year: An application was received from a resident for removal of a rear ell from a dwelling and construction of a new addition in the same location; portions of the structure were visible from the public way. A site visit and Public Hearing were held. The HDC approved the Application. A Project Application was received from the Town to replace an existing failed twenty-year old wooden handicap ramp with a permanent exterior ADA compliant ramp for access to the main floor of Town Hall A site visit and Public Hearing were held. Upon review and discussion, the applicant withdrew the application so as to consider providing more information.

The HDC discussed a garden arbor which has been installed in front of a residence without review. The property owner willingly removed the structure knowing they could submit an application if they wished. The HDC was asked by a resident and the Selectboard to review the idea of a plaque at the flagpole on the Common and the possibility of night time lighting of the flag. Discussion ensued with some form of a plaque seeming to be a feasible idea to execute. The need for and impact of night time lighting was questioned and noted that if there was further interest, the subject should return to the Selectboard for further consideration.

The Mass. Attorney General (AGO) approved the HDC-HC's updated Bylaw in October 2016, as had been approved by voters at June 2016 Town Meeting and sent as required by the Town Clerk to the AGO for review.

In November 2016, the National Park Service approved applications for Petersham's two historic East Street Schoolhouses for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The applications has already been approved by the Mass. Historical Commission in the prior fiscal year. An "Open Schoolhouses" event was held in November, organized by the Petersham Historical Society (PHS) with Chris Mandel and Nancy Allen participating. The event was very popular, with visitors and special guests, including several former school students, filling the Ledgeville School, Chris, Nancy, and Jean Sinclair of PHS worked on permanent exhibit displays telling the School history including students' stories & memories. In June 2017, both Schools were used as hands-on historic classrooms for a field trip of Center School students organized by members of the Historical Society and teachers from the Center School with Chris and Nancy working on the project. A local Cultural Council grant supported the successful project.

Other HDC-HC projects included interest from the UMass/Amherst Archaeology Department in the "Stone-Wheeler site" near Monson Turnpike which contains a formation of large stones of unknown purpose. Former HDC-HC member Polly Pillsbury had informed UMass Professor Eric Johnson about the location and with permission, he and a team of students visited the site in April 2017. Chris provided them with critical historical information and documentation about the property. A report is expected from UMass at a future date. The Cemetery Commission, of which Lynn Shaw is chair, is also interested in the site as is Bob Clark, chair of the Open Space & Recreation Committee. The HDC discussed updating of the 'HDC Properties Book,' a listing and brief descriptions of all District properties last published in 1995. With the in-depth individual property research created by Chris combined with the skills and interests of the current members of the Commission, the intensive undertaking seems realistic to attempt and the time right for successful execution.

The HDC-HC was pleased to welcome new members Claudette Bishop and Melissa Martinez during the fiscal year. Claudette agreed to take on the role of Clerk for which members were grateful. The Commission was pleased that Melissa agreed to fill the open position of a member with architectural training.

The Commission is grateful to Petersham residents and fellow town officials for providing their support for preservation of Petersham's history. *Respectfully submitted,*

~ Nancy Allen, *Chair*; Robert Clark, *Vice Chair*; Claudette Bishop, *Clerk*
Jeremy Gabrenas, Christine Mandel, Melissa Martinez, Lynn Shaw

ABOUT THE PETERSHAM HISTORIC DISTRICT Through the diligent hard work of town residents and the commitment of Petersham voters, the Petersham Historic District was established in 1967 as one of the earliest in the Commonwealth and followed the signing of the National Historic Preservation Act in 1966. Today, there are more than 600 Historic Districts in cities and towns across Massachusetts. Since the 1930s, over 2,300 local Historic Districts have been established across the United States and the number keeps growing as towns discover and appreciate the benefits brought about by preservation.

Town of Petersham

Brianna Skowyra - Inspector of Buildings

3 South Main Street

P.O. Box 486

Petersham, MA 01366-0486

petershambldginsp@verizon.net

www.townofpetersham.org

Office 978-724-3586

Fax 978-724-3501

INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS REPORT

July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017

Category

Building Permits

Number

77

<u>Building Permits</u>			
1	New Homes	3	Decks and Porches
2	Additions	24	Roofs and Siding
3	Remodel	1	Barns/Garages
2	Repairs	12	Other
5	Sheds	8	Solar Panel
0	Demo	0	Greenhouse
7	Window	9	Woodstove

Office hours are held every Monday from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Town Office Building.

Respectfully Submitted
Brianna Skowyra
Inspector of Buildings

Town of Freetown
 2007 Main Street
 Freetown, MA 01865
 Phone: 508-734-7800
 Fax: 508-734-7801
 www.townoffreetown.org

OFFICE OF THE TOWN ENGINEER
 508-734-7800

INSPECTOR OF BUILDING REPORT July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011

Category	Building Form	Number
Windows	1	1
Doors	2	2
Stairs	3	3
Roofs	4	4
Foundations	5	5
Other	6	6
Other	7	7
Other	8	8
Other	9	9
Other	10	10
Other	11	11
Other	12	12
Other	13	13
Other	14	14
Other	15	15
Other	16	16
Other	17	17
Other	18	18
Other	19	19
Other	20	20

Office hours are every day from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Town Office Building.

Respectfully,
 [Signature]
 Inspector of Building

PETERSHAM MEMORIAL LIBRARY

23 Common Street
Petersham, Massachusetts, 01366

Annual Report to the Town Of Petersham
of the Petersham Memorial Library
July 01, 2016 – June 30, 2017

Vision Statement:

The Petersham Memorial Library will fulfill its vital mission to the community by providing resources, programming and an atmosphere to encourage multi-faceted intellectual growth. This will be achieved by nurturing a love of reading, encouraging the sharing of ideas and acceptance of diversity, and fostering the pursuit of life long learning in a friendly, welcoming environment making the library an important cultural hub for the Petersham community of all ages.

Mission Statement:

The Petersham Memorial Library will provide the community with a diverse and rich collection that nurtures a love of books and reading and fosters the communication of ideas and information. The Library will also be home to a special collection of materials of local and regional history and genealogy. In addition to maintaining the collection, the Library has a commitment to preserve the architectural integrity of the building, to preserve the memorials within the building, and to provide an attractive and friendly environment.

Hours:

- Tuesday 10:00A.M. to 5:00P.M.
- Wednesday 2:00P.M. to 7:00P.M.
- Friday 2:00P.M. to 5:00P.M.
- Saturday 9:00A.M. to 1:00P.M.

Trustees:

- Barbara Hanno
- John Burk
- Mark Ailigner
- Ashley Gabrenas
- Janice Olson
- Don Clarkson
- Kent Byron
- Robert Bellefeuille
- Tally Lent
- Hilary Loring
- Fifi Scoufopoulos
- Clint Shaw

Six hundred and eighty eight Petersham residents were library cardholders in Fiscal Year 2017. Petersham Memorial Library patrons checked out 7,396 books, 841 print serials, 1,190 audio books and 1,981 movies. 2,423 interlibrary loans were received and 1,506 were provided. 1,687 on-site loans were made to patrons who do not reside in Petersham.

FY2017 the library had 2 computers, 1 laptop and 2 tablets for public use. An average of 14 patrons per week accessed the internet using the library's computers. 1,008 wireless sessions were provided to patrons. The library's web address: www.petershamlibrary.net.

Our digital library offerings included 6 data base licenses, 68,157 e-book titles, 10,124 audio book titles, 130 electronic serial subscriptions and 1,008 video titles. In 2017, 856 electronic titles were downloaded from the digital catalog by our patrons.

The library was open a total of 945 hours which included 188 hours on Saturday and 104 hours after 5PM. 5,623 people entered the library during open hours.

Our shelves currently hold 7,710 books for adults and 4,653 books for children and 983 young adult titles. There are 45 volumes of print periodicals, newspapers and other print serials. 1,007 DVD/VHS titles were available for loan as well as 537 books/music in audio format.

Discount Passes to area attractions included the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art in Amherst, Massachusetts State Parks Pass, Tower Hill Botanical Garden in Boylston and the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.

During the 2016-2017 season, the Petersham Memorial Library continued to offer story hour for children, at 10:30 on Tuesday morning. Our story hour format included a story, game, music, craft/science activity, yoga, sign language and play time for our youngest patrons.

The Library Book Sale was held October 8 and 9. We wish to thank Fifi Scoufopoulos, our book sale organizer and her army of volunteers. Packers, sorters, movers, sellers and buyers all came together for a successful sale.

The Library handed out well over 200 treat bags during the Town Halloween Trick or Treat festivities. Jeanne Forand packaged all the goodie bags in preparation for the event. Bob and Karen Bellefeuille and Barbara Hanno handed out the treats.

Our literary fundraiser *What the Dickens* was held on November 9.

The event helped raise funds for the Library's Building Improvement Fund. The Building Improvement Committee is currently investigating options for a new bathroom.

In December, The Magical Petersham Holiday Arts and Crafts Show and Sale took place in the Town Hall. We wish to thank the show organizers for allowing the library to participate. We appreciate your generous support and beautiful selection of arts and crafts for holiday shopping.

The Annual Library Tea was held Sunday, February 19 from 2:00 to 4:00. Invitations were mailed to all Petersham residents. The tea is the Library's *Thank You* to our community for the support we receive throughout the year.

The library offered 46 children's programs and 12 adult programs. Highlights for the year included:

- Story Teller Davis Bates
- Library Ice Cream Social
- Basics of Tea with Danielle Beaudette
- Backyard Astronomy presented by a team from The Aldrich Astronomical Society
- Celtic Pairings with Kim Larkin
- Local Author Talks with Dr. James Moseley and Dr. Cynthia Crosson

Non-library use of the building included meetings for the Historic District Commission and the Petersham Cultural Council

Over 150 volunteer hours were logged at our library in 2016/2017 and I would like to extend my gratitude to the volunteers, staff, Trustees and patrons of the Petersham Memorial Library for all they do to help make it the great place it is.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jayne Arata
Director
Petersham Memorial Library

Petersham Memorial Library Treasurer's Report July 2016 through June 2017

Income	89632.93	
Building Improvement Income	5241.10	
Annual appeal, gifts	5490.00	
Trash Bags	4350.00	
Investment income	62400.00	
State Grant	2457.75	
Town Appropriation	9190.00	
Other	504.08	
Expense	79486.11	
Collection Materials	12799.69	
CW Mars	2125.00	
Insurance	669.00	
Trash Bags	5700.00	
Payroll Expense	46445.51	
Projects and Programs	1322.15	
Utilities	7663.19	
Other	2761.57	
Net Ordinary Income	10146.82	
Capital Expense	4577.74	
Corporation Expenses	7100.00	
Net Income	(1530.92)	



PETERSHAM OPEN SPACE & RECREATION COMMITTEE

3 South Main Street • P.O. Box 486 • Petersham, MA 01366-0486
978/724-3353 tel. • 978/724-3501 fax

REPORT OF THE OPEN SPACE & RECREATION COMMITTEE FISCAL 2017

We honor Mick Huppert for his many contributions to the Open Space & Recreation Committee and to conservation throughout the region. Although he couldn't attend our meetings because of illness, he was very much a part of the Committee and his thoughts and good advice were always with us.

Regular monthly meetings were held on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM with the May 2017 meeting cancelled and no quorum for the June 2017 meeting. The Committee continued to explore ways of implementing the Open Space & Recreation Plan (OS&RP) with an emphasis on protecting our farmland. The Open Space & Recreation Committee explored resources to encourage local agriculture and to protect land with valuable agricultural soils. The current Open Space & Recreation Plan expires in October 2018 and the Committee discussed the vision and continuity for the next Open Space & Recreation Plan.

The goal to link our extensive trail system and connecting them with trails in adjacent towns moved closer with continued work on the Bob Marshall Trail connecting the Gould Woodlot at Harvard Forest to the Harvard Pond/Tom Swamp Tracts. The footbridge over Nelson Brook has withstood weather and high water and makes the northern portion of the trail accessible. Thanks to the work of Clark University student interns, we now have a trail map for the Babbitt Wildlife Sanctuary, Hallberg parcel, and Ganson parcel.

The OS&RP calls for cooperative arrangements with institutions with large land holdings for invasive species control, trail management, and other programs that will benefit our scenic rural character and provide quality recreation for residents and visitors. Sudden storm events have made trail maintenance a higher priority.

Identifying and proposing improvements in existing Town owned lands for public recreation is another component of the new Plan. Public recreation facilities such as swimming continues to be difficult to address. The Committee continued to explore opportunities and improvements in existing Town owned areas for public recreation that would meet the needs of the community and enhance the goals of the new Open Space & Recreation Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert A. Clark, Acting Chair
Emery Boose, Clerk
Mick (Michael) Huppert, Chair
Anne Cavanaugh
Clint Shaw
Henry Woolsey

Petersham Planning Board Annual Report
FY July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017

There were six plans with a total of nine new lots endorsed as ANR (Approval Not Required) during FY 2016:

7/28/2016 Lots 8 and 8.1 East Street

7/28/2016 Lots 513 and 513.1 Leighton Road

12/15/2016 Lot 312 Loring Hill Road (perimeter survey)

12/15/2016 Lots 87.1 and 87.2 New Salem Road (Rte. 122)

12/15/2016 Lots 407 and 407.1 on East Street were endorsed again with a note:

The area between the stone wall and the sideline of the 1959 county layout of East Street was abandoned by the town of Petersham on June 6, 2016 by article 43 at the annual Town Meeting. The survey presumes that the abutting landowners now own to sideline of the current county layout of East Street.

12/15/2016 Lots 687, 687.1 and 687.2 at corner of West Road and Rte. 122.

There was one plot plan reviewed for a new house seeking a building permit:

5/25/2017 Lot 394 East Street

There was a Public Hearing on March 23, 2016 for updates to the Rules and Regulations of the Planning Board and the updates were subsequently approved by the board. These changes were necessary to conform with the new Subdivision Bylaw. There is now a fee of \$100 for every new ANR lot created in the Town (effective May 25, 2017).

Respectfully submitted,

Fraser Sinclair, Chair

Donna Byron, Clerk

Town of Petersham Police Department 2017 Annual Report

Once again the Police Department had a busy year in 2017 with a total of 2,311 calls for service. Compared to area communities, Petersham, had only a few break & entries mostly into unlocked vehicles. The Petersham Police Department recommends all residents to lock their homes and vehicles at all times.

Our department received a grant from our insurance provider MIIA for the purchase of three body cameras for our officers to wear while on patrol. These cameras will help to keep our transparent relationship with the community and anyone having interaction with our officers.

Our close relationship with the Petersham Center School remains strong with both the school and this department having a commitment to keep the students, staff and visitors safe at all times. We remain committed to continue providing the highest level of training to our officers in the event of an active shooter not only at the school but, within the entire community. The Department of Homeland security has provided us with grant funding to bring this high level of training to our officers. This training not only prepares them for the event of an active shooter but also the high risk motor vehicle stops they face every day during their patrols. I would be remiss to not mention Emergency Management Director Lynne Shaw who has provided her expertise writing these grants, setting up the trainings and completing all of the after action plan requirements of the grant.

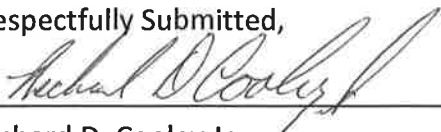
Our DARE program continues for the fifth graders at the Center School taught by our own DARE Officer/ Patrolman Dan Kimball. Dan has many years experience teaching the DARE program.

I would like to thank all of my officers and their families for their commitment to this department. As we wake up every day and turn on the news we are quickly reminded of the dangers and risks of putting on the uniform to provide the safety of our communities. As we have seen the risk is everywhere not just in the larger communities.

I would like to thank my family for their support and understanding my commitment and passion for the operations of the police department providing safety and protection for our community.

May God Bless Us All.

Respectfully Submitted,



Richard D. Cooley Jr.

Chief of Police

Police Department Statistics
(2017)

Description	No. of Calls
E-911 Hang Up Calls	20
911 Mis Dial	6
Abandoned MV	3
Alarms	60
Animal Calls	61
Assist Citizens	46
Assault	1
Assist other Agency	72
BOLO	3
Burglary (B & E)	4
Building Checks	288
Community Policing	19
Carbon Monoxide Alarms	6
Complaints	16
Court	34
Disturbance	4
Disabled Motor Vehicle	41
Domestic Disturbance	2
Escort/Transport	1
Fire Alarm	11
Fire / Brush	3
Automobile Fire	1
Fire, Other	10
Forgery / Fraud	1
General Info	8
Gun Shots	7
Harrassment	6
Hazardous Incident	1
Harrassment Prevention Orders	3
Identity Theft	3
Illigal Dumping	8
Investigations	31
Larceny/Theft/Shoplifting	7
Lockout	8
LTC/FID	62
Medical Emergency	38
Medical Alarm	2
Motor Vehicle Accident	30
Motor Vehicle Accident with injury	3
Complaint /MV Operations	13
Motor Vehicle Investigation	112
Motor Vehicle Stops	856
Neighbor Disputes	1
Notifications	14
Officer Initiated Investigations	90

Police Department Statistics
(2017)

Parking Complaint	5
Phone Calls / Annoying	72
Property Lost/Found	10
Psych Emergency	3
Radar	23
Repossession	1
Serve Restraining Order	1
Safety Hazard	76
Scam	2
Serve Summons	2
Suspicious Activity	34
Trespass	2
Traffic Control	6
School Zone Traffic	18
Unattended Death	1
Utility Issues	5
Vandalism	1
Vehicle Maintenance	1
Serve Warrant	2
Welfare Check	30

2311

Town of Petersham
Fiscal Year 2017

Department:	Budget	Expended	Unexpended
Town Meeting Moderator			
Department Head Salary	\$70.00	\$0.00	\$70.00
Total Town Moderator	<u>\$70.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$70.00</u>
Board of Selectmen			
Board Members Salaries	\$7,485.00	\$7,485.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$4,284.00	\$4,090.09	\$193.91
Floating Secretary	\$3,678.00	\$3,678.00	\$0.00
Part - Time Clerk	\$5,253.00	\$5,239.72	\$13.28
Total Board of Selectmen	<u>\$20,700.00</u>	<u>\$20,492.81</u>	<u>\$207.19</u>
Town Admin Coordinator			
Salary	\$46,223.12	\$46,223.12	\$0.00
Admin Coordinator Overtime	\$835.00	\$744.55	\$90.45
Total Town Admin Coordinator	<u>\$47,058.12</u>	<u>\$46,967.67</u>	<u>\$90.45</u>
Finance Committee			
Expenses	\$505.00	\$129.00	\$376.00
Total Finance Committee	<u>\$505.00</u>	<u>\$129.00</u>	<u>\$376.00</u>
Reserve Fund	\$35,000.00	\$12,869.01	\$22,130.99
Town Accountant			
Salary	\$15,209.00	\$15,209.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$5,326.56	\$5,326.56	\$0.00
Audit	\$24,500.00	\$0.00	\$24,500.00
Accounting Clerk	\$2,000.00	\$1,340.89	\$659.11
Total Town Accountant	<u>\$47,035.56</u>	<u>\$21,876.45</u>	<u>\$25,159.11</u>
Board of Assessors			
Board Members Salaries	\$8,253.00	\$8,253.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$22,926.91	\$22,926.91	\$0.00
Assistant Assessor Salary	\$32,234.36	\$32,234.36	\$0.00
Mapping Project	\$15,000.00	\$14,870.00	\$130.00
FY 19 Revaluation	\$5,364.00	\$5,364.00	\$0.00
FY 16 Revaluation	\$1,214.64	\$1,214.64	\$0.00
Total Board of Assessors	<u>\$84,992.91</u>	<u>\$84,862.91</u>	<u>\$130.00</u>
Treasurer			
Salary	\$15,590.00	\$15,590.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$4,186.00	\$3,781.00	\$405.00
Payroll Processing Fees	\$3,400.00	\$3,281.69	\$118.31
Total Treasurer	<u>\$23,176.00</u>	<u>\$22,652.69</u>	<u>\$523.31</u>
Tax Collector			
Salary	\$13,110.00	\$12,410.00	\$700.00
Expenses	\$18,065.00	\$14,421.30	\$3,643.70
Total Tax Collector	<u>\$31,175.00</u>	<u>\$26,831.30</u>	<u>\$4,343.70</u>
Town Counsel			
Legal Fees	\$9,617.00	\$4,427.37	\$5,189.63
Total Town Counsel	<u>\$9,617.00</u>	<u>\$4,427.37</u>	<u>\$5,189.63</u>

Department:	Budget	Expended	Unexpended
Town Clerk			
Salary	\$10,093.00	\$10,093.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$2,909.00	\$2,738.99	\$170.01
Vital Statistics	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
Vital Records	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Software & Maintenance	\$3,902.00	\$3,902.00	\$0.00
Part-Time Clerk	\$634.00	\$634.00	\$0.00
Total Town Clerk	\$22,638.00	\$17,467.99	\$5,170.01
Election & Registration			
Salaries	\$7,082.52	\$6,882.52	\$200.00
Expenses	\$1,650.00	\$1,650.00	\$0.00
Total Election & Registration	\$8,732.52	\$8,532.52	\$200.00
Planning Board			
Expenses	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Planning Board	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Zoning Board of Appeals			
Expenses	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
ZBA Consultant	\$960.00	\$0.00	\$960.00
Total Zoning Board of Appeals	\$1,460.00	\$0.00	\$1,460.00
Land Court / Tax Title Fees			
Land Court Fees	\$17,297.65	\$0.00	\$17,297.65
Tax Title Surveys / Appraisals	\$52,735.00	\$225.82	\$52,509.18
Total Land Court / Tax Title Fees	\$70,032.65	\$225.82	\$69,806.83
Town Hall			
Town Hall / Office Maintenance	\$5,363.60	\$5,363.60	\$0.00
Town Hall / Office Expenses	\$31,305.36	\$27,250.39	\$4,054.97
Town - Phone	\$13,500.00	\$9,581.68	\$3,918.32
Handicap Access / Town Hall / Office	\$47,157.32	\$0.00	\$47,157.32
Computer Service	\$1,000.00	\$909.48	\$90.52
Insurance Deductible - Hail Damage	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Town Hall / Office Wire	\$8,779.40	\$2,501.06	\$6,278.34
Total Town Hall	\$112,105.68	\$45,606.21	\$66,499.47
Printing			
Town Printing	\$1,750.00	\$1,648.96	\$101.04
Total Printing	\$1,750.00	\$1,648.96	\$101.04
Police Department			
Police Chief Salary	\$73,531.00	\$73,531.00	\$0.00
Police Wages	\$34,427.36	\$26,439.21	\$7,988.15
Full Time Officer Wages	\$51,847.00	\$51,847.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$38,437.37	\$35,708.16	\$2,729.21
Police SUV	\$42,642.00	\$42,642.00	\$0.00
Training - Full Time	\$3,424.00	\$3,422.84	\$1.16
Training - Part Time	\$7,280.92	\$5,118.50	\$2,162.42
Total Police Department	\$251,589.65	\$238,708.71	\$12,880.94

