

2017-2018

ANNUAL

OFFICIAL REPORTS

OF THE

TOWN OF PETERSHAM

MASSACHUSETTS

Town of Petersham - Annual Report

INDEX

FY2018 (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018)

Selectboard
Advisory Finance Committee
Animal Control Officer
Animal Inspector
Board of Assessors
Board of Health
Broadband Municipal Light Plant Board
Capital Improvement Planning Committee
Cemetery Commission
Conservation Commission
Council on Aging
Cultural Council <i>(No Report)</i>
Emergency Mgmt. Comm. <i>(No report)</i>
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
Special Town Meeting
Annual Town Meeting
Vital Statistics
Town Treasurer
Tree Warden
Veterans' Services
Zoning Board of Appeals <i>(No Report)</i>
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



**TOWN of PETERSHAM
OFFICE of the SELECTBOARD**

3 South Main Street • P.O. Box 486
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Annual Report of the Selectboard, Fiscal Year 2018
July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

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

Town-wide Broadband Network Project

The Selectboard continued to meet during the year with the town's Broadband Municipal Light Plant Board (MLP) as work proceeded on development of the town-wide broadband network. In August, the Selectboard sent a project letter to Mass. Broadband Institute (MBI), Mass. Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development (EOHED), and State representatives expressing support of the project and seeking clarity on funding process.

In October 2017, the Selectboard and MLP Board signed a contract with Matrix Design Group for execution of the network build-out and to be the provider of broadband service.

In early February 2018, at the request of the MLP, the Selectboard submitted a broadband grant request to the EOHED for project funding. At the end of February, at the direction of the EOHED and MBI, the Selectboard sent a letter of interest and signed a grant application submission to the MBI seeking funding and support from the MBI's Flexible Grant Program (FGP) for the broadband project.

The broadband electronics hub room was constructed in the lower level of Town Hall in September 2017, with electric upgrade and a dedicated generator installed in June 2018. Selectboard Chair Nancy Allen coordinated the project as the Selectboard's representative on the MLP Board.

Nichewaug Inn & Academy Project

Work on this project continued throughout the fiscal year with Selectboard Vice Chair Henry Woolsey managing the project. Associated Building Wreckers of Springfield continued with asbestos and hazardous materials removal from the building; the project concluded in December 2017.

The Petersham Police Department, Fire Department, and Highway Department provided support for the project including access to the building, periodically supplying the water necessary for the work, and assistance with groundwater pumping. The Selectboard is grateful for volunteer Mark Bishop's assistance and review of the asbestos removal project.

An All Options Request for Proposals (RFP) was developed by Selectboard members Henry Woolsey and Rick Marsh with input from residents. The RFP was issued in early November with two walk-thrus

available to interested parties and a response deadline of late January 2018; several parties attended the walk-thrus. In January, the Selectboard received requests to extend the response timeframe. Upon review, the deadline was changed to June 28, 2018 and the Selectboard conducted an additional walk-thru in May.

The Selectboard appreciates volunteer Glenn Goodale's ongoing updating of the town's web page with project information.

Town Budget & Annual Town Meeting – June 2018

Annual town budget development was conducted from January into June 2018 working with the Advisory Finance Committee, Administrative Coordinator, and all town departments and committees. The 48 Articles on the Warrant were primarily budget-related Articles with most departments and committees meeting the request for level funded budgets and a selection of capital improvement projects.

As is practice, a Public Information Meeting was hosted in May by the Selectboard and Advisory Finance Committee to answer questions and preview Warrant Articles with interested public.

OTHER PROJECTS

• Town Hall Exterior Painting and Shutter Repair & Painting

Town Hall exterior painting and minor carpentry repair work began in August by Osgood Painting LLC, the low bidder on the project. Osgood was also awarded the job of shutter were repair, painting, and re-installation. The project concluded in October 2017 and all agreed it was nice to have the shutters returned to the building and that the refreshed appearance of Town Hall was excellent.

• Town Hall Handicap Access

The Selectboard worked with the Handicap Access Committee for Town Hall to submit a grant to the Mass. Office of Disability (MOD) seeking funding support of an interior three-stop mechanical platform lift with a deadline of November 17, 2017. An amount of \$5,000 from existing funds was determined for inclusion in the grant application for the town's project support. This first effort at the MOD grant was not successful and it was decided by the Selectboard and Committee to update the grant materials and re-submit for the next funding cycle of fiscal rear 2018. Subsequently, at June 2018 Annual Town Meeting Article was approved by voters to support \$20,000 in local project funding to contribute to the grant submission.