Department:	Budget	Expended	Unexpended
Fire Department			
Salaries/Wages	\$33,595.76	\$27,554.46	\$6,041.30
Expenses	\$29,575.00	\$27,055.71	\$2,519.29
Truck Tires	\$566.52	\$566.52	\$0.00
Fire Hoses	\$9,490.00	\$9,490.00	\$0.00
Replacement Air Packs	\$24,000.00	\$24,000.00	\$0.00
Breathing Apparatus	\$64,416.00	\$58,159.00	\$6,257.00
Total Fire Department	\$161,643.28	\$146,825.69	\$14,817.59
Emergency Management			
Emergency Management	\$5,420.00	\$4,604.41	\$815.59
Total Emergency Management	\$5,420.00	\$4,604.41	\$815.59
Building Inspector			
Building Inspector Salary	\$10,546.00	\$10,546.00	\$0.00
Clerical	\$4,063.00	\$3,974.15	\$88.85
Expenses	\$1,260.00	\$1,249.98	\$10.02
Total Building Inspector	\$15,869.00	\$15,770.13	\$98.87
Animal Control Officer			
Salary	\$1,954.00	\$1,954.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$1,425.00	\$410.61	\$1,014.39
Total Dog Officer	\$3,379.00	\$2,364.61	\$1,014.39
Tree Warden			
Salary	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$535.00	\$168.00	\$367.00
High Tree Work	\$25,000.00	\$15,214.66	\$9,785.34
Total Tree Warden	\$28,535.00	\$18,382.66	\$10,152.34
Forest Warden			
Salary	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Total Forest Warden	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Public Safety Communications			
Communication Radio Repairs	\$1,800.00	\$1,454.61	\$345.39
IMC & LEAPS	\$3,075.00	\$2,285.00	\$790.00
Total Public Safety Communications	\$4,875.00	\$3,739.61	\$1,135.39
Broadband Network			
Expenses	\$560,000.00	\$0.00	\$560,000.00
Total Broadband Network	\$560,000.00	\$0.00	\$560,000.00
Education			
Petersham Center School	\$1,365,699.65	\$1,324,624.30	\$41,075.35
Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District	\$759,205.00	\$753,459.00	\$5,746.00
Montachusett Regional Vocational Tech.	\$54,180.00	\$53,567.00	\$613.00
Total Education	\$2,179,084.65	\$2,131,650.30	\$47,434.35

Department:	Budget	Expended	Unexpended
--------------------	---------------	-----------------	-------------------

Highway Department

Salaries	\$145,485.30	\$145,485.30	\$0.00
Expenses	\$54,000.00	\$44,689.42	\$9,310.58
Glen Valley Rd Bridge	\$23,550.36	\$23,550.36	\$0.00
	<u>\$223,035.66</u>	<u>\$213,725.08</u>	<u>\$9,310.58</u>

Town Barn

Expenses	\$8,485.00	\$4,815.71	\$3,669.29
Total Town Barn	<u>\$8,485.00</u>	<u>\$4,815.71</u>	<u>\$3,669.29</u>

Snow & Ice Removal

Expenses	\$85,725.58	\$85,725.58	\$0.00
Total Snow & Ice Removal	<u>\$85,725.58</u>	<u>\$85,725.58</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>

Street Lights

Street Lights	\$6,862.96	\$6,862.96	\$0.00
Total Street Lights	<u>\$6,862.96</u>	<u>\$6,862.96</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>

Cemetery Department

Expenses	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$350.00
Care of Cemeteries	\$20,523.00	\$20,523.00	\$0.00
Computerizing Cemetery Records	\$155.01	\$0.00	\$155.01
Cemetery Repairs	\$5,886.48	\$950.00	\$4,936.48
Total Cemetery Department	<u>\$26,914.49</u>	<u>\$21,473.00</u>	<u>\$5,441.49</u>

Board of Health

Board Members Salaries	\$477.00	\$335.00	\$142.00
Expenses	\$2,700.00	\$1,304.89	\$1,395.11
BOH - Admin Assistant	\$6,080.00	\$6,078.35	\$1.65
Inspector of Animals	\$2,575.00	\$2,575.00	\$0.00
Total Board of Health	<u>\$11,832.00</u>	<u>\$10,293.24</u>	<u>\$1,538.76</u>

Transfer Station

Transfer Station	\$52,000.00	\$42,883.25	\$9,116.75
Total Transfer Station	<u>\$52,000.00</u>	<u>\$42,883.25</u>	<u>\$9,116.75</u>

Council on Aging

Expenses	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Total Council on Aging	<u>\$1,000.00</u>	<u>\$1,000.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>

Veterans' Agent

Expenses	\$3,655.00	\$3,654.92	\$0.08
Veterans' Benefits	\$9,000.00	\$3,888.00	\$5,112.00
Total Veterans' Agent	<u>\$12,655.00</u>	<u>\$7,542.92</u>	<u>\$5,112.08</u>

Library

Operating Subsidy	\$9,190.00	\$9,190.00	\$0.00
Total Library	<u>\$9,190.00</u>	<u>\$9,190.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>

Department:**Budget****Expended****Unexpended****Concerts**

Concerts (6)	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00
--------------	------------	------------	--------

Total Concerts	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00
Bandstand			
Bandstand Lighting	\$325.00	\$145.97	\$179.03
Total Bandstand	\$325.00	\$145.97	\$179.03
Town Clock			
Care of Town Clock	\$146.00	\$146.00	\$0.00
Total Town Clock	\$146.00	\$146.00	\$0.00
Care of Common			
Expenses	\$7,680.00	\$7,680.00	\$0.00
High Tree Work	\$8,288.05	\$3,000.00	\$5,288.05
Total Care of Common	\$15,968.05	\$10,680.00	\$5,288.05
Historical Commission			
Expenses	\$85.00	\$0.00	\$85.00
Total Historical Commission	\$85.00	\$0.00	\$85.00
Historical District Commission			
Expenses	\$252.00	\$54.00	\$198.00
Total Historical District Commission	\$252.00	\$54.00	\$198.00
Memorial Day			
Expenses	\$657.01	\$657.01	\$0.00
Total Memorial Day	\$657.01	\$657.01	\$0.00
Debt Service			
Mahar Dam Debt	\$894.00	\$894.00	\$0.00
Fire Truck Debt	\$20,600.00	\$20,600.00	\$0.00
Center School Debt	\$102,730.00	\$102,730.00	\$0.00
Mahar Debt	\$20,583.00	\$20,583.00	\$0.00
Total Debt Service	\$144,807.00	\$144,807.00	\$0.00
Assessments			
School Choice	\$40,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$5,000.00
Air Pollution	\$373.00	\$373.00	\$0.00
Regional Transit	\$34.00	\$34.00	\$0.00
RMV Non-Renewal	\$740.00	\$1,120.00	(\$380.00)
Total State Assessments	\$41,147.00	\$36,527.00	\$4,620.00
Retirement			
Assessment	\$135,553.00	\$135,553.00	\$0.00
Total Retirement	\$135,553.00	\$135,553.00	\$0.00
Insurance			
Health	\$72,837.00	\$55,730.78	\$17,106.22
Retirees Health	\$65,000.00	\$31,390.20	\$33,609.80
Medicare	\$24,562.00	\$22,150.21	\$2,411.79
General Insurance	\$72,370.00	\$66,567.64	\$5,802.36
Insurance Reserve Fund	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00
Total Insurance	\$264,769.00	\$175,838.83	\$88,930.17

Department:	Budget	Expended	Unexpended
-------------	--------	----------	------------

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

Fiscal Year 2017 – Let me begin by saying that Helen “Kay” Simms was a loss to this office. Kay served on the Board of Registrars. All it took was a phone call and she was here for me. I never had to ask her twice. She was a kind person with a great smile and personality. She is missed by me and many more. May she rest in peace.

The biggest thing this year for this office was Early Voting for the November Presidential Election. I didn't call extra people in for it. I worked the extra hours to make it so that the voters in Petersham could partake in the adventure. I am proud to say that Petersham showed that we may be small but we are mighty. The turn-out was great. At times, I had people in line in the hall waiting to get in to vote. There were 118 people who took advantage of the Early Voting.

I continue to offer my services as a Notary Public and a Justice of the Peace. I continue to sell hunting/fishing licenses from my office.

Thank you to Renee Wingertsman for the help that she has provided me throughout the year. It always helps to do this job when you have great support people around you.

Thanks also to Steven Boudreau for filtering the day-to-day calls until I get to work.

To my election workers, for their hours of great work and support, I continue to say that without them, elections would not run so smoothly. We introduced the Poll Pads to the December Special Town Meeting Members. They were received well. Most people like scanning in their licenses to be found faster at check in. I have purchased longer life batteries for them. We will be using them regularly. Thank you to the voters for being willing to try something new and smiling about it.

This year I have had the pleasure of working with my Board of Registrars members, Alfred Berry and Annie Woolsey. Both are new to the Board but they never disappoint. They come when called. Our third Registrar, Sandra Myer has been unable to fulfill the position due to no fault of her own. To all a big thank you!

The biggest thanks goes to my family for understanding the hours and commitment it takes to be the Town Clerk.

Thank you for allowing me to continue to serve as your Town Clerk for 22 years.

Diana L. Cooley
Town Clerk

SEPTEMBER 8, 2016 STATE PRIMARY

DEMOCRAT

Representative in Congress

James P. McGovern	43
Blanks	1

Councillor

Matthew CJ Vance	35
Blanks	9

Senator in General Court

Anne M. Gobi	43
Blanks	1

Representative in General Court

Denise Andrews	32
Blanks	12

Sheriff

Blanks	44
--------	----

UNITED INDEPENDENT PARTY

Representative in Congress

Blanks	1
--------	---

Councillor

Blanks	1
--------	---

Senator in General Court

Others	1
--------	---

Representative in General Court

Blanks	1
--------	---

Sheriff

Blanks	1
--------	---

REPUBLICAN

Representative in Congress

Others	1
Blanks	32

Councillor

Jennie L. Caissie	25
Blanks	8

Senator in General Court

James P. Ehrhard	24
Blanks	9

Representative in General Court

Susannah M. Whipps Lee	31
Others	1
Blanks	1

Sheriff

Lewis G. Evangelidis	28
Blanks	5

78 Voter Turnout

933 Registered Voters

8% Turnout

STATE ELECTION
NOVEMBER 8, 2016

President & Vice President

Clinton & Kaine	416
Johnson & Weld	46
Stein & Baraka	19
Trump & Pence	312
McMullen & Johnson	3
All Others	21
Blanks	9

Representative in Congress

James P. McGovern	589
Others	1
Blanks	236

Councillor

Jennie L. Caissie	338
Matthew CJ Vance	401
Others	
Blanks	87

Senator in General Court

Anne M. Gobi	518
James P. Ehrhard	280
Others	
Blanks	28

Representative in General Court

Susannah M. Whipps Lee	604
Others	6
Blanks	216

Sheriff

Lewis G. Evangelidis	584
Others	3
Blanks	239

Question 1

Yes	282
No	519
Blanks	25

Question 2

Yes	309
No	487
Blanks	30

Question 3

Yes	514
No	299
Blanks	13

Question 4

Yes	465
No	329
Blanks	32

959 Registered Voters
826 Votes Cast
86% Turnout

March 6, 2017 Annual Town Election Results

Moderator	3 Years	
Bart R. Wendell	151	186 votes cast 19% Turnout

Board of Selectmen	3 Years	
Fredrik A. Marsh	146	

Treasurer	3 Years	
Dana C. Robinson	148	

Board of Health	3 Years	
Stephen Loring	154	

Board of Assessors	3 Years	
Ellen H. Anderson	143	

Petersham School Committee	3 Years	
Angela Danielson	43	
Christopher Harrington	41	

Planning Board	3 Years	
John R. Lawson	150	
D. Fraser Sinclair	152	

Trustees of Public Library	3 Years	
Kent Byron	69	

Trustees of Public Library	1 Year	
Fifi Scoufopoulos	153	

Shall the Town of Petersham be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition Two and One-half, so-called, the amount required to pay for the bonds to be issued in order to finance the abatement and removal of asbestos and other hazardous materials from all buildings except the garage on the Town-owned property known as the former Nichewaug Inn and Maria Assumpta Academy located at 25 Common Street, as voted for under Article 6 of the warrant for the Special Town Meeting held on December 12, 2016?

YES	132
NO	46



Town of Petersham
Office of the Town Clerk

Diana L. Cooley

PO Box 486 * 3 South Main St. * Petersham, MA 01366 * (978) 724-6649

At the Special Town Meeting, held on December 12, 2016, at which a quorum was present, the following votes were taken:

A motion was made and seconded to allow Chris Mossman – Trowbridge Engineering, Chris Lynch – Matrix and Zachary Magid – Matrix all non-voters to sit on the floor and to speak if needed. Unanimous

A motion was made and seconded to allow Moderator Bart Wendell to call a 2/3 vote. Unanimous

Article 1: The Town voted to hear any and all reports necessary. A report was read by Ross France - Chair of the Advisory Finance Committee, Chip Bull - Broadband Committee and Henry Woolsey on behalf of the Selectboard re: Nichewaug Inn.

Article 2: The Town voted unanimously to accept a gift of a parcel of land in the amount of 2.23+/- acres, such land designated by the donor to be used for the benefit of the Petersham Center School, which the parcel abuts, located on Spring Street, Petersham, Massachusetts, being Petersham Assessors' Parcel Number 101, Assessors' Map 01/101/0/R and being shown on a plan of land entitled "Plan of Land in Petersham prepared for: Will of William Simes," dated December 11, 2015, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk, such land to be in the care and custody of the Petersham Center School Committee; and to authorize the Petersham Center School Committee and the Selectboard to execute all documents and take all actions to accomplish said donation to the Town.

Article 3: The Town voted, pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 114, Section 34, to permit a certain parcel of land to be used as a cemetery, such land being owned by the St. Mary and St. Scholastica Church, Inc. of 271 North Main Street, located off the westerly side of North Main Street/Route 32 adjacent to that facility and shown on the Petersham Assessors' Maps as Parcel Number 533, the area of the proposed cemetery to be approximately 10,090 sq. ft. (one quarter acre +/-) as shown on plans prepared by Trowbridge Engineering, LLC dated September 20, 2016, on file with the Petersham Board of Health, and such cemetery to be private and used for the members of these two religious communities – St. Scholastica Priory and St. Mary's Monastery. **4 opposed**

Article 4: Sandra Whaley moved the question. Motion passes. 3 opposed

Town voted to take \$10,000.00 from the Reserve Fund and \$25,000.00 from the Stabilization Fund for a total appropriation sum of \$35,000.00, for the purpose of adding such sum to the existing Town account identified by the Town Accountant as No. 015192.003 – 'HandicapAcc/TownHall/Town Office' so as to construct a code compliant exterior handicap accessible ramp at Petersham Town Hall, said appropriation to be under the control of the Selectboard. 2/3 Required 257 in favor 59 opposed

Article 5: Motion made to move the question Motion passes

Motion made by Chip Bull: I, Chip Bull, move that the Town take \$300,000.00 from the Stabilization Fund and borrow \$260,000.00, for a total appropriation sum of \$560,000.00, for the purpose of the completion of a utility pole survey and completion of the necessary make-ready work in preparation for the construction of a high speed fiber-optic broadband network and for all associated and related expenses; and to authorize the Town's Broadband Committee and/or the Petersham Municipal Light Plant Board and the Selectboard to seek out any and all grants from all sources to offset the cost of said project; and with construction of the network to begin upon verification that there are a minimum of 270 committed subscribers to the network and upon announcement by the Massachusetts Broadband Institute and review by the Town's Broadband Committee and Selectboard of the results of a Request for Proposals "To Provide Broadband Service to Unserved Towns in Western Massachusetts" released by the Massachusetts Broadband Institute, responses for which are presently due on Monday, January 11, 2017; and that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, be authorized to issue bonds or notes of the Town for such borrowing; and provided that, any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Amendment made by Ross France : I, Ross France, move to amend the Motion made for Article 5 by substituting for such motion the following: move that the Town borrow \$560,000.00, such borrowing to be contingent upon the vote of the Town at an election to approve a Proposition 2 1/2 Debt Exclusion under General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(k) for such borrowing, for the purpose of the completion of a utility pole survey and completion of the necessary make-ready work in preparation for the construction of a high speed fiber-optic broadband network and for all associated and related expenses; and to authorize the Town's Broadband Committee and/or the Petersham Municipal Light Plant Board and the Selectboard to seek out any and all grants from all sources to offset the cost of said project; and with construction of the network to begin upon verification that there are a minimum of 270 committed subscribers to the network and upon announcement by the Massachusetts Broadband Institute and review by the Town's Broadband Committee and Selectboard of the results of a Request for Proposals "To Provide Broadband Service to Unserved Towns in Western Massachusetts" released by the Massachusetts Broadband Institute, responses for which are presently due on Monday, January 11, 2017; and that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, be authorized to issue bonds or notes of the Town for such borrowing; and provided, that any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Vote on the Amendment by Ross France 51 opposed... amendment fails

Vote on motion by Chip Bull – 7 opposed Motion passes

Article 6: Ann Lewis moved the question - Unanimous

Motion made by Henry Woolsey: I, Henry Woolsey, move that the Town take \$ 200,000 .00 from the Stabilization Fund and borrow \$384,202 .00, such borrowing to be contingent upon the vote of the Town at an election to approve a Proposition 2 1/2 Debt Exclusion under General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(k) for such borrowing, for the costs of complete removal of asbestos and other hazardous materials as detailed in the base bid scope of work in the bid documents advertised in the Massachusetts Central Register issue of July 15, 2015, and as per the low bid received on August 12, 2015, at the Town-owned property known as the former Nichewaugh Inn and Maria Assumpta Academy located at 25 Common Street, Assessors' Map Parcel Number 48, and all costs incidental and related thereto, and, if so needed, to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to issue bonds or notes therefor in accordance with the provisions of Mass. General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7(1) or any other enabling authority; and authorize the Selectboard to enter into all

agreements and execute all instruments necessary to effect said work; that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, be authorized to issue bonds or notes of the Town for such borrowing; and provided that, any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

2/3 required – 1 opposed 270 in favor – Motion passes

Article 7: Stephanie Selden called the question. Unanimous

A motion was made by Rick Marsh: I, Rick Marsh, move that the Town borrow \$524,590.00, such borrowing to be contingent upon the vote of the Town at an election to approve a Proposition 2 1/2 Debt Exclusion under General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(k) for such borrowing, for the cost of complete demolition, deconstruction, and removal of all buildings except the garage, as detailed in the scope of work in Alternate 2 in the bid documents advertised in the Massachusetts Central Register issue of July 15, 2015, and as per the low bid received on August 12, 2015, at the Town-owned property known as the former Nichewaug Inn and Maria Assumpta Academy located at 25 Common Street, Assessors' Map Parcel Number 48, as determined by the Selectboard, said removal to include site clearance, filling, soil restoration, grading, and seeding of the land upon completion of demolition, and all costs incidental and related thereto; and to authorize the Selectboard to expend such funds and take all actions and execute all instruments necessary to effect said process, subject to obtaining a "Permit for Demolition" from the Town of Petersham Historic District Commission; that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, be authorized to issue bonds or notes of the Town for such borrowing; and provided that, any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

2/3 required – 53 in favor 207 opposed Article fails

Article 8: A motion was made to move the question – Unanimous

A motion was made by Henry Woolsey: I, Henry Woolsey, move that the Town borrow \$153,670.00, such borrowing to be contingent upon the vote of the Town at an election to approve a Proposition 2 1/2 Debt Exclusion under General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C(k) for such borrowing, for the costs of the demolition and removal of just the "Connector Section" of the building at the Town-owned property known as the former Nichewaug Inn and Maria Assumpta Academy located at 25 Common Street, Assessors' Map Parcel Number 48, consisting of approximately 4,860 square feet as detailed in the scope of work in Alternate 1 in the bid documents advertised in the Massachusetts Central Register issue of July 15, 2015, and as per the low bid received on August 12, 2015, said removal to include secure closure of the remaining buildings, site clearance, filling, soil restoration, grading, and seeding of the land upon completion of the demolition of the "Connector Section" and all costs incidental and related thereto, and to authorize the Selectboard to expend such funds and take all actions and execute all instruments necessary to effect said process, subject to obtaining a "Permit for Demolition" from the Town of Petersham Historic District Commission; and, that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, be authorized to issue bonds or notes of the Town for such borrowing; and provided that, any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

2/3 required 38 in favor 212 opposed Motion fails

Article 9: Henry Woolsey made the motion: The Town vote to authorize the Selectboard to issue an all-options Request For Proposals soliciting specific proposals for the future use, development, redevelopment, disposition, and/or sale of the Town-owned property located at 25 Common Street, Assessors' Map Parcel Number 48, for a financially sound option involving redeveloping all or portions of the building or for developing the vacant 6.6 acre +/- parcel, and upon the recommendation of the Selectboard, the best qualified resulting proposal(s) to be presented for consideration at a future Town Meeting

6 opposed 240 in favor. Motion passes

The Town voted to adjourn the STM at 10:48 PM.

This is a true copy attest.

Diana L. Cooley, Town Clerk



Town of Petersham
Office of the Town Clerk

Diana L. Cooley

PO Box 486 * 3 South Main St. * Petersham, MA 01366 * (978) 724-6649

At the Annual Town Meeting, held on June 5, 2017, at which a quorum was present, the following votes were taken:

Non-voters present were Tari Thomas - Ralph C. Mahar Regional, Tammy Crockett – Monty Tech, Steve Boudreau – Administrative Coordinator

A vote was taken to allow the non-residents to speak as needed.

A vote was taken to allow the Moderator to call the 2/3 votes.

Article 1 : Reports were read by Nancy Allen on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, Ross France on behalf of the Advisory Finance Committee, Henry Woolsey on behalf of the Nichewaug Inn and Chip Bull on behalf of the MLP Broadband Committee. The Town voted to accept the reports as read.

Article 2: The Town voted to authorize the Treasurer to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal Year 2018, as permitted by Massachusetts General Laws (MGL), Chapter 44, Section 53F.

Article 3: The Town voted to use the income of the William B. Spooner Fund as of March 31 of the current Fiscal year at the Petersham Memorial Library for Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 4: The Town voted to instruct the Treasurer to use the Elizabeth Newton Charities Trust Fund and Elizabeth Newton Deserving Poor Trust Fund for assistance to Petersham Veterans approved for benefits by Massachusetts Department of Veteran's Services through the Local Veterans' Service Office for Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 5: The Town voted to allow the Conservation Commission to use the accumulated interest from the Evelyn V. Murphy Conservation Fund as of March 31 of the current fiscal year for Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 6: The Town voted to allow the Conservation Commission to use the accumulated interest from the Lewis and Corrine Babbitt Wildlife Sanctuary Fund as of March 31 of the current fiscal year, to be used at the Sanctuary for Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 7: The Town voted to re-authorize a Revolving Fund pursuant to MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ to be expended by the Treasurer for fees due to the Electrical Inspector, Gas Inspector and Plumbing Inspector. The Accountant shall be authorized to effect transfers from this account as required to cover vouchers submitted for payment upon verification that the disbursement requested does not exceed receipts to date; expenditures from said Fund for Fiscal Year 2018 not to exceed \$15,000.00.

Article 8: The Town voted to re-authorize a Revolving Fund pursuant to state law MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E½ to be expended by the Treasurer for fees due to the Fire Chief; the Accountant shall be authorized to effect transfers from this account as required to cover vouchers submitted for payment upon verification that the disbursement requested does not exceed receipts to date; and expenditures from said Revolving Fund shall not exceed \$2,500.00 for Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 9: The Town voted to re-authorize the Town Clerk to deposit fee income generated from certificates, DBA's, Dog Fees, Genealogy, etc. into a Revolving Fund account for payment of fees due as submitted for payment by the Town Clerk pursuant to the provisions of state law MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E½, said fund to be established from receipts of said income; and expenditures shall not exceed \$2,600.00 for Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 10: The Town voted to authorize the Tax Collector to deposit fee income generated from collection of taxes into a Revolving Fund account for payment of fees due as submitted for payment by the Tax Collector pursuant to the provisions of state law MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, said fund to be established from receipts of said income; and expenditures shall not exceed \$10,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 11: The Town voted to re-authorize a Revolving Fund, pursuant to state law MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E½ for deposits of all receipts for grave openings and from which the Selectboard and Cemetery Commission may make expenditures to pay the costs thereof; and expenditures from said Revolving Fund shall not exceed \$4,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 12: The Town voted to re-authorize a Revolving Fund pursuant to state law MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E½ for deposits of fees collected under the Petersham School Committee Fee Schedule for use of the Petersham School Building, to be expended by the Petersham School Committee for the purpose of repairs to the Building and replacement of equipment associated with the use of the Facility; and expenditures from said Revolving Fund shall not exceed \$2,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 13: The Town voted to authorize a Revolving Fund, pursuant to state law MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E½ to be expended by the Conservation Commission to pay for services and fees charged for the filing of hearing applications, to include retrieval fees, legal notices, clerical fees, postage fees, and the carrying out of duties required; said fund to be established from receipts collected by the Conservation Commission and expenditures from said Revolving Fund not to exceed \$5,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 14: The Town voted to re-authorize a Revolving Fund pursuant to state law MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E½ for deposits of fees collected under the Planning Board Rules and Regulations Fee Schedule, to be expended by the Planning Board for the purpose of carrying out its duties; and expenditures from said Revolving Fund shall not exceed \$1,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 15: The Town voted to re-authorize a Revolving Fund pursuant to state law MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E½ for deposits of fees collected under the Zoning Board of Appeals Rules and Regulations Fee Schedule, to be expended by the Zoning Board of Appeals for the purposes of carrying out its duties; and expenditures from said Revolving Fund shall not exceed \$3,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 16: The Town voted to re-authorize a Revolving Fund, pursuant to state law MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E½ to be expended by the Board of Health, to pay for consulting services as required by the Board of Health, said fund to be established from receipts collected by the Board of Health for fees for its services; and expenditures from said Revolving Fund shall not exceed \$10,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 17: The Town voted to re-authorize a Revolving Fund, pursuant to state law MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E½ and pursuant to Local Cultural Council Regulations at 962 CMR 2:05, for deposits of local funds collected by the Petersham Cultural Council, to be expended by the Petersham Cultural Council for the purpose

of carrying out its duties; and expenditures from said Revolving Fund shall not exceed \$2,500.00 for Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 18: The Town voted to accept and expend Chapter 90 Funds from the State, said expenditures to be 100% reimbursed by the State.

The Town voted to accept Articles 2 – 18 as Consent Articles and voted them as one. Unanimous

Article 19: The Town voted to vote raise and appropriate the sum of 1,317,037 for the total of the Selectboard Budget for FY2018 summarized as follows: (all unanimously)

Town General Office & Finance:	\$ 313,599.00
Total Protection of Persons & Property:	\$ 376,279.00
Total Health and Sanitation:	\$ 63,882.00
Total Highway Department:	\$ 264,294.00
Total Charities and Veterans Benefits:	\$ 12,851.00
Total Unclassified	\$ 286,132.00

The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 742,371.00 for the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District FY2018 Budget.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 27,801.00 for the Montachusett Regional Vocational School District FY2018 Budget.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 1,452,046.00 for the Petersham Center School FY2018 Budget.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate the Grand Total General Budget of \$3,539,255.00

Article 20: The Town voted to fix the salaries of all Elective Town Officers as provided in Section 108 of Chapter 41, General Laws as amended: Moderator \$0.00; Town Treasurer \$15,980.00; Town Clerk \$10,858.00; Tax Collector \$13,421.00; Selectboard, Chair \$2,785.00; two members \$2,444.00 each; Board of Assessors, Chair, \$3,156.00, Clerk, \$2,732.00, other member, \$2,572.00; Trustee of Library FREE; Constables \$12.00/per hour; Board of Health chair, \$198.00, other members, \$146.00 each.

Article 21: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,800.00 for (6) six Petersham Brass Bands Concerts at \$300.00 per concert to be held during the summer of 2017.

Article 22: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to be used for the Council on Aging Activities.

Article 23: The Town voted to take the accumulated interest from the Consolidated Cemetery Fund 1 and 2, the E.M. Cook Cemetery Trust Fund, the L.L. Pond Cemetery Fund, and the William Smith Cemetery Fund for deposit into the Cemetery Repair Fund, said fund to be expended by the Cemetery Commission for Cemetery improvements.

Article 24: The Town voted to transfer \$1,500.00 from the General Fund Account No. 015635.000 Hearse House Roof Repair to General Fund Account No. 015491.006 Cemetery Repairs.

Article 25: The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$104,755.00 to pay the Fiscal Year 2018 principal and interest due on the Petersham Center School building project.

Article 26: The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$19,559.00 to pay the Fiscal Year 2018 principal and interest on the construction note for the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District school building.

Article 27: The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$2,142.00 to pay the Fiscal Year 2018 principal and interest on the note for repairs to Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District dam.

Article 28: The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$5,763.00 to pay the Fiscal Year 2018 principal and interest due on the note for asbestos removal at the Nichewaug Inn & Academy building.

Article 29: The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$35,000.00 for deposit into the Reserve Fund for Fiscal Year 2018.

Article 30: The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$3,550.00 for the Board of Assessors to fund the Cyclical Data Collection and Reassessment of Values of all Real Estate for Fiscal Year 2020, as required by State law.

Article 31: The Town voted to transfer from free cash \$4,900.00 for the Board of Assessors to fund the AxisGIS Online Mapping Project.

Article 32: The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$2,500.00 for deposit in the existing General Fund Account No. 015925.046 Nichewaug Inn & Academy Maintenance for general maintenance of the property.

Article 33: The Town voted to transfer from free cash \$5,000.00 for payment of year four of five of hose replacement for the Fire Department.

Article 34: The Town voted transfer from free cash \$62,000.00 for preparation, painting, and minor repairs of Town Hall building exterior including all four exterior walls, steeple, dome, windows, and doors. 1 opposed

Article 35: The Town voted to transfer from free cash \$10,000.00 for preparation, painting, and installation of twenty (20) pairs of Town Hall window shutters and replace and install steeple finials.

Article 36: The Town voted to transfer from free cash \$4,999.00 to purchase a new copier machine for the Selectboard Office and for use by Town Departments and Committees.

Article 37: The Town voted to transfer from Police Detail Account \$4,845.00 for purchase of a portable, solar battery powered speed radar sign for the Police Department.

Article 38: The Town voted to transfer from free cash \$25,000.00 for partial payment for new turnout gear for the Fire Department.

Article 39: The Town voted to transfer, \$39,741 from the Building Inspector Revolving Account, \$37,306 from the CDBG Grant Account, \$24,155 from the Police Detail Account, \$16,000 from the Timber Account, and \$5,309 from Free Cash, for a total of \$122,511 for deposit into the Stabilization Fund. 2/3rd vote required to pass. Unanimously passed

Article 40: The Town voted to amend the General By-laws of the Town by adding a new Section 4 to 'By-law Article III–Town Finances' as follows below, so as to establish and authorize revolving funds for use by certain Town Departments and Boards under State law MGL, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½, such Section to have an effective date of July 1, 2018; or act in relation thereto.

Article III-Town Finances

Section 4. Departmental Revolving Funds

1. Purpose. This By-law establishes and authorizes revolving funds for use by Town departments, and boards in connection with the operation of programs or activities that generate fees, charges or other receipts to support all or some of the expenses of those programs or activities. These revolving funds are established under and governed by General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E ½.

2. Expenditure Limitations. A department head or board may incur liabilities against and spend monies from a Revolving Fund established and authorized by this By-law without appropriation subject to the following limitations:

A. Fringe benefits of full-time employees whose salaries or wages are paid from the Fund shall also be paid from the Fund.

B. No liability shall be incurred in excess of the available balance of the Fund.

C. The total amount spent during a fiscal year shall not exceed the amount authorized by Town Meeting on or before July 1 of that fiscal year, or any increased amount of that authorization that is later approved during that fiscal year by the Selectboard and Advisory Finance Committee.

3. Interest. Interest earned on monies credited to a revolving fund established by this By-law shall be credited to the general fund.

4. Procedures and Reports. Except as provided in General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E ½. and this By-law, the laws, By-laws, rules, regulations, policies or procedures that govern the receipt and custody of Town monies and the expenditure and payment of Town funds shall apply to the use of a Revolving Fund established and authorized by this By-law. The Town Accountant shall include a statement on the collections credited to each fund, the encumbrances and expenditures charged to the fund, and the balance available for expenditure in the regular report the Town Accountant provides the department, board, committee, agency, or officer on appropriations made for its use.

5. Authorized Revolving Funds:

5.1.1 Fund Name. There shall be separate accounts, each called a Revolving Fund, identified as and authorized for use by the following departments and boards:

Electrical Inspector, Gas Inspector, Plumbing Inspector Revolving Fund

Fire Chief Inspections Revolving Fund

Town Clerk Revolving Fund

Tax Collector Revolving Fund

Petersham School Building Use Revolving Fund

Grave Openings Revolving Fund

Board of Health Revolving Fund

Conservation Commission Revolving Fund

Planning Board Revolving Fund

Zoning Board of Appeals Revolving Fund

Cultural Council Revolving Fund

5.1.2 Revenues. The Town Accountant shall establish the specified Revolving Funds as separate accounts and credit to the funds the specific fees, charges, or other receipts charged and received by the applicable department or board in connection with the respective programs and activities described in subsection 5.1.5 below.

5.1.3 Purposes and Expenditures. During each fiscal year, the specified department or board may incur liabilities against and spend monies from their specified Revolving Funds in connection with the respective programs and activities described in subsection 5.1.5 below.

5.1.4 Fiscal Year. The Revolving Fund accounts herein stated shall operate for fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2018.

5.1.5 Specified Revolving Fund Accounts are as follows; in all cases annual expenditures are not to exceed the amount authorized by Annual Town Meeting:

Electrical Inspector, Gas Inspector, Plumbing Inspector Revolving Fund: For deposit of inspection fees to be used for payment of fees to inspectors so as to carry out their inspection duties.

Fire Chief Inspections Revolving Fund: For deposit of inspection fees to be used for payment of fees to the Fire Chief so as to carry out his inspection duties.

Town Clerk Revolving Fund: For deposit of Town Clerk's fees to be used for costs related to applications and activities for which fees are charged.

Tax Collector Revolving Fund: For deposit of Tax Collector's fees to be used for costs of tax collection duties.

Petersham School Building Use Revolving Fund: For deposit of rental fees for use of the Petersham School building to be used for Committee expenditure on building repairs and replacement of equipment associated with the use of the facility.

Grave Openings Revolving Fund: For deposit of grave opening fees to be used by the Selectboard and Cemetery Commission for costs of grave openings.

Board of Health Revolving Fund: For deposit of Board inspection fees to be used for costs of consulting services in connection with Board of Health duties.

Conservation Commission Revolving Fund: For deposit of Commission fees to be used for costs of Commission duties under the Wetlands Protection Act.

Planning Board Revolving Fund: For deposit of Board fees to be used for costs of Planning Board application review duties, including the hiring of professional consultants.

Zoning Board of Appeals Revolving Fund: For deposit of Board fees for public hearings to be used for costs of Zoning Board of Appeals application review duties.

Cultural Council Revolving Fund: For deposit of program and event fees from local events to be used for costs of Council events and related activities in carrying out its duties.

Article 41: The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$1,000.00 to support up to twenty (20) Petersham Friday Market concerts at \$250.00 per concert. 48 in favor 23 opposed.

The Town voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:54PM

This is a True Copy Attest.

Diana L. Cooley, Town Clerk

Town Clerk

RAFFLES

The following organizations purchased raffle licenses at \$10.00 each for a total of \$10.00, which was paid to the Treasurer.

Petersham Curling Club

DOG FUNDS

A total of \$1,822.00 was collected from the sale of dog licenses. A total of \$0.00 was collected in dog fines and turned over to the Treasurer.

MARIJUANA CITATIONS

A total of \$1,400.00 was collected in marijuana citations and turned over to the Treasurer.

BUILDING CODE VIOLATIONS

A total of \$0.00 was collected in building code violations and turned over to the Treasurer

Vital Statistics of the Town Clerk

Births

From July 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016 there were 4 babies born – 3 girls and 1 boy.
 From January 1, 2017 through June 30, 2017 there were 6 babies born – 5 girl and 1 boy.

Marriages

August 6, 2016	Adam Gaudet	Canada
	Nicole Fisher	Petersham
July 30, 2016	David Liberis	Petersham
	Caren Maloof	Petersham
October 1, 2016	Trevor Clark	Petersham
	Kimberly Warfield	Petersham
September 24, 2016	Scottie Stevens	Athol
	Susan Adams	Athol
October 7, 2016	Jonathan Peddle	Barre
	Maille Lynch-Gilbert	Barre
October 8, 2016	Nathan Davis	Concord
	Laura Wolfgang	Concord
May 27, 2017	Evan Bonenfant	Petersham
	Melissa Bobka	Petersham
May 20, 2017	Peter Forte	Petersham
	Allison Spicer	Petersham

Deaths

July 25, 2016	Harold Sherwood, Jr.	Petersham	92
August 11, 2016	Anne Perkins	Petersham	89
November 9, 2016	Helen Simms	Petersham	79
November 30, 2016	Annie LePoer	Petersham	92
December 25, 2016	Michael B. Martin	Petersham	58
January 1, 2017	Gilda Louise Duval	Petersham	77
January 11, 2017	Ronald E. Egan	Petersham	75
February 14, 2017	Richard Kimball	Petersham	92
May 23, 2017	Carolyn Minty	Petersham	74
June 11, 2017	Laurie Coombs	Petersham	59

Of the above, 3 burials took place in Petersham. There were 10 burials brought into town.

**Town of Petersham
Annual Payroll
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

General Government

Selectmen

Nancy Allen	Selectman	2,717.00		
Fredrik Marsh	Selectmen	2,383.00		
Henry Woolsey	Selectman	2,384.00		
Steven Boudreau	Admin. Coordinator	46,758.79		
Sherry Berube	Secretary	9,027.06	\$	63,269.85

Assessors

Dana Kennan	Assessor	3,079.00		
Ellen Anderson	Assessor	2,509.00		
Jean Robinson	Assessor	2,665.00		
Kelly Garlock	Asst. Assessor	32,678.83	\$	40,931.83

Tax Collector

Renee Wingertsman	Salary	12,410.00		
	Fees	13,494.96	\$	25,904.96

Town Clerk

Diana Cooley		12,447.00		
Renee Wingertsman	Secretary	317.00	\$	12,764.00

Town Treasurer

Dana Robinson		15,590.00	\$	15,590.00
---------------	--	-----------	----	-----------

Town Accountant

Jean Joel		15,590.00		
Kelly Garlock	Assistant	886.57	\$	16,476.57

Building Inspector

Brianna Skowrya		10,546.00		
Robert Legare	Asst. Building Inspector	2,000.00		
Renee Wingertsman	Secretary	2,385.81	\$	14,931.81

Board of Health

Kaye Cousens	Health Board	138.33		
Fifi Scoufopoulos	Health Board	138.33		
Robert Pasic	Health Board	187.34		
Michael Seitz	Transfer Station	1,622.94		
Fredrik Marsh	Transfer Station	1,453.63		
Renee Wingertsman	BOH Secretary	7,175.77	\$	10,716.34

Town Hall & Office Custodian

Neil Legare		8,049.22	\$	8,049.22
-------------	--	----------	----	----------

Tree Warden

Melissa LeVangie		3,000.00	\$	3,000.00
------------------	--	----------	----	----------

Animal Inspector

Marc Page		2,400.00	\$	2,400.00
-----------	--	----------	----	----------

Animal Control Officer

Debra Jones- Bachrach		2,129.00	\$	2,129.00
-----------------------	--	----------	----	----------

Plumbing & Gas Inspector

Daniel Jolly		2,420.00	\$	2,420.00
--------------	--	----------	----	----------

Electrical Inspector

Gary Terroy		7,635.00		
Glenn Tattan	Asst. Electrical Inspector	-	\$	7,635.00

**Town of Petersham
Annual Payroll
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

Elections & Registration

Ralph Hebert		293.04		
Anne Hyde-Hebert		429.60		
Dana Kennan		275.68		
Mary Kenney		275.68		
Carolyn May		524.32		
Grace West		163.20		
Karen O'Connor		766.84		
Michele Bartus		136.56		
Dale Bull		71.04		
George Bull		47.36		
Irene Graeff		77.36		
Renee Wingertsman		30.00		
Rebecca Legare		132.88		
Alfred Berry		100.00		
Denis Legare	Constable	22.56		
Larry Robinson	Constable	67.68	\$	3,413.80

Police Department

R. Dana Cooley Jr.	Chief	76,070.58		
	Detail Pay	4,704.00		
John Bartus	Detail Pay	2,560.00		
Jesse Berard	Salary	4,402.72		
	Detail Pay	1,280.00		
Jeffrey Boyer	Salary	4,941.14		
	Detail Pay	1,920.00		
Peter Buck	Salary	2,926.05		
Marc Duguay	Salary	5,504.57		
	Detail Pay	2,580.00		
Randy Horne	Salary	52,153.57		
	Detail Pay	17,010.00		
Daniel Kimball	Salary	4,101.20		
	Detail Pay	320.00		
Robert Legare	Salary	3,341.54		
Michael Leslie	Salary	4,060.95		
	Detail Pay	9,748.00		
Jason Lichtengerger	Salary	4,556.10		
	Detail Pay	1,904.00		
Charles Pinder	Salary	2,999.42		
Timothy Wright	Salary	4,981.56		
	Detail Pay	3,132.00	\$	215,197.40

**Town of Petersham
Annual Payroll
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

Fire Department

Dana Robinson	Chief	6,432.90	
	Inspection Fees	1,650.00	
	Forest Warden	25.00	
Robert Legare	Asst. Chief	4,475.36	
Larry Robinson	Captain	1,635.60	
Shawn Legare	Captain	1,195.90	
Vinnie Acito		709.50	
Raymond Balzer		940.80	
Scott Churchill		564.90	
Jacob Cooley		1,421.10	
Ronald Dejackome		60.40	
Peter Devoll		1,943.20	
Robert Goodfellow		89.40	
Rebecca Jackson		925.40	
Rebecca Legare		577.80	
Colin O'Brien		89.40	
Charles Pinder		1,851.00	
Ashley Reed		1,094.00	
Matthew Robinson		30.60	
Jason Scott		3,056.50	
Kevin Shortis		30.60	
Peter West		44.30	
		44.30	\$ 28,843.66

Highway Department

Gregory Waid	Superintendent	60,211.76	
Leslie Cooley		56,555.89	
Brian Bassett		46,767.81	
Richard Cooley, Sr.		6,915.82	
James Murphy		2,814.86	
Charles Pinder		2,087.61	
Fredrik Marsh		1,755.37	
Jacob Cooley		2,960.96	
		2,960.96	\$ 180,070.08

**Town of Petersham
Annual Payroll
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

School Department

Joanne Menard	Principal	87,550.00	
Bridget Koetsch	Kindegarten	65,150.32	
Christina Boyer- Thompson	Grade 1	50,706.38	
Wendi LeBlanc	Grade 2	73,311.52	
Tracy Smith	Grade 3	62,381.68	
Melissa Clark	Learning Specialist	56,633.92	
Deirdre Keenan	Grade 4	44,895.94	
Melissa Fournier	Grade 5	50,676.38	
Nicole Ruggles	Grade 6	73,395.40	
Donna Shaughnessy	Special Needs	80,704.14	
Natasha Hanna	Music/Aide	20,229.10	
Angela Haynes	Music/Aide	17,877.46	
Kay Leonard	Art	10,243.09	
Suzanne Tattan	Phys. Ed.	12,414.94	
Charlotte Layton	School Nurse	35,890.50	
Barbara Clough	Nurse Sub.	3,218.25	
Katherine Arsenault	Technology/Library	56,100.23	
David Weinberg	Guidance	57,372.78	
Julie Brown	Aide	2,623.92	
Caitlin Muzzy	Aide	18,403.09	
Kimberlyn Rushford-Waugh	Aide	19,411.18	
Kristen Orlando	Aide	17,858.71	
Kristine Wallace	Aide	18,446.01	
Ann Degan	Secretary	44,239.28	
Debra Phelps	Cook	21,088.68	
James M. Burke III	Head Custodian	48,667.36	
Justin Liversidge	Custodian	33,437.04	
Pamela Chevalier	Substitute	2,599.27	
Jennifer Sydla	Substitute	735.00	
John Waters	Substitute	267.88	
Kyla Ploof	Substitute	225.00	
Barbie Downing	Substitute	2,148.38	
Kathy McCrohon	Substitute	75.00	
Ann Marie Goodfellow	Substitute	108.00	
Melody Green	Substitute	146.50	
Rebecca Green	Substitute	1,385.24	
Patricia Johnson	Substitute	246.00	
Scott Johnson	Substitute	1,309.24	
Patricia Notre	Substitute	220.00	
Alicia Wilcox	Substitute	1,311.38	
Erin Young	Substitute	621.00	
Denise Audette	Substitute	50.92	
Renee Wingertsman	Substitute	560.00	
Barbara Young	Substitute	3,657.63	
			<u>\$ 1,098,593.74</u>

Total Payroll All Departments

\$ 1,752,337.26

**Town of Petersham
Annual Payroll
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017**

1099 Vendors

Barnes Landscaping	Care of Common & Cemeteries	33,623.00	
Douglas Cameron	Carpentry	6,088.00	
Alyssa Roberts	School Committee	1,282.37	
Thomas Garbett	Psychologist	11,483.25	
Salvatore Ardagna Jr.	Street Sweeping	1,700.00	
Phillip Leger	Board of Health	4,525.00	
Whittier Plumbing & Htg.	Repairs Town Hall & Office	1,035.11	
Jeffrey Nail	Tree Work	850.00	
Francis Misiuk	Stone Work	1,500.00	
			\$ 62,086.73
Total Payroll & 1099 Vendors			<u><u>\$ 1,814,423.99</u></u>