The Selectboard accepted a donation of funding by a private citizen for a front door access ramp and the new ramp was installed in October 2017. Town funds from the Selectboard budget supplemented the donation for the total project cost. The Selectboard is grateful for the private donation so as to allow use of the main floor of Town Hall by all.

• Community Compact Cabinet Program with the Commonwealth

In October 2017, the Selectboard submitted an application to participate in the Mass. Community Compact Cabinet program. From the selection of Best Practices offered for the program, the Selectboard chose two subjects of focus – handicap accessibility and the right to farm bylaw.

Upon acceptance of the application by the Commonwealth, the Selectboard was pleased to host Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito for a signing of the Compact at Town Hall in December with State representatives, town staff, committee members, and guests in attendance.

• **Updating of ADA Handicap Access Plan**

The Selectboard contracted with ADA consultant James Mazik to review and update the existing Handicap Access & Transition Plan prepared by Mr. Mazik in 2003. All public buildings were reviewed by Mr. Mazik and Town departments were surveyed for their uses. Nancy Allen and Administrative Coordinator Steven Boudreau coordinated the update.

The Selectboard is very grateful funding for the project was provided by the Commonwealth via the town's participation in the Community Compact Program.

• **Insurance Claim for Hail Storm Damage**

The Petersham Center School roof repair project was completed in late Fall 2017 with oversight by the Selectboard for insurance repairs. The School building was the last of five town buildings to be repaired after damage from a major hail storm. The Selectboard is grateful for the assistance provided by the town insurer MIIA and their adjuster and contractor for an overall smooth process of repairs.

The Selectboard appreciates the help of Assistant Building Inspector Bob Legare and Center School staff member Jay Burke on this project.

• **Town Storage Space at Center School**

The Selectboard approved use of available third floor space at the Center School for long-term storage of town files. With permission from the school administration, unused and obsolete school items were discarded and the space cleaned and made-ready for storage by Nancy Allen, School Committee member Janice Coughlan, and high school student Anna Weatherbee. Shelving units will be set up for departments and committees to use for storage.

The Selectboard is grateful to the School Committee and administration for approval of the space for town needs.

• **Route 101 Road Project**

The entire length of Route 101 (Popple Camp Road) in Petersham and Phillipston was resurfaced thanks to a MassWorks grant from the Commonwealth. The Selectboard is grateful for the support of the Commonwealth for this important project and appreciates the work of the Petersham Highway Department in tandem with the Town of Phillipston.

• **Davenport Property Tree Cutting Project**

After two years of delay due to difficult weather and soil conditions, the town-owned Davenport Property tree cutting project was undertaken per a Forestry Plan and with the oversight of forester Mike Leonard and Conservation Chairman Bob Clark were managing the efforts at the site.

In closing another year, we thank the staff at the Selectboard Office, Steven Boudreau and Sherry Berube, for their work for the office and residents.

We are very grateful to all who work 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

**Town of Petersham
Advisory Finance Committee Report
Reserve Fund Transfers
Fiscal 2018**

Balance July 1, 2017	\$ 35,000.00
Carryover from FY17 Encumbrance	<u>10,000.00</u>
Available for FY18	<u>45,000.00</u>

Transfers:		Account Description
September 5, 2017	4,955.93	Selectboard Expense
January 23, 2018	868.81	Town Hall and Office Maintenance
June 6, 2018	2,500.00	Police Salaries
August 15, 2018	10,884.19	Health Insurance

Total Transfers	<u>19,208.93</u>
Balance June 30, 2018	<u>\$ 25,791.07</u>

Respectfully Submitted:

Ross France, Chairman
Paul Youd, Vice Chairman
Don Clarkson, Clerk
Mark Bishop
Rich Cavanaugh

Animal Control
Petersham, MA

Reporting Period: 01 July 2017 thru 30 June 2018

The reporting period saw an increase in monthly calls; it is good and helpful to all when residents call with a concern, question, and report of any animal welfare issue both domestic and wildlife. The average for the year was 22 calls per month. Calls may be made to dispatch for forwarding, directly to me, or via the Petersham PD where you may ask your call be forwarded. We routinely use our local PAWS alert system and post to the FB page.

This reporting period saw many lost dogs and cats! All were reunited with owners. We also had several unexpected visitors with no family coming forward to claim them. Those dogs and cats found were given a medical evaluation, rabies vaccination, and re-homed after a holding period. Adding to the domestic animal calls, Petersham saw loose goats, llamas, horses, cows, and sheep. Every animal ultimately made it home.

Thanks to our concerned residents, turtles, small wildlife animals, and several birds were transported to Tufts Wildlife for medical care. Again, a high success rate and most were returned to the area for release.