Respectfully Submitted,
Dana C. Robinson
Town Treasurer

Town of Petersham

Fiscal Year 2017

Trust Fund Reconciliation

Fund	Princ. Bal. 7/1/2016	Earnings Bal. 7/1/2016	Princ. Contrib.	Earnings Net	Cash Disb.	Princ. Bal. 6/30/2017	Earnings Bal 6/30/2017	Ending Cash Value
Cemetery Funds								
Consolidated Cemetery I & II	\$ 76,851.71	\$ 2,275.33	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 212.54		\$ 78,651.71	\$ 2,487.87	\$ 81,139.58
E.M. Cook Cemetery Fund	1,026.25	40.87		2.89		1,026.25	43.76	1,070.01
L.L. Pond Cemetery Fund I & II	2,333.33	92.84		6.55		2,333.33	99.39	2,432.72
Belle Rickey Cemetery Fund	188.97	3.78		0.52		188.97	4.30	193.27
Cemetery Requests								
Annie Daniels Flower Fund	1,069.54	21.51		2.94		1,069.54	24.45	1,093.99
John Mudge Flower Fund	2,131.32	160.41		6.17		2,131.32	166.58	2,297.90
J & C Williams Flower Fund	544.61	10.94		1.51		544.61	12.45	557.06
William Smith Cemetery Fund	9,000.00	358.98		25.29		9,000.00	384.27	9,384.27
SubTotal	\$ 93,145.73	\$ 2,964.66	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 258.41	\$ -	\$ 94,945.73	\$ 3,223.07	\$ 98,168.80
School Funds								
McCarthy School fund	\$ 3,310.91	\$ 720.69		\$ 10.89	\$ -	\$ 3,310.91	\$ 731.58	\$ 4,042.49
Hildreth School fund	4,476.72	254.95		12.77		4,476.72	267.72	4,744.44
Josephine Dickman School Fund	2,926.79	203.00		8.45		2,926.79	211.45	3,138.24
Discovery Center School	459.22	294.05		2.04		459.22	296.09	755.31
Subtotal	\$ 11,173.64	\$ 1,472.69	\$ -	\$ 34.15	\$ -	\$ 11,173.64	\$ 1,506.84	\$ 12,680.48
Library Funds								
Mann Library Fund I & II	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,356.08		\$ 17.17		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,373.25	\$ 6,373.25
GW Cook Library Fund	1,026.25	278.66		3.53		1,026.25	282.19	1,308.44
Spooner Library Fund I, II & III	4,659.00	52.68		12.77	(52.68)	4,659.00	12.77	4,671.77
Wheeler Library fund	3,000.00	813.65		10.30		3,000.00	823.95	3,823.95
Subtotal	\$ 13,685.25	\$ 2,501.07	\$ -	\$ 43.77	\$ (52.68)	\$ 13,685.25	\$ 2,492.16	\$ 16,177.41
Conservation Funds								
Babbit Fund	\$ 60,021.04	\$ 644.08		\$ 165.57	\$ (2,474.00)	\$ 58,235.13	\$ 121.56	\$ 58,356.69
Evelyn Murphy Conservation Fund	10,000.00	3,535.97		37.23	(982.00)	10,000.00	2,591.20	12,591.20
Subtotal	\$ 70,021.04	\$ 4,180.05	\$ -	\$ 202.80	\$ (3,456.00)	\$ 68,235.13	\$ 2,712.76	\$ 70,947.89
Charity Funds								
Elizabeth Newton Charity Fund	\$ 3,441.65	\$ 10,073.61		\$ 36.51	\$ -	\$ 3,441.65	\$ 10,110.12	\$ 13,551.77
E Newton Deserving Poor Fund	13,672.26	35,822.30		133.72		13,672.26	35,956.02	49,628.28
Subtotal	\$ 17,113.91	\$ 45,895.91	\$ -	\$ 170.23	\$ -	\$ 17,113.91	\$ 46,066.14	\$ 63,180.05

Submission for Petersham Town Report FY18

Tree Warden – Town Report for FY2018

It is my pleasure to report to the residents of Petersham that in 2018:

- The Town of Petersham earned the National Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA award and a Tree City USA Growth Award
- We held an Arbor Day Event on the Common (partnered with Forest & Shade Tree Committee members) that included tree ID games, an ask-an-arborist station, tree-themed refreshments, a tree-themed obstacle course, and provided free tree seedlings.
- Workshops on Grafting Trees, and Pruning Trees were given with support from a grant from the Department of Conservation and Recreation.
- 4 apples trees were planted and 3 London plane trees.
- An apple fruiting wall was built and planted at the Petersham Center School with the 5th graders.
- Over 45 high-risk or dead roadsides trees were removed
- An ongoing windshield survey for declining ash trees continued and preventative treatments were provided to protect against Emerald Ash Borer on two prominent trees in Town with an organic Neem based product.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa LeVangie, Tree Warden



NORTHEAST QUABBIN VETERANS' SERVICES DISTRICT

584 MAIN STREET, ATHOL, MASSACHUSETTS 01331

PHONE: 978/249-6935 FAX: 978/575-0269

email: vetagnt@townofathol.org

Serving the Towns of Athol, Orange, Petersham, Phillipston and Royalston

"To care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow, and his orphan." - A Lincoln

FY16 ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017

To the Citizens of the Northeast Quabbin Veterans' Services District:

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts began providing for its needy veterans immediately following the Revolutionary War. In 1861, at the start of the Civil War, the state legislature formalized the assistance provided to veterans by establishing Massachusetts General Law (MGL) Chapter 115 and the Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services (DVS).

DVS is the state's lead agency for overseeing the general welfare of the Commonwealth's nearly 400,000 living veterans. DVS establishes policy, proposes legislation, provides annual training, and ensures compliance with MGL Chapter 115 and other laws and regulations germane to serving veterans.

MGL Chapter 115: Section: 3B was passed into law by the Commonwealth during FY15 establishing the mandatory requirement whereby Directors of Veterans' Services/Veterans' Services Officers (VSO) must become legally certified. Mandatory recertification is required every three-years.

MGL Chapter 115 authorizes an eligible veteran to receive certain financial, medical, and other benefits earned by their military service. Services are available through the local area Director of Veterans' Services/Veterans' Services Officers living in one of the Commonwealth's 351 communities.

DISTRICT GOVERNANCE & ADMINISTRATION

The Secretary – DVS authorized the Northeast Quabbin Veterans' Services District to begin operations in January 2006. DVS requires the district to reapply every two years to continue operations. On March 7, 2017 DVS granted approval for the district to continue operating through June 30, 2019.

Pursuant to MGL Chapter 115: Section 11, for every authorized district, there shall be a Board of Directors. The board consists of a representative appointed by the Board of Selectmen from each member community. The Board establishes By-Laws to define district administration and operations compliant with MGL Chapter 115.

Led by the Director of Veterans' Services, the district serves veterans and dependents having a formal residence in Athol, Orange, Petersham, Phillipston and Royalston.

After 10 years of service, Neil McGuirk retired as Director of Veterans' Services on June 30, 2017. In advance of his retirement date, a transition plan was implemented for the period May 1, 2017 through June 30, 2017. Fedencia Fitch was appointed Director of Veterans' Services.

VETERANS PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OFFERED BY THE DISTRICT

A. MGL Chapter 115

1. A program of financial and medical assistance that may be available to veterans and/or dependents based on eligibility requirements.
2. The following chart represents FY16 Veterans' Benefits paid, by community, to its eligible veterans and/or dependents. Benefits paid are reimbursed at
3. 75% by the commonwealth.

FY17 VETERANS' BENEFITS DATA

Town	Benefits Paid	State Reimbursements	% Reimbursed
Athol	\$180,278.49	\$135,211.15	75%
Orange	\$107,860.52	\$80,895.39	75%
Petersham	\$4,216.32	\$3,162.24	75%
Phillipston	\$7,225.80	\$5,419.35	75%
Royalston	\$2,7900.00	\$2,092.50	75%

4. Burials in one of two Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemeteries, Winchendon and Agawam.
5. Women Veterans' Network – Provides women veterans with information on benefits, expand awareness of the needs, and identify health and human resources to meet those needs.
6. Homeless prevention, Transitional Housing and outreach services.
7. Wartime Bonuses, Annuities, etc.
8. And more...

B. UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

1. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA): Applications for Agent Orange illnesses, Mesothelioma, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Military Sexual Trauma (MST) service-connected disabilities, pensions, Dependency & Indemnity Compensation, healthcare, veterans' grave markers, and more.
 - a. VA Compensation & Benefits (VBA) paid nearly **\$7.1M** dollars in annual compensation to veterans, dependents and surviving spouses living in the district.
 - b. VA Central-Western-Massachusetts Healthcare System – Headquartered at Northampton VA Medical Center, Leeds has five Community Based Outpatient Clinics delivering medical treatment to over 25,000 veterans with an annual budget of **\$162.2M**.
2. Department of Defense (DOD): Military records; medical records; medals, decorations and awards not previously issued; applications to correct Military Records, and more.
3. Other Agencies including:

- a. Massachusetts Department of Health & Human Services
- b. Massachusetts Department of Workforce Development
- c. U.S. Social Security Administration
- d. U.S. Department of Labor
- e. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- f. U.S. Department of Justice
- g. Other Massachusetts & U.S. Departments and Agencies.

The office has seen an increase in the numbers of veterans applying for service-connected disabilities including most notably Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Military Sexual Trauma (MST), Agent Orange illnesses, Mesothelioma, and more.

Veterans with service-connected disabilities are eligible for VA Healthcare. All other veterans may be eligible for VA Healthcare based on defined criteria. Due to the Affordable Care Act, wartime and peacetime veterans may qualify for VA Healthcare.

I look forward to serving veterans, spouses, surviving spouse of a deceased veteran, and dependents formally residing in one of the District's communities.

Respectfully submitted,

Fedencia P. Fitch

Fedencia P. Fitch

Director of Veterans' Services

PETERSHAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

FY2017 ANNUAL REPORT

In FY2016 (July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017), the members of the Zoning Board of Appeals were Donald J. O'Neil (Chair), Brian MacEwan (Clerk), Maryanne Reynolds (Member), and Don Eaton (Associate Member).

No applications were filed within this period and no action was taken other than the review and approval of several business permit applications.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald J. O'Neil, Chair



Report of Petersham Center School **2016-2017**

On August 29, 2016, Principal Menard and PCS staff welcomed grades 1-6 students to the 2016-2017 school year. We continued the tradition of beginning our year in a ceremony around our treasured wellhouse. The Kindergarten class then joined the Petersham community on September 6, 2016. As of March 2017, Petersham Center School had 128 students enrolled in grades K-6. Class sizes averaged 18 students per grade. PCS was again fortunate to have students under the School Choice program from the towns of: Amherst, Athol, Barre, Gardner, Hardwick, Orange, New Salem, North Brookfield, Phillipston, Templeton, and Winchendon.

The Petersham Center School FY 2016-17 Fund Expenditures (GF appropriation, school choice, and circuit breaker) totaled \$1,730,046.68. In addition to these funds, PCS received several grants. These grants were used for a variety of purposes: salaries, books, materials, specialized services, buses for field trips, consultation, and professional development.

Petersham Center School was proud to be able to open both our very own MakerSpace and Art Gallery during the year. The MakerSpace was created over the summer and used for students to imagine and create during their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) weekly special. The Art Gallery opening was held in the Spring and community members were invited. There are now fourteen large frames on the ramp that showcases K-6 student artwork.

The school piloted "Blizzard Bags" this past winter. This is where students were given standards-based work from their teachers to complete on a day where PCS was not able to hold school. If the student completed all of the assigned work in the time frame given, they were

counted as being present that day at school. These Blizzard Bags days do not have to be made up at the end of the school year.

PCS was thrilled to continue offering our after school STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) focused Enrichment Program. We increased our programming from eight offerings to eleven offerings. The following programs were available: Arts and Crafts, BreakOut Edu, Building Club, Digital Music, Games Unplugged, Geography Club, Maker Space, Music with Mrs. T, Outdoor Exploration, Reading Support, and Yearbook Club. A total of 140 students participated with some of our students participating in multiple clubs. All programs were offered free of charge to all Petersham Center School students.

PCS Staff had many professional development opportunities this past year to enhance classroom instruction and safety. Classroom teachers and specialists worked collaboratively in professional learning communities to enhance classroom instruction. They attended, along with Orange Elementary, professional development provided by Ribas Associates to strengthen teaching practices and student outcomes. The entire PCS Staff was trained by Chief Cooley and the Western School Safety Task Force on how to implement a Reunification Plan for our school; as well as regular lockdown and fire drills with both the staff and students. The school also installed a new entry system for the front of the school during the day for enhanced safety for all.

Students were able to participate in PCS traditional field trips; as well as experience some new locations that complemented their academic studies. The 3rd and 5th grades experienced Petersham in Colonial Days thanks to the Petersham Historical Society. Chris Eaton, from Mass Audubon, provided many learning opportunities with the Babbitt Wildlife Sanctuary for all grades. Our 5th & 6th grades were able to enjoy Connor's Pond (Swift River Reservation) and Harvard Forest Pond with Bob Clark. The entire school again went to the Quabbin Reservoir Gate 31 to help with fish stocking. Grades 1-3 attended the Eric Carle Museum in Amherst. The Kindergarten class enjoyed their annual field trip to the Ecotarium in Worcester. Grades 3 & 5 enjoyed a trip back in time to the One Room Schoolhouse in Petersham with the Historical Society. Grades K-4 got to experience the play James and the Giant Peach at the Mount Wachusett Community College in Gardner and the Fifth and sixth graders enjoyed their experience at the Plimoth Plantation in Plymouth, Mass.

Petersham Center School also partnered with the Petersham Police Department, Chief Cooley and, Officer Kimball to provide the following unique opportunities for students: bus and Halloween safety, and DARE program with the 5th graders. PCS also worked alongside Quabbin Mediation to provide Training Active Bystanders (TAB) for our 5th and 6th graders. This year, TAB was expanded down into our 4th grade.

Parent and community involvement continues to be an integral component of our success. PCS hosted our second annual Veterans Day Breakfast and program, along with our second annual community Memorial Day celebration around the flagpole. Community members were invited to

enjoy various plays performed by each grade at PCS. A Petersham Playground Committee was formed to help fundraise money to update both playgrounds at PCS. The PTG continued to be an active group for the Petersham Center School. They provided the students with activities and opportunities in a variety of areas: Holiday Bazaar, raffles, Movie Night, helped with Field Day, and treated us all to the Animal Adventure and Bubble Guy performances.

The 2016-2017 school year showed some staffing changes. Due to budget cuts, a paraprofessional position was cut and the Counselor's position was to be cut to twenty-one hours for the 2017-2018 school year. Two of Petersham Center School staff members retired at the end of the year; Mrs. Donna Shaughnessy, Inclusion Specialist and Mrs. Lynn Layton, School Nurse.

Petersham Center School would like to express to all the teachers, staff, students, parents and community members their deep appreciation for all the support and dedication for our students. The 2016-2017 school year was an exciting and successful one.

Submitted by Joanne Menard, Principal of Petersham Center School
January 2018

COMPARATIVE ENROLLMENT FIGURES
(October 1st)

Grade	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
K	16	15	18	16	17	16	15	20
1	16	18	18	18	19	16	18	16
2	17	16	17	21	14	19	16	18
3	16	18	16	15	19	15	19	16
4	16	16	17	16	14	17	18	19
5	15	15	14	15	15	19	17	18
6	14	15	15	14	15	15	17	17
Pre-school								
Out of Dist.	1	1	1	1	1			
Placement								
Total:	112	114	116	116	114	117	120	124

PETERSHAM CENTER SCHOOL

FY 2017-16 FUND EXPENDITURES (GF APPROPRIATION, SCHOOL CHOICE & CIRCUIT BREAKER)

	FISCAL 2017-2016		
	FY 2017	FY 2016	
	Spending	Spending	Change
ADMINISTRATION	29,659.14	22,367.33	7,291.81
SCHOOL BUILDING LEADERSHIP	134,605.92	132,033.54	2,572.38
INSTRUCTION	666,923.69	683,016.19	(16,092.50)
GUIDANCE AND TESTING	32,679.99	29,636.20	3,043.79
OTHER SCHOOL SERVICES	72,364.96	62,963.42	9,401.54
TRANSPORTATION	106,920.00	102,600.00	4,320.00
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	188,757.90	196,238.27	(7,480.37)
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND INSURANCE	161,617.12	142,250.63	19,366.49
SPECIAL EDUCATION	336,517.96	240,138.24	96,379.72
TOTAL EXPENDITURES - ALL FUNDS	1,730,046.68	1,611,243.82	118,802.86
			7.37%

PETERSHAM CENTER SCHOOL

FY 2017 GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

		FISCAL 2017					
Object Code	Original Budget & Encumbrance	Budget Adjustments	Adjusted Budget	Expended YTD	Unexpended Balance		
ADMINISTRATION							
1110	3,351.00	69.00	3,420.00	3,420.00	-		
1210	7,339.00		7,339.00	7,339.00	-		
1410	5,746.00		5,746.00	5,746.00	-		
1410	1,002.00	(778.86)	223.14	223.14	-		
1450	2,769.00	(212.00)	2,557.00	2,557.00	-		
1450	1,480.00	(1,480.00)	-	-	-		
2110	4,374.00		4,374.00	4,374.00	-		
1430	3,500.00	2,500.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	-		
	29,561.00	98.14	29,659.14	29,659.14	-		
SCHOOL BUILDING LEADERSHIP							
2210	87,550.00		87,550.00	87,550.00	-		
2210	41,524.00	2,122.11	43,646.11	43,646.11	-		
2210	3,000.00	(1,247.64)	1,752.36	1,752.36	-		
2210	1,551.00	106.45	1,657.45	1,657.45	-		
	133,625.00	980.92	134,605.92	134,605.92	-		
INSTRUCTION							
2305	403,123.00	40,625.52	443,748.52	443,748.52	-		
2325	8,000.00	8,640.09	16,640.09	16,640.09	-		
2330	-	3,356.29	3,356.29	3,356.29	-		
2451	30,272.00	(16,503.94)	13,768.06	13,768.06	-		
2440	5,600.00	(352.40)	5,247.60	5,247.60	-		
2357	12,000.00	(2,370.07)	9,629.93	9,629.93	-		
2415	22,049.00	(2,986.46)	19,062.54	19,062.54	-		
	481,044.00	30,409.03	511,453.03	511,453.03	-		

FY 2017 GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

		FISCAL 2017					
Object	Original Budget	Budget Adjustments	Adjusted Budget	Expended YTD	Unexpended Balance		
Code							
SPECIAL EDUCATION							
Union 73 Director of Special Education	5,058.00		5,058.00	5,058.00	-		
Union 73 Supervisor of Special Education	3,038.00	494.00	3,532.00	3,532.00	-		
Teaching	34,291.00	75.81	34,366.81	34,366.81	-		
Speech Pathologist Salary	43,378.00	(4,064.32)	39,313.68	39,313.68	-		
Physical Therapist Salary	21,924.00	4,528.69	26,452.69	26,452.69	-		
Supplies and Materials	1,012.00	476.82	1,488.82	1,488.82	-		
Psychological Services	9,000.00	19,814.50	28,814.50	28,814.50	-		
SPED Contracted Services	-	3,737.84	3,737.84	3,737.84	-		
Transportation	35,640.00	631.78	36,271.78	36,271.78	-		
Out of District Tuition	65,400.00	(29,327.53)	36,072.47	36,072.47	-		
Total Special Education	218,741.00	(3,632.41)	215,108.59	215,108.59	-		
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,314,416.47	0.00	1,314,416.47	1,314,416.47	-		

PETERSHAM CENTER SCHOOL

FY 2017 SCHOOL CHOICE FUND EXPENDITURES

		FISCAL 2017				
Object	Original Budget	Budget Adjustments	Adjusted Budget	Expended YTD	Unexpended Balance	
Code						
INSTRUCTION						
Teacher Salaries	73,480.00	(9,830.72)	63,649.28	50,730.75	12,918.53	
Specialist Salaries	35,464.00	12,876.76	48,340.76	48,340.76	-	
Enrichment Activities	10,000.00		10,000.00	6,863.64	3,136.36	
Classroom Specialists/Aides	13,624.00	(13,624.00)	-	-	-	
Instructional Technology Salary	52,498.00		52,498.00	48,288.51	4,209.49	
Professional Development	8,440.00		8,440.00	1,247.00	7,193.00	
Total Instruction	193,506.00	(10,577.96)	182,928.04	155,470.66	27,457.38	
GUIDANCE AND TESTING						
Counselor Salary	28,984.00	1,222.74	30,206.74	30,206.74	-	
Total Guidance and Testing	28,984.00	1,222.74	30,206.74	30,206.74	-	
OTHER SCHOOL SERVICES						
School Nurse Salary	37,896.00	954.00	38,850.00	38,850.00	-	
School Lunch Services	24,102.00	6,865.22	30,967.22	30,967.22	-	
Total Other School Services	61,998.00	7,819.22	69,817.22	69,817.22	-	
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE						
Custodian Salary	31,350.00	1,536.00	32,886.00	32,886.00	-	
Acquisition of Equipment	7,300.00		7,300.00	5,840.22	1,459.78	
Total Operations and Maintenance	38,650.00	1,536.00	40,186.00	38,726.22	1,459.78	
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND INSURANCE						
Employee Health Benefits	-		-	-	-	
Total Employee Benefits and Insurance	-	-	-	-	-	

SPECIAL EDUCATION										
Teaching		2305		50,318.00		(2,327.58)		47,990.42	46,912.49	1,077.93
SPED Summer Program		2330		5,000.00				5,000.00	4,688.30	311.70
Counselor Salary		2320		28,984.00		1,175.00		30,159.00	30,159.00	-
SPED Contracted Services		2800		12,360.00		1,152.58		13,512.58	13,512.58	-
Total Special Education				96,662.00		-		96,662.00	95,272.37	1,389.63
TOTAL EXPENDITURES				419,800.00		0.00		419,800.00	389,493.21	30,306.79

PETERSHAM CENTER SCHOOL
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
EDUCATION GRANTS AND REVOLVING
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

	Fund Balances July 1, 2016	Revenues	Expenditures	Other Financing Sources (Uses)	Fund Balances June 30, 2017
Special Revenue:					
Grants and Revolving					
School Lunch Revolving	12,479.56	32,341.73	29,333.45		15,487.84
School Choice Revolving	95,507.60	356,938.00	389,493.21		62,952.39
Circuit Breaker Revolving	-	26,137.00	26,137.00		-
Building Usage Revolving	1,021.83	183.35	357.66		847.52
Playground Gift Fund	-	650.00	-		650.00
Girl Scout Gift Fund	-	1,071.00	-		1,071.00
Big Yellow School Bus State Grant	-	200.00	200.00		-
Rural Education Federal Grant	-	19,010.00	19,010.00		-
Teacher Quality Federal Grant	(248.00)	2,878.00	2,630.00		-
SPED Program Improvement Federal Grant	-	3,000.00	-		3,000.00
Early Education and Care Federal Grant	400.36	1,024.00	1,424.36		-
SPED Entitlement Federal Grant	1,409.90	29,952.00	31,361.90		-
New Salem Academy Local Grant	-	1,134.56	1,134.56		-
Total - Education Grants and Revolving	110,571.25	474,519.64	501,082.14	-	84,008.75



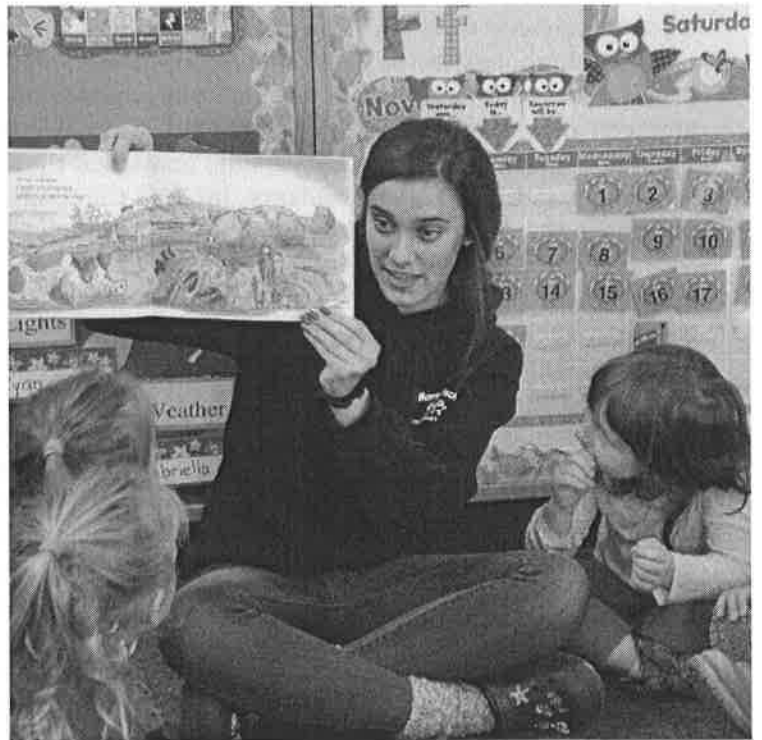
ANNUAL REPORT

Montachusett Regional Vocational
Technical School

1050 Westminster Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420

www.montytech.net

2007



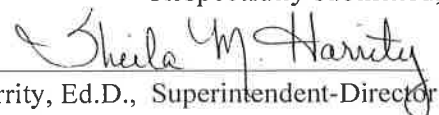
The 2016-2017 school year marked my third year as Superintendent-Director of Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District, and in my short tenure here, I am proud to say I have seen the school reach new levels of academic excellence, technical proficiency, and student engagement. Perhaps the most exciting aspect of my role here is bearing witness to the creativity and innovation at work everyday in our classrooms and shops. Our students and instructors work collaboratively to explore scientific concepts, designing experiments that are conducted aboard the International Space Station; they study automation and additive manufacturing through the use of robotic arms and 3-D printers; and even build new educational facilities that students will grow and learn in for years to come. Monty Tech is a school unlike any other and I am honored to serve the students, faculty and staff here.

In many respects, 2016-2017 was a banner year at Monty Tech. We launched a whole school 1:1 Chromebook initiative, providing all students with increased access to instructional technology, and improving communications between teachers and students beyond the traditional school day. We received more than \$645,000 in competitive grants, and have been able to provide students with remarkable field trips to connect their learning to STEM career pathways that spark imagination and creativity. We provided high quality professional development opportunities to support the school's new biomedical courses, bringing innovative new science coursework and curriculum to students with an interest in biomedical and biotechnology career pathways. Construction of the Monty Tech Veterinary Science Training Center and Community Clinic continued throughout 2016-2017, providing tremendous hands-on learning opportunities to students in our Carpentry, Plumbing, Electrical, Cabinetmaking, HVAC, Masonry, and Welding trades. School administrators launched an unprecedented fundraising campaign, and successfully raised more than \$2.5M in donations and in-kind matching services to support this project. And finally, thanks to an extremely generous Skills Capital Grant, we were able to renovate the Machine Technology shop, and purchase state-of-the-art machinery for students to train on, earning more industry recognized credentials than ever before.

We recognize that students attending Monty Tech have chosen a high school experience that, to many, may seem complex and even daunting. Our students are required to pass the same statewide standardized tests as students in a comprehensive high school. They take English, mathematics, science, social studies and foreign language courses, just as high school students in your community might. A Monty Tech student, though, must also balance all of that with a rigorous vocational-technical education, specializing in one of our twenty programs. For four years our students work and learn in vocational settings that replicate industry standards. They train on the latest equipment, and, through the school's popular Co-operative Education Program, our students may even spend time working and learning in area businesses during their Junior and Senior year. It is a great responsibility to provide each and every student with high-quality, vocational-technical instruction, and we are honored to serve approximately 1,400 students each year.

This work is only possible because of our talented educators and administrators, who remain focused on delivering the highest quality academic and vocational-technical education possible. Working closely with post-secondary colleagues, we aim to ensure our students graduate prepared to enter college pathways of their choosing. Similarly, relying on our expansive network of industry partners, we strive to improve upon each of our vocational programs to ensure that every graduate is not only prepared for entry-level careers in related pathways, but are also creative, independent thinkers, capable of solving complex, real-world situations that present themselves in today's workplaces. On their behalf, I am delighted to present the District's 2016-2017 annual report to you, providing a snapshot of the wonderful experiences happening on a day-to-day basis here at Monty Tech.

Respectfully submitted,



Sheila M. Harrity, Ed.D., Superintendent-Director

Our Mission

Every student will graduate from Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School with the skills, knowledge, and abilities to be a productive and effective member of an ever-changing society.

Our District

Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School is a four-year career and technical high school serving the member towns of:

Ashburnham	Harvard	Princeton
Ashby	Holden	Royalston
Athol	Hubbardston	Sterling
Barre	Lunenburg	Templeton
Fitchburg	Petersham	Westminster
Gardner	Phillipston	Winchendon

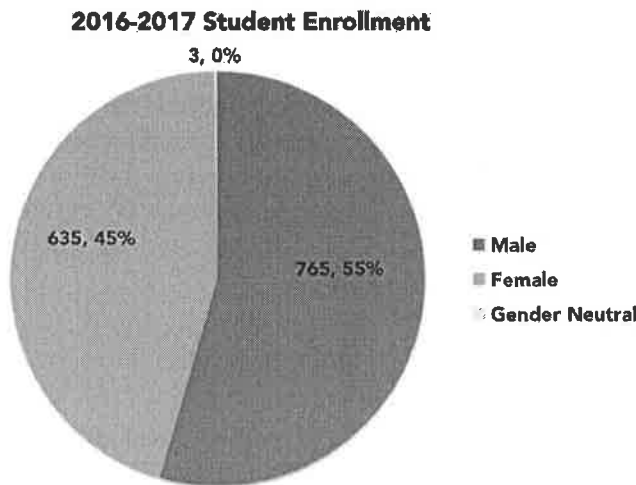
Leadership

The leadership team at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School is comprised of ten talented administrators whose varied educational backgrounds, professional experiences, and areas of expertise contribute to the success of the school. Working collaboratively, and under the direction of the Superintendent and Principal, the team has transformed the school into one of the most sought-after high schools in North Central Massachusetts.

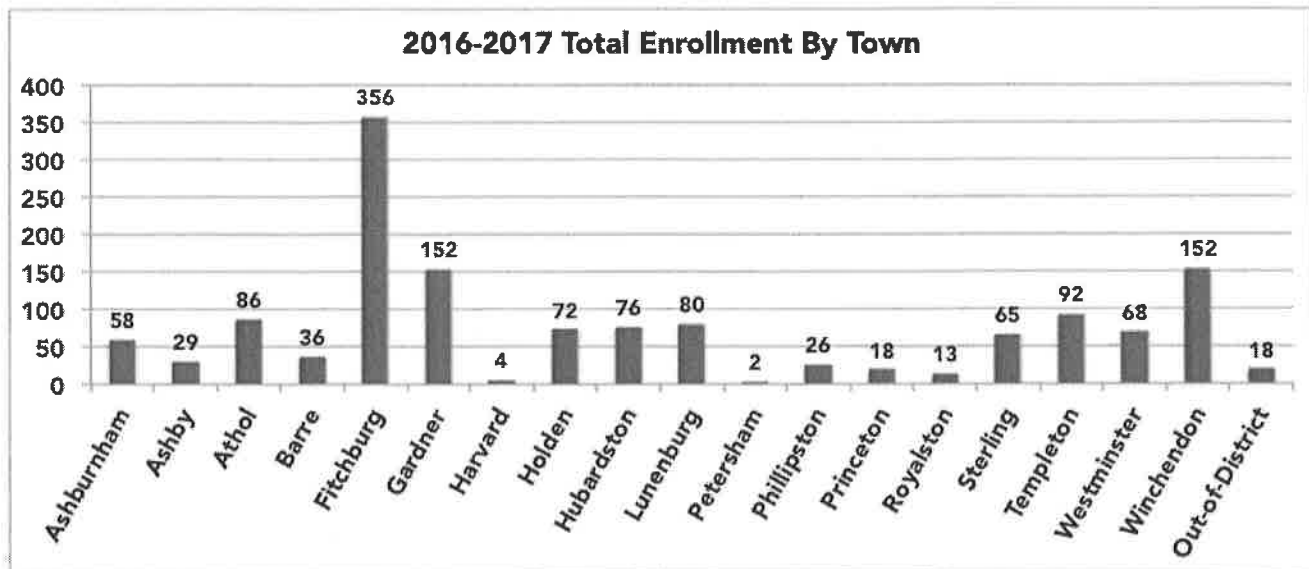
Sheila M. Harrity, Superintendent-Director
Tom Browne, Principal
Dayana Carlson, Assistant Principal
Tammy Crockett, Business Manager
Pamela Pothier, Director of Technology

Christina Favreau, Director of Academic Programs
Jim Hachey, Director of Vocational Programs
Michael Gormley, Director of Facilities
Katy Whitaker, Development Coordinator
Victoria Zarozinski, Director of Student Support Services

Enrollment



On June 1, 2017, student enrollment at Monty Tech included 1,403 students in grades nine through twelve, representing each of the district's eighteen sending communities. Each class of students is comprised of a relatively equal balance of male vs. female students, and each student attending Monty Tech has elected to do so, prepared to explore an interest in one of the school's twenty rigorous vocational-technical programs. While the school currently offers only five programs non-traditional for male students, and twelve programs non-traditional for female students, we are proud to have a student population that is well-balanced by gender and a variety of academic interests and achievements.



Throughout 2016-2017, Monty Tech offered a variety of opportunities for students, parents, and community members to learn about and visit the school. In October 2016, approximately 700 district eighth graders participated in the annual “Tour Day” event. Students toured our twenty vocational-technical areas and learned about the school’s challenging academic offerings and exciting athletic and extracurricular programs. Career Awareness Night offered interested students the opportunity to return in the evening with their family members to further explore the facilities and speak with staff members.

The Vocational Interest Program (V.I.P.) offers area seventh and eighth grade students the chance to visit Monty Tech after school and participate in hands-on learning experiences across a variety of vocational/technical areas. The program continued to attract a large number of students during the 2016-2017 school year, serving approximately 600 area students.

Class of 2017 Awards

Members of the Class of 2017 were awarded approximately \$88,950 in scholarships. The Monty Tech Foundation generously provided \$45,700 in scholarships to graduating seniors, ranging in amounts of \$200 to \$2,000. The Foundation also awarded \$4,000 to the Practical Nursing graduates. Once again, local and state organizations, as well as generous individuals, continue to recognize the ability and potential of Monty Tech graduates in the form of financial donations. The School Committee, administration, faculty, and graduates themselves, are grateful for this support.

Articulation Agreements with local colleges also play an important role in helping reduce the cost of higher education. Qualified Monty Tech students are eligible to receive college credits through a number of articulation agreements with public and private colleges across the country. Approximately 51% of the graduating class of 2017 reported plans to enroll at a 4-year college/university upon graduation. By earning college credits while still in high school, these students will save both time and money as they pursue advanced educational programs.

Financial Report

A great deal of effort was put forth by the School Committee, administration, and staff to develop a cost-effective budget for the fiscal year 2016-2017. The final fiscal year 2016-2017 Educational Plan totaled \$26,374,468, which represents a .6% increase over the 2015-2016 Educational Plan. The District’s FY17 budget exceeds the minimum spending required by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 70 by only \$45,000 or .2%.

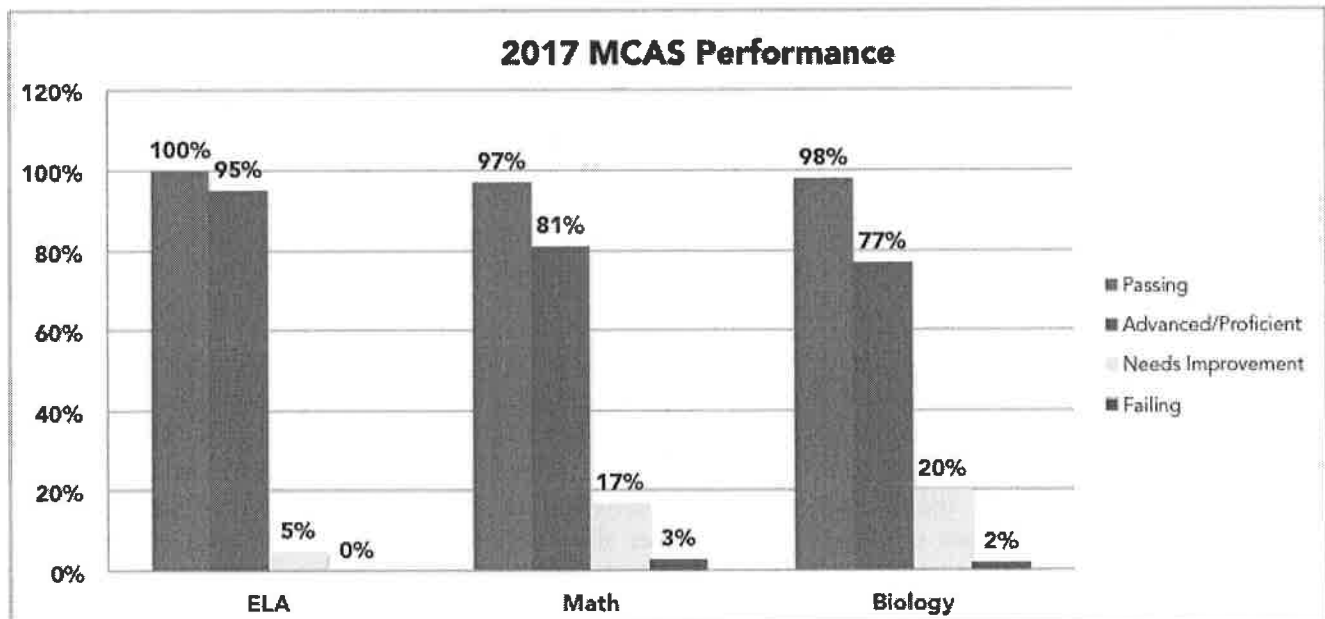
The District was audited in October 2017 as part of the yearly financial audit by the accounting firm of Melanson, Heath and Co. from Greenfield, MA, and received a very good report.

Grants and Contracts

Monty Tech continues to pursue grant funding on an annual basis. These funds help provide many educational and social services to the student population. For fiscal year 2017, state and federal grant sources provided the school with \$961,346. Programs funded by these grants include: Essential Health Services, Social Intervention and Mediation, Improving Teacher Quality, Special Education Services and Program Improvement, Title I Support, Perkins Occupational Education, and Marine Corp Junior Reserve Officer Training. The District also received more than \$645,000 in competitive grants, including a Skills Capital Grant for \$435,857 to purchase equipment for the Machine Technology Program, and a grant from the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center in the amount of \$99,697 to expand the school's science program to include biomedical coursework and learning laboratories. Using these allocation and competitive funds, the school was able to purchase a variety of instructional technology, equipment, and supplies to enhance the learning experience across both academic and vocational programs.

Academic Achievement

In 2016-2017, students at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School continued to demonstrate high academic achievement, earning commendable MCAS scores in English Language Arts, Mathematics and Biology. For Spring 2017, Monty Tech's passing rate on the English Language Arts was 100%, Mathematics 97%, Biology 98%.



Monty Tech is committed to providing students with rigorous STEM learning opportunities, and as such, has expanded the Advanced Placement Program to include two mathematics, two science, and one computer science course. Teacher participation in meaningful, high-quality professional development in AP and Pre-AP pedagogy remains a priority, and enables us to continually expand and enhance our academic course offerings.

The school is in its 5th year of administering Advanced Placement exams, and students enrolled in AP courses continue to improve their performance. In 2016-2017, Monty Tech had more students achieve

qualifying scores than any other year – 53 students who took an AP exam qualified for college credit. More than half of the students who tested in the following subjects received qualifying scores: AP Computer Science Principles (62.5%), AP Literature & Composition (64%), and AP Environmental Science (51.3%). In addition, the AP Environmental Science program experienced the most growth in terms of qualifying score as their passing rate increased by 34.7% from 2016 to 2017.

As a first time administration, students took AP Computer Principles and 62.5% of students earned qualifying scores – an extraordinary performance for the first year.

AP Exam Results, 5-Year Review					
	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017
Total AP Students	69	57	89	145	120
Number of AP Exams	69	62	116	187	148
AP Students with Qualifying Scores	36.2%	57.9%	52.8%	26.9%	44.2%
Qualifying Scores (State)	72.6%	72.2%	70.9%	70.5%	69.7%
Qualifying Scores (Global)	60.9%	61.3%	60.7%	60.3%	60.3%
Courses Offered	2	2	3	5	7

Data taken from the College Board's 2017 amended report, 8/4/17

Vocational Projects in the District Communities

In addition to applying their academic skills, students at Monty Tech are asked to put their vocational-technical skills into practice on a daily basis. Students across the twenty different vocational-technical education programs are building homes, reconstructing damaged properties, repairing service vehicles, making walkways more accessible, and performing countless community services.

The 2016-2017 school year was a busy one for our vocational educators, as each trade aimed to provide practical, hands-on learning experiences for our students, while helping to improve each of the eighteen member communities.

Auto Body Collision Repair Technology: The Monty Tech Auto Body shop benefitted from new instructional equipment this year, including a new Frame Machine. In addition, 2016-2017 marked the first year for graduating Seniors to receive the I-Car On-Line Pro Level One certification in refinishing and non- structural damage. This certification not only makes our program graduates more employable, it enables students to maintain the I-CAR gold class certification. Seniors also received an EPA 6H Certificate, while the Freshmen completed their Career Safe Online OSHA 10-hour General Industry Training. Throughout the year, students detailed, repaired, and repainted vehicles, fulfilling more than seventy requests that included: a trailer for the Fitchburg Police Department, and a van for the Worcester Fire Brigade. A Senior student won a gold Medal at the SkillsUSA state competition in the collision repair category, and qualified for the National event in June 2017. A total of eight students (four Seniors and four Juniors) participated in the school's popular Co-op Program, working in area auto body shops and businesses. (Total enrollment: 65; 40 males, 25 females)

Automotive Technology: As in past years, the Monty Tech Automotive Technology program continues to service a variety of vehicles for faculty, staff, municipalities, and district residents. 2016-2017 proved to be a very busy year for the program, as more than four hundred vehicles were serviced by students and

instructors. In addition to maintaining the school's fleet of vehicles throughout the year, students were asked to repair a Ford Excursion for the Bulldog Pride giveaway. Mr. Hobbs worked with a group of students to refurbish a 1966 Pontiac 2+2 so that so it could be auctioned off. Students performed very well in the SkillsUSA district competitions, placing first, second, and third, with hopes to improve in the coming year. A total of eight Senior and four Junior students participated in the Co-op Program, applying their technical skills in a real work setting. Finally, instructors are proud to announce that three talented program graduates are working in automotive repair shops in the area, demonstrating the skills they acquired at Monty Tech. (Total enrollment: 64; 50 males, 14 females)

Business Technology: Students in Monty Tech's Business Technology program continue to benefit from a unique partnership with Workers' Credit Union. The opportunity to participate in teller training and financial literacy workshops has been met with great enthusiasm from our students, and the instructors continue to be grateful for this developing partnership. Monty Tech Business Technology instructors, in collaboration with their post-secondary colleagues, continue to refine and develop new articulation agreements. These agreements, with Mount Wachusett Community College and New England Institute of Technology, will provide qualified students with college credits at no cost to the student. Opportunities to demonstrate customer service, cash handling, and accounting skills are ever-present as the Business Technology students successfully operate an in-house retail location and greenhouse. The Gear House School Store acquired a credit card machine, which has made a significant impact on the students' retail and customer service experience. In addition, the camera in the Gear House was replaced, providing the instructors with improved vision on store activities while students are working. Eight Seniors and three Juniors were out on Co-op placements during the 2016-2017 school year. (Total enrollment: 70; 20 males, 50 females)

Cabinetmaking: All Monty Tech vocational instructors strive to provide Freshman exploratory programs that not only represent the work and skills students can expect to encounter throughout their high school experience, but also one that piques the interest of students new to the trade. Monty Tech Cabinetmaking instructors do an outstanding job with the Freshmen exploratory experience, and in 2016-2017, the program reached capacity with students who listed Cabinetmaking as their top choice. Throughout the year, Cabinetmaking students designed and manufactured approximately 400 gifts for the Superintendent's dinner, manufactured and assembled seventy-four cabinet assemblies for the new Veterinary Science Training Center, and completed more than thirty-five additional projects in and around the school, to include: Student Services conference room, Chromebook mobile charging stations, trophy Case for the Gardner Skating Rink, new signage for the Barre Cemetery, new lettering for the Ashby Fire Department, surfaced planed two large tree butts for the Mount Wachusett Community College, and play sets for Crocker Elementary School. Finally, Cabinetmaking had another great year of Co-op placement and continues to receive calls from area businesses in need of qualified employees. A total of fifteen students (seven Seniors and eight Juniors) were placed in Co-op experiences, and an additional two students earned full-time employment over the summer. (Total enrollment: 70; 50 males, 20 females)

Cosmetology: With a significant increase in the number of clients served this year, the Monty Tech Cosmetology program saw a significant revenue increase, which will be used to fund the program's much-needed consumable products. The new Salon Iris point-of-sale system was installed, which is a more user-friendly and cost effective program for students to train on. In an effort to support the school's commitment to community service, the Junior students traveled to Heywood Wakefield Assisted Living Center on several occasions, providing residents with manicures, styling hair for a Senior Citizen Prom, and offered discounted services on "Staff Night" to fundraise for the field trip to New York City. Cosmetology students also provided manicure and hair services for the school's Child Care Center, serviced parents from Athol that work with disadvantaged children, and assisted our Drama club with hair and makeup. The program's greatest accomplishment was realized when 100% of the Senior class passed the Massachusetts Cosmetology State Boards, earning licenses to practice. (Total enrollment: 91, 0 males, 91 females)

Culinary Arts: Monty Tech Culinary Arts students and instructors are always busy with the daily operation of the Mountain Room Restaurant, which is open for lunch from 11:30am to 1:00pm Monday through Friday. In addition to operating a full-service restaurant and bakery, serving 90-120 patrons daily, culinary students showcase their talents throughout the year, providing outstanding service at events that include the following: two Program Advisory Committee dinner meetings, four Monty Tech Foundation breakfasts, Monty Tech's Retirees holiday luncheon, a graduation reception, the Women in Technology event, Principal and Counselors' Day, the Monty Tech homecoming dance, MAVA meetings, all School Committee meetings and sub-committee meetings, Gardner AARP luncheon and MHCC volunteer luncheon. Community service opportunities for students are always a highlight, and this year our students prepared meals for the United Way's "Day of Caring" event, Our Fathers House, and NEADS events. Students also participated in the "Puppy Love" event in which 300 cupcakes and 350 cookies were made. The Culinary Arts program also donated pastry and baked goods to the House of Peace and Education in Gardner. The program's greatest undertaking is always the Annual Superintendent's Dinner scholarship fundraiser. This year, students worked side-by-side with some of the area's finest chefs, preparing a six-course dinner with extensive hors d'oeuvres for 380 guests, raising just over \$42,000 to support the student scholarship fund. (Total enrollment: 99; 34 males, 65 females)