Our successful annual rabies clinic saw Dr. Heidi Langendoen assisting Dr. Alan Bachrach.

The year witnessed an increase in mutual aid assistance for animal welfare issues with surrounding towns including Barre, Palmer, Hardwick, and New Salem.

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, or ferret to your veterinarian or attend a clinic for the rabies vaccination. Next step, REGISTER your dogs. If one of them goes missing, having them registered helps immensely...plus it is the law!

Monthly summary call logs are submitted to and on file with the Select Board. Additionally, animal control maintains a detail record. Included in these submissions are all calls related to domestic animals, wildlife, and livestock.

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. Let us keep all family members safe and be vigilant to protect our wildlife.

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Jones Bachrach

Annual Report of the Petersham Animal Inspector

Fiscal Year 2018

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:** 64 (includes dairy, beef, steers and oxen)
- **Goats:** 163
- **Sheep:** 86
- **Swine:** 60 (includes breeders and feeders)
- **Llamas:** 17
- **Alpacas:** 68
- **Yaks:** 3
- **Horses:** 65
- **Donkey/mule:** 5
- **Poultry:** 1,077 (includes chickens, turkeys, ratites, waterfowl, and gamebirds)
- **Rabbits:** 35

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
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ANNUAL TOWN REPORT FY 2018

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	\$4,964,221.23
Total estimated receipts & revenue	\$2,534,693.53
Net amount to be raised by taxation	\$2,429,527.70

Tax Rate \$ 16.37 per thousand

CALCULATION

Value of Town divided by 1000
 $148,413,421 / 1000 = 148,413$ 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

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petershamboh@verizon.net

ANNUAL REPORT July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

The Board of Health has three elected officials, Chair, Robert Pasic, Stephen Loring, Fifi Scoufopoulos, and 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 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
5. Oversight of waste management

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 rabies clinic was sponsored on January 13, 2018 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.

The Board of Health received a recycling grant of \$2800.00

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	9	Food Operations	13
Plan Reviews	12	Temporary Food permits	4
Repair; minor	1	Lyme disease reported	6
Systems Installed	9	Tobacco permit	1
System Haulers Permits	4	Housing Inspection	2
System Installers Permit	3	Outdoor Wood Boiler Permit	0
Private Well Permits	1		
Public Water Systems	7		

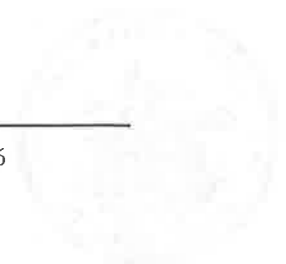
The Board of Health would like to thank the other Town Boards, Department Heads and the Town's Residents for their assistance in promoting the work of the Board as it pertains to the health of our community.

Robert Pasic ♦ Fifi Scoufopoulos
Stephen Loring



PETERSHAM BOARD OF HEALTH

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TOWN OF PETERSHAM
Petersham Broadband Municipal Light Plant Board

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**July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 REPORT OF THE PETERSHAM
BROADBAND MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT BOARD**

The 2018 fiscal year was an important one for the Petersham Broadband MLP Board as we moved forward in our seven-year-long effort to begin offering 100% of the residents, businesses and students of our community ultra-fast fiber-optic Broadband connectivity.

Previously, 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.

During the three-month sign up period (March 7th to June 9th 2017) 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.

National Grid and Verizon began their detailed pole survey in January 2018 and completed it on March 30th of this year. As of June 2018, we have only received two of the 26 "invoices" from the two utilities. We expect the remainder to be received over the next thirty days.

Once the utilities have been paid by the town they will complete the necessary pole Make-Ready work paving the way for Petersham's Broadband partner, the Matrix Design Group, to begin hanging fiber-optic cable and connecting subscribers to the high-speed broadband network.

We anticipate that Petersham Broadband customers will begin to be connected to the network prior to the start of the 2019 school year. It is expected that the entire project will be completed in the Spring of 2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chip Bull – Chairman Petersham Broadband MLP Board

PBMLP Members – John Blum – Andre Pierre – Thomas Gurganus – Nancy Allen

Report of the Capital Improvement Planning Committee
Fiscal Year 2018

The Capital Improvement Planning Committee would like to recommend the following budget for Capital Improvement Expenditures for Fiscal Year 2018. All Requests were evaluated on need, cost effectiveness, fiscal year impact, and availability of funds. The Committee also recommends the reallocation of the unused funding from the Center School Boiler project as outlined in our Fiscal 2017 Report a copy of which is attached to this report.

The CIPC recommends that our commitment for the reuse of the Boiler funds as outlined in our Fiscal Year 2017 Report be honored as follows.