Dental Assisting: During 2016-2017, the Dental Assisting program introduced eighteen students to industry experience through externships, and a total of eight students (six Seniors and two Juniors) earned Co-operative educational placement. All Sophomore, Junior, and Senior students attended the Yankee Dental Convention in Boston, and learned about the most current trends and practices in the field. Every student passed the National Board (DANB) Infection Control & Radiology exams, earning two of the required three DANB credentials needed to become licensed Dental Assistants. For the seventh consecutive year, Monty Tech welcomed Community Health Connections, a school-based dental hygiene program, whose goal is to provide dental services to students in need. Through this initiative, more than sixty students were examined by a dentist, had their teeth cleaned, and had sealants or temporary fillings applied as needed. Monty Tech Dental Assisting students were given hands-on, practical experience, as they assisted the staff from CHC during each dental procedure performed. Four students qualified for SkillsUSA district level competition, and each then advanced to Nationals. Students from the Junior class provided dental education to students at Ruggles Lane Elementary School in Barre and Meetinghouse Elementary School in Westminster. (Total enrollment: 60; 3 males, 57females)

Drafting Technology: As in most programs at Monty Tech, students in the school's Drafting Technology program participate in a number of projects at the school and in our sending communities. This year, Drafting students completed the layout of the Riverside Cemetery in Winchendon, fire escape plans for the North Central Correctional Facility, a layout of the Monty Tech Rain Garden, signage for the Superintendent's Dinner, graduation, and drama club, to name a few. Seven students (four Seniors and 3 Juniors) participated in the school's Co-op Program, and three outstanding students earned a spot at the SkillsUSA state competition. Instructors are pleased to report that a majority of the graduating seniors intend to pursue careers in the field of drafting. Finally, the School Committee approved the name change to CAD/Drafting & Design, which will go into effect Fall 2017. (Total enrollment: 60; 40 males, 20 females)

Early Childhood Education: The Early Childhood Education program received three new Baby Care Parent Simulation dolls, and three new car seats for Parent simulation dolls. This added technology aides instructors as they enhance lessons in infant and toddler safety. Students were delighted to support community service efforts, raising funds to support Lucy's Love Bus, an agency that provided grants for children with cancer that are not covered by health insurance. Students showered the Department of Children & Families with gifts and much needed supplies for foster families with emergency foster placements, raised funds for various causes including SkillsUSA Change for Children, and held a holiday party for children from the Cleghorn Neighborhood Center. Students and staff also assisted at the Children's Festival at Briggs Elementary School, and at STEM night at Westminster Elementary. Fifteen of the sixteen graduating seniors are pursuing post-secondary education, related to the program. The

Monty Tech Child Care Center continues to operate at capacity with a waiting list, providing meaningful hands-on learning opportunities for students in the Early Childhood Education program at Monty Tech. (Total enrollment: 62; 1 males, 61 females)

Electrical: Throughout 2016-2017, students and instructors in the Monty Tech Electrical program began planning and wiring the school's new Veterinary Science Training Center, including all underground raceway installations, as well as installing conduits within the walls for all the wiring throughout the building. Program graduates are entering the trade at a prime time, as the electrical contracting business continues to reach new heights. To that end, program instructors worked diligently to place as many students on Co-op as possible, preparing them for a seamless transition from school to work. The program continued to support the building maintenance department by repairing numerous small electrical issues throughout the building, which included the installation of new ceiling fans in the plumbing shop, as well as a new speaker and microphone system in school's Mountain Room Restaurant. In addition, students ran fiber optic wiring throughout the building to improve the connectivity and speed of both the wireless and hard-wired computers. While the Electrical program already boasts a well-defined Freshman Exploratory program, instructors agree that enhancing the program to include new electrical service equipment in homes and fire alarm projects would further strengthen the program, and continue to develop curriculum to support the addition of these concepts. (Total enrollment: 78; 68 males, 10 females)

Engineering Technology: The Monty Tech Engineering Technology program continues to further enhance the curriculum and instruction by improving upon the four Project Lead the Way course modules, and adding more Computer Integrated Manufacturing content into the already rigorous vocational-technical curriculum. All Freshmen completed the OSHA 10-hour General Industry training. Field Programmable Gate Array mini systems were purchased and integrated into the Digital Electronics curriculum, and several Engineering students performed well in SkillsUSA district competitions, resulting in four students qualifying for the state competitions, where they represented the Monty Tech program so well. (Total enrollment: 42; 31 males, 11 females)

Graphic Communications: Throughout the 2016-2017 school year, the Monty Tech Graphic Communication shop produced large quantities of print projects for district towns and community service organizations. In fact, over four hundred print projects were completed, saving local organizations approximately \$165,000. Twenty-two Freshmen chose Graphic Communications as their top program, and two additional students joined our program, resulting in a freshman class of twenty-four students. Two Seniors and three Juniors earned Co-op placements, and seven students advanced to the SkillsUSA state competitions, where they represented the program so well. The Graphic Communications Class of 2017 leaves the program prepared for both college and career, as four Seniors entered the workforce, two entered the Armed Services and all others enrolled in college. (Total enrollment: 90; 36 males, 52 females)

Health Occupations: The Health Occupations program at Monty Tech continues to educate a large number of students, providing a rigorous education grounded in current medical knowledge and practice. We continue the partnership with Mount Wachusett Community College that enabled Senior students to participate in an Emergency Medical Technician training program, earning eight college credits at no cost. Fourteen Seniors took the EMT Course this year. The Monty Tech Health Occupations program is dedicated to providing all students with opportunities to earn industry-recognized credentials. Students also earn the following credentials: OSHA Career Safe Online 10-hour Health Care Certification; Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and First Aid Certificate through the American Heart Association; and Certified Nursing Assistant License through the American Red Cross. This year, 90% of the Senior students passed the National Healthcare Association (CCMA) exam. Ten students earned Co-op placements. All Juniors became CPR Certified, and twenty-five Juniors became Certified Nursing Assistants. To support the students' desire to give back, a "Baby Shower" benefitting Battered Women's Resources, Inc. was held, and students participated in Pediatric Day with the Monty Tech Child Care Center. The students also made Veteran's Day cards and sent them to the Bedford VA hospital, bought

gifts and clothing for the Fitchburg Community Christmas Party, held a Red Cross Blood Drive, and participated in “Pennies for Patients” for Leukemia Lymphoma Society. Finally, the Monty Tech program was represented at the SkillsUSA national competition, with a talented student who took the top state prize. (Total enrollment: 106; 9 males, 97 females)

House Carpentry: While most of the work done by the students and instructors in the Monty Tech House Carpentry program last year was done at the school’s new Veterinary Science Training Center, the program continued to support a number of community organizations, completing projects that included: a replica of the scoreboard portion of the Green Monster at Fenway Park for the ARC of Opportunity in Fitchburg, three Buddy benches for the Phillipston Memorial School in Phillipston, three picnic tables for the Monty Tech Athletic Department, and numerous adirondack chairs for charitable donations. Last year, a total of eighteen Freshmen entered the trade, and all Sophomores completed the OSHA 10-hour Construction training. This certification and training enables the students to work on all outside projects and participate in the school’s Co-op Program. The Sophomore students also traveled to Emerson Green, in Devens, a planned neighborhood community in which the focus is on green space and design in the construction of homes. The students toured homes in various stages of construction, identifying energy efficient materials and their use (2.K.01, 2014 Carpentry Frameworks). (Total enrollment: 65; 56 males, 9 females)

HVAC & Property Maintenance: 2016-2017 brought welcome change to the Monty Tech HVAC and Property Maintenance Program. Brendan Curran, our newest faculty member, joined the instructional team, bringing tremendous industry expertise and a passion for teaching, from which the students benefit daily. Students and instructors completed two major projects this year, including the creation and installation of a walk-in style cooler/freezer unit for culinary bakery, and the installation of a heating and cooling system for the new Veterinary Science Training Center. This new system encompasses state-of-the-art mechanicals, including heat pump and hydronic energy recovery systems. Seven Seniors and one Junior participated in the very popular Co-operative education program. In April, channel 5 (WCVB) selected one of our Senior shop students as their A+ Student of the Week. A sophomore was accepted into the “Pathways Early College Innovation School” at Mount Wachusett Community College. She was one of only twenty-two students in Massachusetts to be selected for this program that will allow her to achieve both a two-year college degree, as well as her high school diploma in the next two years. The program’s Junior related class is now offering the full licensure of the National EPA certification for Refrigerant Recovery, and sixteen students earned their Universal HVAC license. This credentialing process was streamlined by the school’s new 1:1 Chromebook initiative. (Total enrollment: 66; 53 males, 13 females)

Information Technology: Last year, thirteen first choice freshmen were accepted into Information Technology and three students transferred into the department. Information Technology offers students opportunities to earn more industry-recognized certifications than any other program at Monty Tech. It is an accomplishment our instructors are so proud of, as these certifications affirm the technical skill proficiency needed for so many entry-level careers in networking and information technology. Last year, all sixteen Freshmen completed their Career Safe Online OSHA 10-hour General Industry training, while the Sophomore class passed the IC3 Certificate Exam for basic computer hardware, software, and internet knowledge and skills. All Sophomores also passed the Test-out PC Pro Certificate exam and the Cisco IT Essential course for computer repair and maintenance, and the Introduction to Networking course. Two exceptional Sophomores also earned COMPTIA A+ credentials. All Juniors completed the Linux Essentials course, and five passed the CIW Advanced HTML5 & CSS3 Certification exam. All Seniors completed the Linux Essentials course, as well as the AP Computer Science Principles course in Mobile Computing. Eight of the twelve Seniors then sat for the AP exam, and five earned college credit for the course. Finally, program instructors collaborated throughout the year with instructors at Mount Wachusett Community College, to review and align curriculum to meet college standards. As a result, qualified students graduating from the Monty Tech Information Technology program will now receive college credit for four courses, a total of twelve college credits, at no charge to the student. (Total enrollment: 64; 57 males, 7 female)

Machine Technology: 2016-2017 was an incredible year for the Monty Tech Machine Technology program, as they received the largest competitive grant awarded in the school's history. A very generous \$435,000 Skills Capital Grant was given to Monty Tech, so that the program could purchase updated equipment and instructional materials. The shop is expected to undergo a major renovation, which will allow instructors to replicate a Clean Room environment, training students on precise measurement techniques. In the course of applying for this grant, a unique partnership was developed between Monty Tech, the L.S. Starrett Company, and Snap-On Tools. As a result of this collaboration, Monty Tech is now the only high school in the nation to offer two levels of Starrett/NC3 certification and training. The Monty Tech Machine Technology program also received a \$15,000 Gene Haas Scholarship grant, which enabled district officials to award very generous \$1,000 scholarships to students enrolling in post-secondary engineering programs. Finally, the students and instructors supported a variety of school events and programs, and completed a number of outside projects, that included cutting key tags for the Fitchburg Police Department and a designing and manufacturing a trophy for Narragansett Regional High School, in Templeton. (Total enrollment: 55; 54 males, 1 female)

Masonry: Fifteen Freshmen selected the Masonry program for their high school experience, entering a trade that continues to make significant improvements and impact on the school and communities within the Monty Tech district. During the 2016-2017 school year, Masonry students and instructors completed a walkway at the Winchendon Veterans' Cemetery, replaced concrete steps outside the Dukakis Performing Arts Center, and worked at the Veterinary Science Training Center construction site, where they worked alongside industry experts who poured the floor of the 7,500 sq. ft. facility, poured a concrete pad for the buildings expansive HVAC system, and completed small repair projects to support the construction process. One Junior student qualified for the SkillsUSA national competition, representing the program extremely well in Louisville, KY. A total of six students participated in the Co-op Program, and five Seniors entered the Masonry trade upon graduation. (Total enrollment: 63; 51 males, 12 females)

Plumbing: Nineteen students entered the Plumbing program at Monty Tech during the 2016-2017 school year, and all of them successfully completed the OSHA 10-hour General Training Course. Sophomore students completed the OSHA 10-hour Construction Training, a requirement for participation in any outside building projects of the school's Co-op Program. While the Sophomore class received Viega pex and product review, the Seniors traveled to the Viega training facility in Nashua, NH, where they received Viega MegaPress training and certification. Throughout the year, Juniors and Seniors gained valuable experience on the Veterinary Science Training Center construction site, where they installed the underground drainage, drain waste vent system, learned to read blueprints, use a builder level to read grade and elevations, and install cast iron and copper pipe fittings. Two Seniors were recognized for their outstanding technical skills, receiving scholarships from the Plumbing, Heating and Cooling Contractors Association of Massachusetts and the Central Mass Plumbing & Gas Inspectors Association. A total of fourteen students (eight Seniors and six Juniors) participated in the school's Co-op Program, which was the highest placement rate in program history. Finally, the program benefitted from the installation of new live working stations that include condensing gas boilers and indirect water heaters with solar thermal hot water panels. Having the added technology will allow our students to train on products used in today's construction, preparing them to enter the field of Plumbing upon graduation. (Total enrollment: 73; 68 males, 5 females)

Welding/Metal Fabrication: The shop received a state-of-the-art Miller Inverter Welding Machine and implemented new curriculum for grades 11 & 12 that included light gauge aluminum welding. With an eye toward preparing graduates for entry-level career opportunities, instructors have also integrated lessons in soft skills into the curriculum. Helping students refine job applications, cover letters, resume writing, and interviewing skills will undoubtedly help them as they transition from school into the world of work. In 2016-2017, twelve students (six Seniors and six Juniors) participated in Co-op. In addition, three graduating seniors accepted jobs in the trade after graduation. All Freshmen completed their Career Safe Online OSHA 10-hour General Industry Training. The shop completed more than fifty projects for

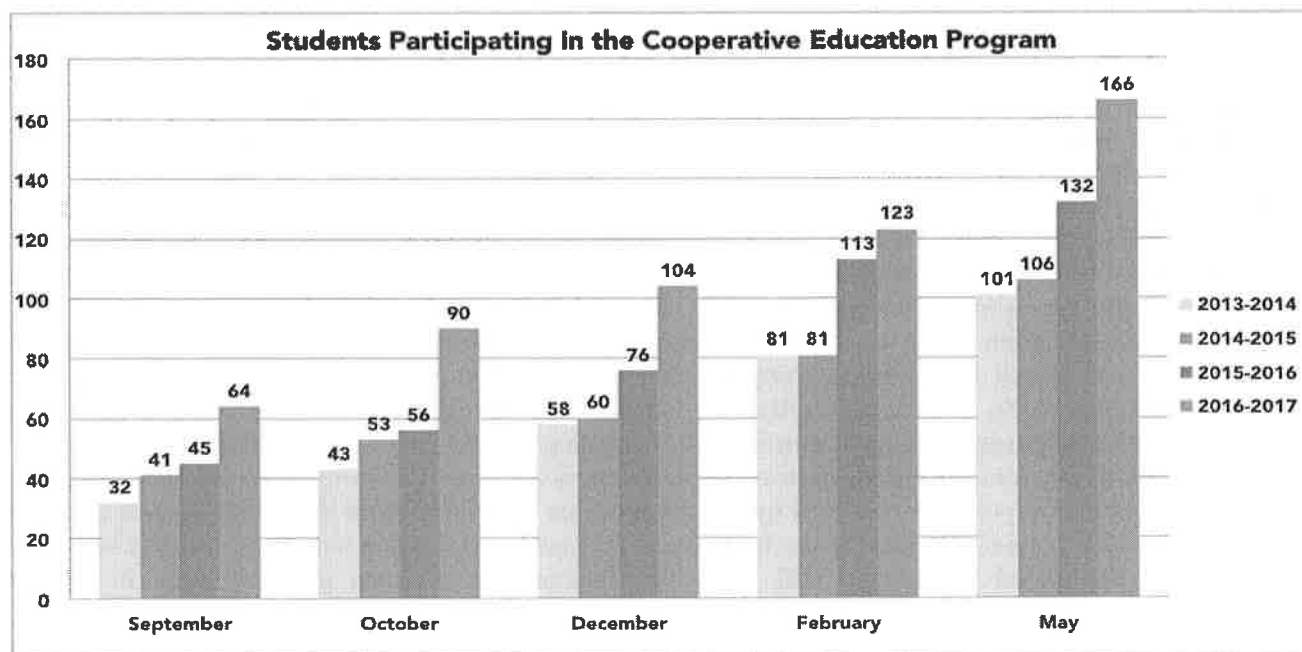
residents of the Monty Tech community and performed numerous projects around the building. (Total enrollment: 62; 46 males, 16 females)

Co-operative Education and Student Placement

The Cooperative Education Program is an extension of the student’s technical education that combines classroom instruction with on-the-job-training. The Co-op Program provides students the opportunity to further develop academic, technical and employability skills in an industry work environment. All students are eligible to participate in Co-op Program, provided they satisfy state and school grade, attendance and performance requirements. All Co-op students have completed the OSHA recognized Career Safe online health and safety course.

The Cooperative Education Program is beneficial for both student and employer. For the student, it is a chance to gain on-the job training that improves both their technical and employability skills. Additionally, making industry connections enhances post-graduate employment opportunities. The Co-op Program allows students to earn while they learn.

Employer benefits include addressing workforce needs in an efficient manner. Coop students provide a pool of temporary and potential full-time employees who are already trained, thus reducing employer training costs. Co-op work hours may be tailored to suit the needs of partnering employers. During school year 2016-2017, a record number of students participated in the cooperative education program. Approximately 37% of the class of 2017 earned Co-op placements, working, learning and applying their technical skills related in area businesses.



Student Support Services

During the 2016-2017 school year, Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District provided special services to approximately three hundred students – measuring progress of over two hundred students on Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and just under one hundred students adhering to individualized Section 504 plans. While the Student Support Services (SSS) Department encompasses special education, the department provides support and is available to all Monty Tech students.

The department includes a full-time nursing staff that administers medications, performs state-mandated health screening exams, and provides, when necessary, health information to the special education team for a student's IEP meeting. The department benefits from a full-time school social worker that participates in departmental meetings and assists students who have needs concerning finances, family issues, homelessness, maternity, health issues, and proper food and clothing. The school is also fortunate to have on staff a full-time psychologist, whose role it is to evaluate all students referred for an initial evaluation or who require a three-year re-evaluation. In addition, we have a full-time speech language pathologist, who is available to assist students with disabilities, assess these students and consult with teachers. Our students also have access to the services of a full-time adjustment counselor and part-time school psychologist. All of these individuals are available for scheduled counseling sessions, mental health emergency treatment, medical/mental health re-entry and transition support and services, as well as crisis intervention.

The school's Director of Student Support Services oversees the District's Special Education Program, which is reviewed annually in May, in accordance with regulatory requirements. The comprehensive review and evaluation are done in collaboration with the Parent Advisory Council, and the results of the evaluation are used to improve the special education procedures and programs in place at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School.

Technology

The 2016-2017 school year began with a successful roll-out of the long-anticipated 1:1 Chromebook initiative. Chromebooks were distributed to 1,436 students. Google Cloud Print was added, making printers available to students and teachers throughout the building. Two Chromebook charging stations were installed in the library and cafeteria allowing students to charge their devices, and students who may have come to school without their devices have been allowed to borrow a Chromebook from the library, on a daily basis.

To support the 1:1 Chromebook initiative and other technology needs, Monty Tech has successfully completed a number of necessary infrastructure upgrades. With federal e-rate dollars totaling \$77,752, the school's external bandwidth speeds were increased to 1.5GB and internal bandwidth was increased by 10GB. In addition to hardware, the school added the following complementary software: Lightspeed web filtering and Aruba ClearPass. Lightspeed web filtering is expected to provide safe, fast access to the Internet and includes flexible policies, social media controls, bandwidth control, malware protection, anonymous proxy detection, mobile filtering, classroom management tools, and comprehensive reporting. Aruba ClearPass will provide strong network access security for monitoring wireless devices, as well as enhanced options for guest access services.

The school also launched a Digital Citizenship course, proving lessons and guidance relating to appropriate online behavior, including cyberbullying, potential risks related to social networking sites and chat rooms. Students at Monty Tech are expected to demonstrate the safe and responsible use of technology and an understanding of security, privacy, and ethics. The district maintains Internet Safety information on the district website in the Parents & Students section.

Marine Corps JROTC

The Monty Tech Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (MCJROTC) had an extraordinary school year. All program objectives for the 2016-2017 school year were achieved. Noteworthy was the performance of JROTC's Cyber Security Team, which for the seventh consecutive year captured national recognition by placing third overall in the Air Force Association's National Cyber Security Competition held in Baltimore, MD.

The 2016-2017 Corps of Cadets completed over nine thousand hours of community service throughout the

district. The Corps conducted a major food drive with United Way, worked side-by-side with the Marine Corps Reserve in a national Toys for Tots campaign, and spent six weekends working with the local Salvation Army helping to raise over \$25,000 for needy families. The cadets conducted their annual 10-mile "March-A-Thon" to support NEADS (National Education of Assistance Dogs Services) from Princeton, MA, raising \$25,000 for their Service Dogs for Veterans program.

Sixty-five Monty Tech cadets attended a leadership camp at Prince William Forest, in Quantico VA. The camp provided cadets with individual and team development opportunities, as well as the opportunity to visit our nation's capital and many other historical sites.

During the summer of 2017, our Cadet Cyber Team was again asked to support a Cyber STEM camp for the National Marine Corps JROTC program. The Cyber Team coordinated the 8-day camp that focused on defending cyber networks from attacks. The camp also offered an introduction to robotics programming using the VEX Robotics System and computer programming using the CanaKit Raspberry Pi 3's. The camp was attended by 150 students, representing eighteen states.

Student Athletics

The Monty Tech athletic program continues to expand in scope and skill each year. In 2016-2017, approximately five hundred students participated in our freshman, junior varsity, and varsity athletic programs. Seventeen teams competed in Fall 2016, fourteen during the winter season, and another eleven teams represented the school in Spring 2017.

The Varsity Football team started off the 2016 season slowly, but caught fire as the season wore on, winning their last three games, including a thrilling 20-12 victory on Thanksgiving eve at Nashoba Valley Facebook Technical High School. They ended the season with a record of 5 – 6. The Varsity Boys Soccer team finished at 8 – 8 – 2, led by leading scorer Charlie Kelley, who has 30 points on the season, and the JV Boys Soccer team finished their season with a record of 14 – 3 – 2. The Varsity Girls Soccer team just missed qualifying for a post-season berth, finishing with a 7 – 9 – 2 record, while the JV Girls Soccer team was 9 – 2 – 5. The Varsity Field Hockey team was 12 – 2 – 5, qualifying for the district tournament where they lost to Bromfield, 1 – 0, in an exciting game. The Boys Cross Country team finished with a record of 5 – 6 and the Girls completed their season at an even 4 – 4. The school's volleyball program is growing in popularity, and all teams represented Monty Tech well. The Varsity Girls Volleyball team finished at 13 – 7, the JV Girls Volleyball ended with a record of 7 – 10, and the Freshmen Girls team completed their season with a record of 9 – 11. Coach Farr reported that the school's Varsity Golf team can be expected to achieve more success in the coming years, as the 2016-2017 team was young but talented, finishing the Fall 2016 season with a record of 6 – 9.

The Boys Varsity Basketball team qualified for the Districts with a 10 – 10 record, but a loss to Assabet in the first round ended their season. The JV Boys basketball team was finished their building year with a record of 3 -13 and the Freshmen ended on a 2 – 12 note. With a record of 10 – 10, the Varsity Girls Basketball team advanced to the District tournament and performed quite well, out scoring Notre Dame in the first round before losing to Douglas in a closely played second-round game. The JV Girls Basketball team finished an impressive season with a 10 – 4 record, while the Freshmen ended with 5 – 9. The Co-op Boys Ice Hockey team finished at 8 – 10 – 2, just missing out on a post season berth. The Indoor Track and Field team competed at the Northbridge Field House and the boys were 4 – 3 and the girls 0 – 7. The Co-op wrestling team continues to improve, finishing 2nd place in the Colonial Athletic League with a record of 9 – 9. Monty Tech students also had a chance to participate on Co-op Swimming and Girls Ice Hockey Teams, as we were unable to field these teams independently. The Girls Ice Hockey team had an impressive start to the program, by qualifying for the District tournament.

The Varsity Baseball team had a very successful season, despite not playing any games at Monty Tech. They finished the season with a 14 – 7 record, winning the Colonial Athletic League small school Championship for the 2nd straight year. The JV Baseball team finished 10 – 4, while the Freshmen team continued to provide build skills and talent for the program’s future. The Varsity Softball team had a great regular season as they finished at 17 – 3. The team lost to Blackstone Valley Tech 15 – 14 in the Semi-Finals of the State Vocational Tournament and lost to Quaboag with a score of 4 – 0 in the first round of the District tournament. The JV Softball team, comprised primarily of freshmen also had an excellent season, finishing with a record of 12 – 3. The Boys and Girls Track and Field teams, with almost fifty students participating, both finished their seasons with 6 - 4 records. The Varsity Boys Lacrosse team had their best season ever as they finished with a record of 14 – 6 in the regular season, losing to Blackstone Valley Tech 14 – 12 in the semi-final round of the State Vocational Tournament. The team then outscored Blackstone Valley 12 – 8 in the first round of the MIAA tournament, only to lose to Grafton in the next round. The JV Boys Lacrosse team finished their building year with a record of 6 – 10. The Girls Lacrosse team became the host team in a Co -Op with Sizer School and continued to improve as they finished 3 – 16, but 3rd place in the Colonial Athletic League. The Varsity Boys Volleyball team was 13 – 7, qualifying for the MIAA tournament, but losing to Worcester Technical High School in the first round.

Congratulations to the Outstanding Male and Female athletes for 2016-2017, Travis Hull and Madison Russo. Dave Reid, Monty Tech’s long-time Athletic Director, completed his 44th year as Varsity Softball coach, and was selected as the Section 1 Varsity Softball Coach of the Year. His overall record of 626 – 315 – 1 speaks to his tremendous contributions to the sport and sets him apart from other coaches in Section 1, which includes all of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey and New York.

Monty Tech School of Continuing Education

The Monty Tech School of Continuing Education continues to update and add courses that emphasize a commitment to excellence by offering affordable, quality, and enjoyable educational experiences. For the Fall of 2016, Monty Tech offered 65 classes with 580 registrations, and during the Spring 2017 semester, there were 79 postgraduate and continuing studies courses, with 857 registrations.

The program is on track to expand the number of workforce readiness classes that provide our students with industry-recognized credentials, increasing our small business partnerships, and the number and quality of personal enrichment classes - sewing, knitting, acrylic painting and sculpting, to name a few. Catalog distribution has almost doubled, from 80,000 to 155,000 copies, and the relatively new online registration feature continues to add value to our students and instructors.

Spring 2018 will see the program’s first Cosmetology courses come to fruition. This will provide our community members with a high-quality, affordable entry into a viable career pathway. Upon completion of the 14-month program, students will have the opportunity to sit for the cosmetology licensing exam, and begin their work in the exciting cosmetology industry.

The continued success and sustainability of an adult education program is based on hiring quality instructors and meeting the needs of the community. Our goal in the coming year includes increasing our adult education course offerings, with a concentration on career programs. Stay tuned for Pharmacy Technician, Welding Certification Prep, Auto Damage Appraiser and Apprenticeship opportunities at the Monty Tech School of Continuing Education.

Practical Nursing Program

The Practical Nursing Program is designed to prepare graduates to practice safely, ethically and in a caring manner for patients who are experiencing common variations in health status in diverse health care settings. This mission, which is consistent with the philosophy and goals of the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District, accomplishes the following:

- Identifies a strong relationship between academic and vocational preparation
- Stresses the importance of developing critical thinking skills to function safely, effectively, and productively in an ever-changing technical and diverse society
- Supports the maintenance of a positive and caring learning and practice environment

The above mission and philosophy were met by the Practical Nursing program by several different methods.

On June 29, 2017, a graduating class of 38 students completed the Practical Nursing Program and entered the nursing profession. The class achieved an initial NCLEX pass rate of 76%, with 28 of the 38 graduates achieving 100% pass rate for the NCLEX-PN exam. Seven graduates are waiting to retake their NCLEX-PN exam, and two graduates have already taken the exam again, and passed. 78% of the 2017 graduates are currently employed in the health care profession throughout Massachusetts, and many are working within the eighteen cities and towns of the Monty Tech school district as LPNs in various health care settings, ranging from long term care, sub-acute care to mental health facilities.

The Monty Tech Practical Nursing Program continues to develop the “LPN to BSN Bridge” relationship with Fitchburg State University. Several 2017 graduates are pursuing seats in the LPN to BSN program at FSU and will be continuing their education to the Bachelors in Nursing. Many class applicants cited their attraction to Monty Tech as the opportunity to complete a ten-month accelerated program and then bridge to Fitchburg State University.

Monty Tech Practical Nursing students are now completing patient scenarios in the Sim Lab on a weekly basis in Terms 2 and 3. The Faculty Sim team has implemented National League of Nursing (NLN) patient scenarios consistent with our curriculum frameworks, and have also utilized the Sim lab setting to instruct students in developing nursing skills that they may not be experiencing in the clinical setting. Instructors have successfully developed a pediatric patient scenario that is consistent with present student learning outcomes and the clinical pediatric setting. Similarly, instructors have implemented a scenario that deals with a mental health addiction client, so that our students are better prepared for the clinical experience at partnering institution AdCare Hospital in Worcester, MA.

The class of 2017 performed a community service project adopting a Monty Tech family in need referred by Student Support Services. The nursing students purchased holiday gifts and food, consistent with the family’s needs and requests.

The Practical Nursing Program Faculty spent the summer of 2017 reviewing the revised 2017 NCLEX-PN Detailed Test Plan, and the program’s student outcomes, to assure alignment and compliance with our curriculum frameworks and content. The annual review process is an important component of the program, ensuring the Monty Tech Practical Nursing Program presents students with rigorous content, aligned with industry standards, so that our graduates are prepared to succeed not only on the licensing exam, but also in their chosen nursing career pathway.

With an eye toward the program’s future, fifty-one applicants were accepted to the Class of 2018, and forty students enrolled and will continue in the tradition of high-quality practical nursing preparation.

Looking Ahead

While the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District educational community is certainly proud of the achievements of our talented students, faculty, and staff, we continue to have an eye toward the future, always committed to improving our vocational and academic programming, strengthening key partnerships, and maintaining facilities that contribute to student success and achievement. As we look ahead, there are a number of programs and initiatives that we expect will have a positive impact on our school and students for years to come.

Expand science offerings to include new biomedical courses: In 2016-2017 the school received a \$99,000 grant from the Massachusetts Life Science Center, which allowed us to purchase new instructional materials and equipment, provide the required, high quality professional development needed to teach new coursework, and renovate an existing science laboratory to replicate biomedical industry standards. Dylan Hager, a longtime science instructor at Monty Tech traveled to University of San Diego July of 2017, and will return July of 2018, to complete training in two Project Lead the Way courses, Principles of Biomedical Science and Human Body Systems. These courses, which will be available to students Fall 2018, are expected to engage students in a variety of hands-on learning opportunities in a newly renovated laboratory environment that replicates industry standards. Students will be trained in the safe and effective use of the same tools that professionals in hospitals and laboratories are currently using and will work together to find solutions to real-world problems by analyzing medical histories, reading and interpreting autopsy reports, and understanding basic biology and human physiology.

Expand vocational-technical programs to include new, Chapter 74-approved, Veterinary Science program: While construction and fundraising efforts for the school's new program have been underway for almost two years, to effectively bring a new program to a Massachusetts vocational-technical school, a comprehensive application and supporting documents must be accepted by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. During the 2017-2018 school year, school officials will complete the application, finalize all requirements outlined in the application, and anticipate being granted approval for the new secondary-level program titled Animal Science. This approval is given pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 74 and the Vocational Technical Education Regulations 603 CMR 4.00, and will enable all interested Freshman to explore the new program. A Freshman class (class size of twenty-two students) will be accepted into the program January 2018.

Expand post-secondary and continuing education opportunities: As you know, Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School is home to a very popular evening program that includes a postsecondary Practical Nursing program, Plumbing and Electrical apprenticeship programs, and continuing education courses that range from healthcare to advanced manufacturing to cake decorating. While we are proud of our current evening programs, our goal for the 2017-2018 school year is to expand programs to include an entirely electronic registration and payment process, an updated web presence, increased enrollment, and a minimum of three new workforce development programs that result in an industry recognized credential or certification. Catalogs highlighting each new course will be mailed to more than 180,000 households bi-annually, in August and January.

Redesign the school's website and expand marketing efforts: A Monty Tech high school experience is an educational pathway students must choose, and to ensure that every interested student in our sending district has access to information needed to make sound decisions regarding his/her high school experience, it is imperative that the school's marketing efforts are expanded to include a newly designed website, with descriptions of each vocational shop, academic programs, and admissions criteria. In addition, expanding our marketing efforts to include a social media presence that is current, and engaging is a top priority. During the 2017-2018 school year, school officials anticipate launching a new school website, adding updated content to our Facebook page on a regular basis, and launching a school/district Twitter account.

The Monty Tech School Committee

The Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District Committee is comprised of twenty-two dedicated individuals, whose expertise proves invaluable in advising the district's operations, policies, and procedures. Our students continue to benefit from the broad scope of their experiences and varying perspectives, and we are thankful to the following members of the 2016-2017 School Committee for their outstanding service.

Barbara Reynolds, Lunenburg
Chair

Brian J. Walker, Fitchburg
Vice Chair

Diane Swenson, Ashburnham
Peter Capone, Ashby
Toni L. Phillips, Athol
Whitney Marshall, Barre
Claudia Holbert, Fitchburg
Dr. Ronald Tourigny, Fitchburg
Melanie Weeks, Fitchburg
Eric D. Commodore, Gardner
James S. Boone, Gardner
Vacant Seat, Harvard
James Cournoyer, Holden
Kathleen Airoidi, Hubbardston
Edward Simms, Petersham
Eric Olson, Phillipston
John P. Mollica, Princeton
Mary C. Barclay, Royalston
Dr. Kenneth I.H. Williams, Sterling
James M. Gilbert, Templeton
Ross Barber, Westminster
Burton E. Gould, Jr./ Austin Cyganiewicz, Winchendon

Terri Hillman, Gardner
Secretary

Norman J. LeBlanc
District Treasurer

**MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BALANCE SHEET
JUNE 30, 2017**

ASSETS	GENERAL	SPECIAL REVENUE		STABILIZATION FUND	TRUST AND AGENCY FUNDS		FIDUCIARY PRIVATE PURPOSE TRUST (Scholarships)	TOTAL FUNDS	LONG-TERM DEBT	CAPITAL LEASE
		SCHOOL CHOICE	NON MAJOR FUNDS		INTERNAL SERVICE FUND (Health Trust)	FIDUCIARY STUDENT ACTIVITIES				
Cash and short-term	3,907,065	782,580	354,503	105,228	3,787,398	156,745	57,955	9,151,473		
Intergovernmental Receivables			860,988					860,988		
Department and Other Receivables			10,711					10,711		
TOTAL ASSETS	3,907,065	782,580	1,226,202	105,228	3,787,398	156,745	57,955	10,023,172		
LIABILITIES									3,315,000	7,381,182
Liabilities										
Accounts Payable	360,337		122,616					487,027		
Warrants Payable	1,177,379		50,703			4,074		1,228,082		
Accrued Payroll and Withholdings										
TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,537,716		173,319			4,074		1,715,109		
Deferred Inflows of Resources										
FUND BALANCE										
RESTRICTED										
ASSIGNED	975,619	782,580	1,039,227	105,228	3,787,398	152,671	57,955	5,925,058		
UNASSIGNED	1,393,730		(42,499)					975,619		
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	2,369,349	782,580	996,728	105,228	3,787,398	152,671	57,955	8,251,908		
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	3,907,065	782,580	1,226,202	105,228	3,787,398	156,745	57,955	10,023,172	3,315,000	7,381,182

FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET SUMMARY

	APPROVED <i>FY'2017</i>	FINAL APPROVED <i>FY'2018</i>	<i>DIFF</i>
Net School Spending	22,997,641	23,339,672	342,031
Transportation & Above NSS	1,837,158	2,029,745	192,587
Capital Budget ~ Equipment	290,000	290,000	0
Vehicles	45,000	35,000	(10,000)
BONDS (Principal & Interest)	1,204,669	1,201,263	(3,406)
Total Budget	\$26,374,468	\$26,895,680	\$521,212
Less Revenues: Estimated Ch. 70	13,920,325	14,144,811	224,486
(1) <u>FY 18 REQUIRED MINIMUM CONTRIBUTION</u>	\$9,077,316	\$9,194,861	\$117,545
<u>Transportation & Other Operating Budget</u>	\$1,837,158	\$2,029,745	\$192,587
Less: Estimated Transportation Aid	1,090,000	1,232,580	142,580
Excess & Deficiency	0	118,500	118,500
(2) <u>NET TRANSPORTATION & OTHER OPERATING</u>	\$747,158	\$678,665	(\$68,493)
<u>Capital Budget ~ (Equipment & Vehicles)</u>	\$335,000	\$325,000	(\$10,000)
Less: Excess & Deficiency	295,000	137,500	(157,500)
(3) <u>NET CAPITAL ASSESSMENT</u>	\$40,000	\$187,500	\$147,500
<u>BONDS</u>	\$1,204,669	\$1,201,263	(\$3,406)
Less: School Building Authority Aid	948,213	948,213	0
(4) <u>NET BONDS</u>	\$256,456	\$253,050	(\$3,406)
TOTAL ASSESSMENT (All Budgets)	\$10,120,930	\$10,314,076	\$193,146

General Fund- Income and Expense Summary

General Fund Income	<i>Received 13-14</i>	<i>Received 14-15</i>	<i>Received 15-16</i>	<i>Received 16-17</i>	<i>Proposed 17-18</i>	<i>Change (Decrease)</i>	<i>% Change</i>
State Aid							
Chapter 70	13,764,000	13,800,675	13,837,825	13,920,325	14,144,811	224,486	1.61%
Transportation Reimbursement	815,343	1,065,340	1,197,975	1,331,125	1,232,580	(98,545)	-7.40%
School Building Authority Aid	948,213	948,213	948,213	948,213	948,213	0	0.00%
Local Receipts							
Community Assessments	8,682,724	9,441,464	10,039,328	10,120,930	10,314,076	193,146	1.91%
Interest Income	11,541	10,696	18,220	39,725	0	(39,725)	0.00%
Miscellaneous Receipts	629,815	121,214	59,196	145,590	0	(145,590)	0.00%
Appropriation from E&D	350,000	480,000	500,000	295,000	256,000	(39,000)	-13.22%
Fund Transfers	250,000	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
Total General Fund Income	\$25,451,635	\$25,867,602	\$26,600,757	\$26,800,908	\$26,895,680	\$94,772	0.35%

General O&M Expenses	<i>Expended 13-14</i>	<i>Expended 14-15</i>	<i>Expended 15-16</i>	<i>Expended 16-17</i>	<i>Proposed 17-18</i>	<i>Change (Decrease)</i>	<i>% Change</i>
District Leadership	964,228	978,813	899,065	900,557	943,661	43,104	4.79%
Instruction	12,673,632	13,000,254	13,650,061	13,588,046	13,763,204	175,158	1.29%
Student Services	2,424,489	2,669,694	2,724,344	2,810,455	2,896,228	85,773	3.05%
Operations & Maintenance	2,897,024	3,144,022	3,142,047	3,183,704	3,106,815	(76,889)	-2.42%
Fixed Charges	4,055,703	4,041,062	3,948,530	3,976,770	4,341,409	364,639	9.17%
Fixed Assets	315,000	223,688	293,050	357,679	325,000	(32,679)	-9.14%
Tuition	242,000	280,442	363,088	343,079	318,100	(24,979)	-7.28%
Total Expenses	\$23,572,076	\$24,337,975	\$25,020,185	\$25,160,290	\$25,694,417	\$534,127	2.12%

Debt Service	<i>Expended 13-14</i>	<i>Expended 14-15</i>	<i>Expended 15-16</i>	<i>Expended 16-17</i>	<i>Proposed 17-18</i>	<i>Change (Decrease)</i>	<i>% Change</i>
Principal	923,000	957,000	994,000	1,030,000	1,068,000	38,000	3.69%
Interest	290,204	253,099	214,628	174,669	133,263	(41,406)	-23.71%
Total Expense	\$1,213,204	\$1,210,099	\$1,208,628	\$1,204,669	\$1,201,263	(\$3,406)	-0.28%
Total General Fund Expenses	\$24,785,280	\$25,548,074	\$26,228,813	\$26,364,958	\$26,895,680	\$530,722	2.01%

	<i>13-14</i>	<i>14-15</i>	<i>15-16</i>	<i>16-17</i>	<i>17-18</i>	<i>Change (Decrease)</i>	<i>Change (Decrease)</i>
Foundation Enrollment	1,453	1,467	1,486	1,500	1,496	(4)	-0.27%

SUMMARY BY FUNCTION CODE

2014 -2018

Function Code	Function Description	FY 14 Actual Expenditures	FY 15 Actual Expenditures	FY16 Actual Expenditures	FY17 Actual Expenditures	FY18 Proposed Budget	Increase/ Decrease FY 17 to FY 18	Percentage Incr/Decr FY17 to FY18
1100	School Committee	50,807	64,257	49,609	46,347	48,708	2,361	5.09%
1200	Superintendent's Office	241,484	306,758	227,052	225,577	313,205	87,628	38.85%
1400	Finance and Legal	562,475	535,256	507,984	510,697	480,966	(29,731)	-5.82%
1450	District Technology	138,409	72,543	114,420	117,936	100,782	(17,154)	-14.55%
	FUNCTION 1000 DISTRICT LEADERSHIP	993,175	978,813	899,065	900,557	943,661	43,104	4.79%
2100	Curriculum Supervision	941,755	939,668	848,371	901,120	960,606	59,486	6.60%
2200	Principal's Office	408,374	414,926	547,659	530,293	426,018	(104,275)	-19.66%
2250	Building Technology	352,187	392,725	391,540	270,624	268,201	(2,423)	-0.90%
2300	Teaching Services	8,246,589	8,716,852	9,017,173	9,305,704	9,383,997	78,293	0.84%
2320	Medical/Therapeutic Services	-	-	-	-	5,500	5,500	100.00%
2350	Professional Development	244,852	203,931	145,778	187,387	195,106	7,719	4.12%
2400	Textbooks and Instructional Materials	1,245,672	873,032	991,303	961,161	927,679	(33,482)	-3.48%
2450	Instructional Technology	144,214	133,514	329,423	100,818	272,840	172,022	170.63%
2700	Student Services	1,118,686	1,238,782	1,274,635	1,225,015	1,203,651	(21,364)	-1.74%
2800	Psychological Services	99,001	86,824	104,180	105,924	119,606	13,682	12.92%
	FUNCTION 2000 INSTRUCTION	12,801,330	13,000,254	13,650,061	13,588,046	13,763,204	175,158	1.29%
3200	Health Services	173,895	185,231	203,933	211,489	214,966	3,477	1.64%
3300	Student Transportation	1,530,231	1,800,038	1,865,983	1,895,421	1,988,366	92,945	4.90%
3510	Athletic Services	346,971	368,388	356,976	401,680	368,202	(33,478)	-8.33%
3520	Student Activities	179,451	199,291	180,213	178,030	196,572	18,542	10.42%
3600	Security	118,265	116,747	117,240	123,835	128,123	4,288	3.46%
	FUNCTION 3000 STUDENT SERVICES	2,348,813	2,669,694	2,724,344	2,810,455	2,896,228	85,773	3.05%
4110	Custodial Services	651,101	664,141	702,301	677,150	716,286	39,136	5.78%
4120	Heating of Building	928,762	153,171	160,111	163,800	170,000	6,200	3.79%
4130	Utilities	490,949	1,357,492	1,305,005	1,324,443	1,328,650	4,207	0.32%
4210	Maintenance of Grounds	49,456	46,683	68,659	73,909	47,000	(26,909)	-36.41%
4220	Maintenance of Buildings	455,929	479,355	358,264	310,105	315,112	5,007	1.61%
4230	Maintenance of Equipment	242,332	267,880	301,639	346,845	281,500	(65,345)	-18.84%
4300	Extraordinary Maintenance	-	18,975	134,470	-	110,000	110,000	100.00%
4400	Networking & Telecomm	49,664	18,629	8,634	115,893	28,000	(87,893)	-75.84%
4450	Technology Maintenance	104,599	137,697	102,964	171,558	110,267	(61,291)	-35.73%
	FUNCTION 4000 OPERATIONS & MAINT	2,972,793	3,144,022	3,142,047	3,183,703	3,106,815	(76,888)	-2.42%
5100	Employee Retirement	226,728	243,961	259,179	251,603	271,503	19,900	7.91%
5200	Employee Benefits	2,741,888	2,835,254	2,569,570	2,582,866	2,849,090	266,224	10.31%
5250	Retired Employee Benefits	859,100	821,348	989,651	1,004,045	1,068,842	64,797	6.45%
5260	Other Non-Employee Insurance	98,564	121,872	122,882	117,565	126,000	8,435	7.17%
5500	Fixed Charges	14,394	18,627	27,248	20,691	25,974	5,283	25.53%
	FUNCTION 5000 FIXED CHARGES	3,940,674	4,041,062	3,948,530	3,976,770	4,341,409	364,639	9.17%
7000	Acquisition of Fixed Assets	300,000	223,688	293,050	357,679	325,000	(32,679)	-9.14%
	FUNCTION 7000 FIXED ASSETS	300,000	198,688	293,050	357,679	325,000	(32,679)	-9.14%
8100	Long Term Debt - Principal	923,000	957,000	994,000	1,030,000	1,068,000	38,000	3.69%
8200	Long Term Debt - Interest	290,204	253,099	214,628	174,669	133,263	(41,406)	-23.71%
	FUNCTION 8000 DEBT RETIREMENT	1,213,204	1,210,099	1,208,628	1,204,669	1,201,263	(3,406)	-0.28%
9000	Tuition to other districts	215,251	280,442	363,088	343,079	318,100	(24,979)	-7.28%
	FUNCTION 9000 TUITION	215,251	280,442	363,088	343,079	318,100	(24,979)	-7.28%
Total		\$ 24,785,240	\$ 25,548,074	\$ 26,228,813	\$ 26,364,958	\$ 26,895,680	\$ 530,722	2.01%

[Return to Index](#)

832 Montachusett

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Office of School Finance
FY18 Chapter 70
Regional District Enrollment and Contributions by Member City or Town

832 Montachusett

LEA Member	District Foundation Enrollment				District Re
	FY17	FY18	Change	Pct of Town Enrollment	Con
District Total	1,500	1,496	-4		9,077,316
11 ASHBURNHAM	58	58	0	5.2%	400,340
12 ASHBY	37	34	-3	7.9%	309,297
15 ATHOL	85	86	1	5.1%	191,478
21 BARRE	37	42	5	5.2%	225,548
97 FITCHBURG	418	398	-20	6.5%	1,687,870
103 GARDNER	153	163	10	6.1%	718,012
125 HARVARD	6	7	1	0.7%	77,729
134 HOLDEN	65	73	8	2.3%	597,966
140 HUBBARDSTON	71	75	4	12.1%	567,184
162 LUNENBURG	91	92	1	5.1%	824,401
234 PETERSHAM	4	2	-2	1.6%	50,068
235 PHILLIPSTON	19	26	7	10.6%	155,159
241 PRINCETON	23	20	-3	4.4%	293,310
255 ROYALSTON	19	15	-4	10.5%	87,950
282 STERLING	65	68	3	5.7%	736,936
294 TEMPLETON	112	97	-15	8.2%	640,362
328 WESTMINSTER	82	74	-8	6.0%	738,093
343 WINCHENDON	155	165	10	10.7%	775,613

STUDENT ENROLLMENT AND SCHOOL ATTENDING CHILDREN COMPARISONS

FOUNDATION ENROLLMENT

SCHOOL ATTENDING CHILDREN (GR. 1-12)

(Basis for Operational Apportionment)

(Basis for Capital Apportionment)

<u>COMMUNITIES</u>	<u>10-01-15**</u>	<u>10-01-16**</u>	<u>DIFF</u>	<u>10-01-15**</u>	<u>10-01-16**</u>	<u>DIFF</u>
ASHBURNHAM	58	58	0	1,066	1,036	(30)
ASHBY	37	34	(3)	464	443	(21)
ATHOL	85	86	1	1,570	1,504	(66)
BARRE	37	42	5	826	816	(10)
FITCHBURG	418	398	(20)	5,966	6,156	190
GARDNER	153	163	10	2,619	2,581	(38)
HARVARD	6	8	2	1,033	1,011	(22)
HOLDEN	65	73	8	3,117	3,059	(58)
HUBBARDSTON	71	75	4	628	629	1
LUNENBURG	91	92	1	1,704	1,645	(59)
PETERSHAM	4	2	(2)	124	107	(17)
PHILLIPSTON	19	26	7	213	203	(10)
PRINCETON	23	20	(3)	486	556	70
ROYALSTON	19	15	(4)	126	137	11
STERLING	65	68	3	1,205	1,194	(11)
TEMPLETON	112	97	(15)	1,049	964	(85)
WESTMINSTER	82	74	(8)	1,172	1,178	6
WINCHENDON	155	165	10	1,518	1,492	(26)
TOTAL IN DISTRICT	1,500	1,496	(4)	24,886	24,711	(175)
TOTAL OUT-OF-DISTRIC	20	13	(7)			
TOTAL ENROLLMENT	1,520	1,509	(11)			

* Enrollment figures used for 2016-2017 Assessment

** Enrollment figures used for 2017-2018 Assessment

DETERMINATION OF ASSESSMENT RATIOS

Each Community's assessment is made up of four parts:

- ~ Required Minimum Contribution (set by the State)
- ~ Transportation & Other Operating Expenses above Minimum Net School Spending
- ~ Capital Outlay
- ~ Bonds (assessed based upon the Capital apportionment)

TRANSPORTATION & OTHER OPERATING BUDGET - (determined by each Communities enrollment, October 1, 2017)

Formula: The number of students from each member community enrolled at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School divided by total Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School Day school enrollment of member communities on October 1, 2017 equals the operating ratio.

Example: Fitchburg students enrolled at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School on October 1, 2017 = 398.
Total Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School enrollment of 18 member communities on October 1, 2014 = 1,496.
Therefore, ratio is 398 divided by 1,496.

$$\frac{398}{1496} = 0.2660 = 26.60\%$$

CAPITAL BUDGET - (determined by each Communities school attending children, grades 1 - 12, October 1, 2017)

Formula: The number of students from each member community enrolled in Grades 1 through 12 divided by the total number of students enrolled in Grades 1 through 12 of 18 member communities equals the capital assessment ratio.

Example: Holden students enrolled grades 1 through 12 on October 1, 2017 = 2,672.
Total enrollment of 18 member communities in Grades 1 through 12 on October 1, 2014 = 24,147.
Therefore, ratio is 2,672 divided by 24,147.

$$\frac{3059}{24711} = 0.1238 = 12.38\%$$

ASSESSMENT RATIO PERCENTAGES

TRANSPORTATION & OTHER OPERATING PERCENTAGES

CAPITAL PERCENTAGES *

<u>COMMUNITIES</u>	<u>10/1/2015</u>	<u>10/1/2016</u>	<u>INC/DEC</u>	<u>10/1/2015</u>	<u>10/1/2016</u>	<u>INC/DEC</u>
	<u>(2016-2017)</u>	<u>(2017-2018)</u>		<u>(2016-2017)</u>	<u>(2017-2018)</u>	
Ashburnham	3.87%	3.88%	0.01%	4.28%	4.19%	-0.09%
Ashby	2.47%	2.27%	-0.20%	1.86%	1.79%	-0.07%
Athol	5.67%	5.75%	0.08%	6.31%	6.09%	-0.22%
Barre	2.47%	2.81%	0.34%	3.32%	3.30%	-0.02%
Fitchburg	27.86%	26.60%	-1.26%	23.97%	24.91%	0.94%
Gardner	10.19%	10.90%	0.71%	10.52%	10.44%	-0.08%
Harvard	0.40%	0.53%	0.13%	4.15%	4.09%	-0.06%
Holden	4.33%	4.88%	0.55%	12.53%	12.38%	-0.15%
Hubbardston	4.73%	5.01%	0.28%	2.52%	2.55%	0.03%
Lunenburg	6.07%	6.15%	0.08%	6.85%	6.66%	-0.19%
Petersham	0.27%	0.13%	-0.14%	0.50%	0.43%	-0.07%
Phillipston	1.27%	1.74%	0.47%	0.86%	0.82%	-0.04%
Princeton	1.53%	1.34%	-0.19%	1.95%	2.25%	0.30%
Royalston	1.27%	1.00%	-0.27%	0.51%	0.55%	0.04%
Sterling	4.33%	4.55%	0.22%	4.85%	4.83%	-0.02%
Templeton	7.47%	6.48%	-0.99%	4.22%	3.90%	-0.32%
Westminster	5.47%	4.95%	-0.52%	4.71%	4.77%	0.06%
Winchendon	10.33%	11.03%	0.70%	6.10%	6.04%	-0.06%
TOTALS	100.00%	100.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	0.00%

* Capital Percentages are used for Bonds and Capital cost.

COMMUNITY ASSESSMENTS

		FISCAL YEAR 2018							
		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)				
		REQUIRED	TRANSPORT/	CAPITAL		APPROVED	APPROVED	CHANGE	
FOUNDATION	FOUNDATION	MINIMUM	OPERATING	ASSESS.	ASSESS.	BONDS	ASSESSMENT	ASSESSMENT	CHANGE
COMMUNITIES	ENROLLMENT	BUDGET	CONTRIBUTION	ASSESS.	ASSESS.	BONDS	FY'2018	FY2017	FY'17 ~ FY'18
Ashburnham	58	905,486	405,012	26,312	7,861	10,609	449,794	441,942	7,852
Ashby	34	530,802	284,043	15,424	3,361	4,536	307,365	333,265	(25,900)
Athol	86	1,342,617	205,422	39,014	11,412	15,402	271,250	252,544	18,706
Barre	42	655,696	272,523	19,053	6,192	8,356	306,124	253,847	52,277
Fitchburg	398	6,213,505	1,584,617	180,554	46,710	63,040	1,874,921	1,967,086	(92,165)
Gardner	163	2,544,727	789,385	73,945	19,584	26,430	909,345	825,333	84,012
Harvard	8	109,283	90,800	3,629	7,671	10,353	112,453	93,020	19,433
Holden	73	1,139,663	672,614	33,117	23,211	31,325	760,267	667,463	92,804
Hubbardston	75	1,170,887	619,789	34,024	4,773	6,441	665,027	609,993	55,034
Lunenburg	92	1,436,287	805,318	41,736	12,482	16,845	876,381	890,058	(13,677)
Petersham	2	31,224	24,978	907	812	1,096	27,793	53,567	(25,774)
Phillipston	26	405,907	198,067	11,795	1,540	2,079	213,481	167,196	46,285
Princeton	20	312,236	258,749	9,073	4,219	5,694	277,734	310,521	(32,787)
Royalston	15	234,177	77,394	6,805	1,040	1,403	86,641	98,950	(12,309)
Sterling	68	1,061,604	801,647	30,848	9,060	12,227	853,782	783,665	70,117
Templeton	97	1,514,347	573,987	44,004	7,315	9,872	635,178	708,682	(73,504)
Westminster	74	1,155,275	691,005	33,570	8,938	12,063	745,577	792,925	(47,348)
Winchendon	165	2,575,950	839,511	74,853	11,321	15,279	940,963	870,874	70,089
Total	1496	23,339,672	9,194,861	678,665	187,500	253,050	10,314,076	10,120,930	193,146

ASSESSMENT HISTORY

1998-2017

SCHOOL YEAR	ASHBY	BORRE	FITCHBURG	GARMON	HARTFORD	MERRIMACK	LINDSEY	ROYALSTON	STERLING	WINDHOLM	ASHMUNHAM	ATHOL	PETERBOROUGH	PHILIPSTON	PRINCETON	TEMPLETON	WESTMINSTER	HOLDEN	TOTAL	% CHANGE
2017-2018	307,365	306,124	1,874,921	909,345	112,453	845,027	876,381	86,641	853,782	840,863	449,794	271,260	27,793	213,481	277,734	835,178	745,577	760,287	10,314,076	1.81%
2016-2017	333,265	253,847	1,967,086	825,333	93,020	606,893	880,058	98,850	783,865	870,874	441,942	252,544	53,567	187,108	310,521	708,882	792,925	667,463	10,120,830	0.81%
2015-2016	358,051	268,843	1,974,155	831,444	121,504	513,838	789,478	114,157	785,868	872,421	482,389	262,014	64,094	171,888	286,384	811,488	773,556	777,978	10,039,328	6.33%
2014-2015	389,951	301,887	1,742,888	818,815	98,949	471,062	760,058	115,473	677,868	779,975	442,182	237,738	56,508	182,534	289,698	582,502	754,280	739,215	9,441,464	8.74%
2013-2014	327,562	281,949	1,746,284	814,778	75,089	418,737	708,561	103,562	648,238	868,218	444,495	262,246	86,881	135,757	181,770	601,056	602,804	578,847	8,682,724	7.68%
2012-2013	318,059	282,502	1,858,810	868,080	78,807	350,635	680,808	73,917	586,478	558,784	380,864	222,442	78,170	137,227	201,079	530,714	528,202	543,688	8,063,263	8.89%
2011-2012	316,895	222,813	1,593,589	786,225	78,202	309,380	628,573	67,452	564,643	518,250	329,892	219,794	52,367	149,003	185,190	477,138	460,263	465,097	7,404,785	1.37%
2010-2011	289,032	237,668	1,880,910	890,540	87,382	287,584	833,124	55,301	538,144	523,310	331,566	253,784	57,954	115,453	212,129	418,760	434,778	476,564	7,304,881	0.62%
2009-2010	317,744	223,362	1,888,432	888,754	85,117	259,388	837,877	51,116	483,214	598,133	327,607	248,829	41,901	125,753	209,886	330,682	429,081	568,881	7,260,073	-1.32%
2008-2009	308,178	165,655	1,871,885	874,258	75,080	257,453	565,210	56,489	585,414	713,289	387,778	189,875	32,798	108,182	211,475	278,545	440,878	454,175	7,357,381	3.64%
2007-2008	270,524	187,198	1,784,284	598,963	66,443	186,799	638,471	53,493	603,589	688,201	377,281	148,626	24,568	89,834	180,953	262,304	463,911	488,275	7,089,305	4.92%
2006-2007	308,649	135,242	1,847,516	564,373	64,785	188,193	584,719	54,683	559,888	632,395	403,929	165,359	66,406	81,431	209,730	221,161	420,951	449,347	6,786,117	5.97%
2005-2006	330,323	101,024	1,845,815	547,285	44,192	193,106	516,748	54,362	433,887	465,829	421,346	212,842	71,848	80,842	230,218	195,125	397,951	442,024	6,384,846	12.58%
2004-2005	357,991	85,085	1,861,381	493,573	33,636	178,734	401,764	34,339	314,342	335,893	397,917	220,926	82,933	59,817	248,118	136,119	340,733	388,318	5,671,121	2.94%
2003-2004	388,384	92,354	1,888,545	370,485	41,130	189,657	312,815	42,430	282,200	321,708	395,704	274,357	43,813	50,294	281,677	128,295	289,840	331,569	5,508,165	-3.24%
2002-2003	378,635	100,855	1,719,838	544,752	48,849	158,522	383,455	37,116	224,889	291,818	417,395	273,460	60,430	45,907	253,975	138,578	318,201	304,973	5,893,443	8.29%
2001-2002	385,113	99,492	1,704,005	370,880	51,159	164,461	313,448	39,310	209,102	292,231	384,523	257,173	41,224	42,231	255,678	138,128	245,384	266,131	5,257,871	6.34%
2000-2001	363,864	129,315	1,885,269	332,113	58,837	156,374	308,812	55,286	280,200	344,777	263,997	163,207	20,567	42,449	158,647	35,562	145,938	118,762	4,843,895	11.47%
1999-2000	304,283	147,467	1,972,348	425,607	55,428	119,382	218,879	33,672	57,243	231,231	182,473	189,816	16,330	84,107	129,082	121,535	148,997		4,435,447	4.77%
1998-1999	283,027	98,468	2,091,495	325,285	280	88,589	128,491	17,524	63,726	253,237	213,458	184,800	27,833	115,281	111,896	65,887	183,480		4,233,525	

Respectfully Submitted By:

Sheila M. Harrity, Ed.D. Superintendent-Director
Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School January 26, 2018

Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School
1050 Westminster Street
Fitchburg, MA 01420
(978) 345-9200
www.montytech.net



**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
RALPH C. MAHAR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2017**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Committee Member	Town	Term Expires
Peter Cross, Chair	Orange	2019
Patricia Smith, Vice-Chair	Orange	2018
Carla Halpern	New Salem	Appointed
Lynn Peredina	Petersham	Appointed
Heidi Shortis	Petersham	2019
Johanna Bartlett	Wendell	Appointed
Christopher Paul	Orange	2019
Rebecca Badgley	Orange	2020
Amy White	Orange	Appointed
Sunday Lefebvre	Orange	2020
Chante Jillson	Orange	2018



STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Kacy Nintean & Yunjung Seo

Tari N. Thomas, Superintendent
Gabriele Voelker, District Treasurer
Daniel Haynes, Director of Finance

Office Hours: 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Office Telephone: 978-544 2920
District Web site: <http://www.rcmahar.org>

To the members of the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School Committee and the voters of the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District, I submit my Annual Report as Superintendent. The report to the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School Committee covers the period January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017. As such, all reports cover the final half of the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year and the first half of the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year.

Vision Statement

The Ralph C. Mahar Regional School, in collaboration with families, envisions a quality learning environment which values academic excellence that enables students to reach their full potential in a rapidly changing global society.

Mission Statement

The Ralph C. Mahar Regional School community will ensure teaching and learning take place in a safe, collaborative, and inclusive environment. We commit to working with families and community members to support the personal, academic, and career growth of every student. We believe that a challenging curriculum for all students, and a culture that actively welcomes all learners, will contribute to a more knowledgeable community and society. We believe that all students must be prepared with 21st-century skills and an understanding of the demands and challenges of an ever-changing world.

Core Values

Student Achievement:

- We believe all students learn best when actively engaged in the learning process.
- We believe education is about student growth that includes core academics, the arts, cultural awareness, and physical, social and emotional well-being.
- We believe the purpose of education is to enable students to become self-reliant learners and productive, responsible citizens.

Personal Growth:

- We believe in promoting personal responsibility in students so they may reach their full potential.

School Climate:

- We believe all decisions should be made in the best interest of students, while recognizing and welcoming their individual differences.
- We believe in a safe environment built on communication and a shared decision making process that supports curiosity, creativity, respect, and positive attitudes.

Collaborative Partnerships:

- We believe in identifying and developing diverse opportunities for students to engage in active learning within their communities.
- We believe the education of a child is the shared responsibility of town, educational, family, and student communities.

Resources:

- We believe in school personnel working with family and town communities to provide ongoing information regarding student achievement, school-related activities, and annual budget and expenditures.
- We believe in utilizing fiscally responsible strategies which support teaching and learning to meet the unique needs of students.

THREE STRATEGIC GOALS FOR 2015-2020

Building upon the supports, processes and structures that have been developed this year, the district has set three Strategic Objectives for the School Years 2015-2020.

We believe that if we work as a cohesive system focused on:

- improving the instructional core and student supports, as well as developing resilience and perseverance, as the key variables in growing student achievement
- creating continuously advancing, innovative, well-structured and engaging practices through a collaborative culture and continuous data analysis; and
- involving the community in connecting real world experiences, then

Every student will graduate from high school with the skills, proficiencies and opportunities to succeed as a citizen in a global society.

We believe the Strategic Objectives complement and reinforce one another to provide a powerful plan for improvement. Our goals are:

Aligned, Consistently Delivered and Continuously Improving Curriculum Effective Instruction & Instructional Leadership School Supports and Interventions

with an emphasis on literacy: reading, writing, listening, viewing, & presenting
through embedded assessment, 21st Century skills integration & matched professional development

MASS Superintendent's Certificate of Academic Excellence for 2016-2017

Two deserving seniors were awarded the MASS Superintendent's Certificate of Academic Excellence - KacyNintean and YunjungSeo. The Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents annually designates this award for academic excellence. The award goes to a student who has shown distinction in the pursuit of excellence during their high school career. In researching the attributes of our amazing seniors, it was impossible to select just one. Yunjung and Kacy were honored on December 1st at the Franklin County Technical School.



New Personnel

The district welcomed the expertise of the following new faculty/staff members during the 2016-2017 school year:

Stacey Ferreria	Central Office
Amy Mahaney	Guidance Counselor
Anita McDowell	Special Education Teacher
Jessica Mullaney	Paraprofessional
Doug Jillson	Head Cook – Food Service
Pamela Rogers	Guidance Secretary
Matthew Dudek	Mathematics
Keegan Nunley	Paraprofessional

Class of 2017



Faculty and Staff Retirements

The following faculty/staff members retired at the conclusion of the 2016-2017 school year:

Laurie Chaplin	Food Service	25 years
Linda Ganson	Art	18 years
Michael Magee	Social Studies	17 years
JoAnn Tresback	Guidance Secretary	29 years

We offer our thanks and appreciation to our retirees whose work has impacted countless students and who have had a profound impact on the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School!



OUR PARTNERSHIPS

The Gateway to College

This partnership with Mount Wachusett Community College and the Gateway to College (based in Portland, OR) continues to be a road to academic success for students from the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District and schools in many other central and western Massachusetts towns. Students in this program attend classes at Mount Wachusett and begin earning college credits early. Students who graduate from the Gateway to College earn the Ralph C. Mahar Regional high school diploma.



Pathways Early College Innovation School

Now in its seventh year of operation, this program offers students the opportunity to earn a high school diploma and Associates Degree from Mount Wachusett Community College at the same time. By becoming full-time, dual enrollment students at the beginning of the junior year, students in this program have the opportunity to attend all college classes at Mount Wachusett Community College free of charge. Due to the success of this model, colleges and universities across the Commonwealth are looking to create similar programming with their own neighboring districts.



Telemedicine Pilot Initiative

Athol Memorial Hospital, Narragansett Regional, Ralph C. Mahar Regional School Districts, and Clinical Support Options, Northeast Telehealth Resource Center, and Mclean Hospital became project partners in implementing School Based Tele-Behavioral Health Services to address the existing behavioral health needs and the gaps in care for this region and in particular for youth and children in 2017. This collaborative model leverages interactive video conferencing technology to increase access to behavioral health services for school aged children and their families in a convenient and non-threatening setting. It shifts the traditional model of behavioral health treatment from being isolated in medical settings and moves it out into the community reaching children in a familiar setting where there is a support system to assist. Tele-BH services directly accessed in the school breaks down some of the barriers by offering timely access, reduced costs, reduced time constraints, and fills service gaps inherent in our rural area.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS
AM Integrated Learning Center

This is an alternative high school program that is referred to as “A School Within a School.” Students in this program have the benefit of a school social worker, special education teacher, and full-time paraprofessional support. The focus of this program is on students’ emotional and behavioral health, which has impacted their ability to learn in the mainstreamed environment. A level-system that focuses on rewards and positive behavioral intervention has proven successful for many students who might be educated at the expense of the district in placements other than Ralph C. Mahar.

PM Integrated Learning Center

This program focuses on the non-traditional learner. Students in the PM Integrated Learning Center are involved in career and/or internship placement for 20 hours per week. These students attend school from 3:00 – 5:00 PM each day during the school year and take one class each summer. There are few programs which offer students the opportunity to earn their high school diploma outside of the regular school schedule in Massachusetts.

Middle School Integrated Learning Center

This is a self-contained middle school classroom for students who are also challenged with behavioral and emotional issues. This program feeds into the high school AM Integrated Learning Center. A significant difference is the middle school utilizes a more tangible system for reinforcement for positive behavioral interactions. These students are offered the services of a school psychologist, full-time teacher, and two paraprofessionals.

Three CAPS Collaborative Programs
Senators, Junior Senators & Senators Vocational

The Senators Programs are for students with moderate to severe or multiple disabilities who present with delays in cognitive development as well as health, communication, social, and sensory impairments. Students are provided individualized educational programming, based on the MA Curriculum Frameworks and the students’ IEPs delivered in both small group and one-on-one formats. Goals of the program are to develop functional academic and living skills, as well as vocational, community and leisure skills. The program is supported by nursing and an integrated therapy model.

The Class of 2017 John & Abigail Adams Scholarship Winners



ENROLLMENT for 2016 - 2017

Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Total
116	119	106	109	109	76	635

KEY METRICS for 2016-2017

Enrollment at RC Mahar	635
Enrollment at Gateway	79
Enrollment at Pathways	38
Average Attendance Rate	95.4%
Average Class Size	13
Number of Teachers	59
Students with Disabilities	17%
High Needs	45.4%
English Language Learners	1.9%
2016 Graduation Rate	88.8%

To improve student achievement at the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School, we are implementing the Strategic Plan for the Consolidated Districts for 2015-2020. For more specifics, please visit our website.

We encourage parents/guardians to become involved in helping us improve our school. Some of the ways you can become involved are:

- Encouraging your child's learning at home
- Attending parent-teacher meetings and other special meetings
- Serving as a volunteer in our school or district
- Encouraging other parents to become involved

For more information about our school and to view the actual report card, please visit the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education at:

<http://profiles.doe.mass.edu/reportcard/SchoolReportCardOverview.aspx?linkid=105&orgcode=07550505&fycode=2017&orgtypecode=6&>

or to request information about the qualifications of your child's classroom teachers, please feel free to contact the school at 978-544-2920.

It is with great pride and pleasure that I present the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District's end of year report. This school is poised to make a remarkable difference in teaching and learning that is personalized as well as civic minded.

Tari Nugent Thomas
Superintendent of Schools
January 2018