Highway Department Roller	\$ 40,000.00
Town Hall Painting	\$ 20,000.00

Projects to be funded in the FY 2018 budget are recommended as outlined below.

Fire Department Hose Replacement Year 4 of 5	\$ 5,000.00
Town Hall Painting (to include Shutters)	\$ 50,000.00
Fire Department Turnout Gear (Partial Funding)	\$ 25,000.00
Fire Department Engine Replacement (Partial Funding Designation)	\$ 50,000.00

The CIPC strongly recommends this budget based on the reallocation of existing funds, the amount of certified Free Cash and the amount of excess levy capacity available. Additionally, the note on the new Tanker was paid in Fiscal 2017 that provides a decrease in the amount of the total tax levy by \$ 20,000.00 as this borrowing was outside the limits of Proposition 2 ½. The net difference in new funding between this budget and last year's budget is a decrease of \$26,000.00. In total this budget recommendation reflects a \$ 46,000.00 decrease in capital spending.

Respectfully Submitted,

Capital Improvement Planning Committee
Dana Robinson, Ch.
Fredrik Marsh
John Lawson
Irene Graeff
Mark Bishop
Janis Coughlin
Thomas Cahill

PETERSHAM CEMETERY COMMISSION

JULY 2017– JUNE 2018

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. Lynn Shaw served as the Cemetery Commission's Chairperson which has been taken over by Barbara Hanno. Ann Townsend maintained the financial records until her resignation from the Cemetery Commission in March. Robin Koenig, the newest member, will take over the duties of clerk from Glenede Albertine. Ellen Anderson covered the sexton duty for the sale of lots. Barnes Landscaping was recontracted to maintain the cemeteries as well as the sexton duties of location and placement of burials. Sherry Berube has taken over the maintenance of the financial records as well as the recording of burial requests made through the town office (978 724 3353) and updating records. The town website includes the listing of all fees.

Each member of the Cemetery Commission has "adopted" a cemetery as follows: Center Cemetery (Sheila and Barbara), East Street Cemetery (Deb, Robin, and Lynn), Ledgeville Cemetery (Deb), Mann Cemetery (Lynn), Nichewaug Cemetery (Lynn), Williams Cemetery (Robin), Flat Rock Cemetery (Barbara), West Road Cemetery (Ken), and Goddard Cemetery (Glenede).

Some of the responsibilities of the members of the Cemetery Commission over the past year have included overseeing the following: The Sisters of the Saint Scholastica established a cemetery on their property. Barnes Landscaping cleared brush at the Williams Cemetery. Work continued on the organizing of maps and records. Research was done on ground water levels in the annex of East Street Cemetery. The repainting of the picket fence at East Street Cemetery was completed. Work parties cleaned stones at Ledgeville Cemetery. Contracted repairs were made to obelisks (Simmons and Goddard) in East Street Cemetery and stones were reset in Center Cemetery. Memorial Day plantings were placed at designated graves. Plans were begun for an historical ghost walk organized by Ken Levine for the Fall of 2018.

Cemetery Commission Members

June 30, 2018

Barbara Hanno, Chairperson

Robin Koenig, Clerk

Glenede Albertine

Deb Bachrach

Ken Levine

Lynn Shaw

Sheila Youd



PETERSHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

3 South Main Street • P.O. Box 486 • Petersham, MA 01366-0486
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REPORT OF THE PETERSHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

FISCAL 2018

Regular monthly meetings were held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM. Public Hearings and Special Meetings were scheduled to either coincide with regular monthly meetings or between monthly meetings as necessary. Special meetings were held on 15 August 2017 and 12 June 2018 for issuing Determinations of Applicability. A special meeting was held 26 September 2017 to issue a Certificate of Compliance and a special meeting on 14 November to issue an Emergency Certification. Emergency Certifications were also issued on 27 August, 2017, 5 September 2017, and 7 April 2018.

The Commission issued a total of five Determinations of Applicability and a total of three emergency certifications during Fiscal 2018. No Orders of Conditions were issued during fiscal year 2018. Site visits were conducted for all Determinations of Applicability and for other issues that required Conservation Commission recommendations or approval.

Twenty five 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 three 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 harvesting for the forest cutting plan for the Davenport Pond Property was completed and original road bed restored. The property is 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. Following the cutting, the white pine stands had much better air circulation and the problem of white pine needle cast seems to have been solved.

The Commission holds Conservation Restrictions (CRs) on over 880 acres of private land including a 200 foot zone on either side of the East Branch Swift River on Harvard Forest property and The Trustees' Brooks Woodland Preserve. The required annual monitoring of CRs continued to be done by John Baker's Clark University Land Conservation Course students which once again was a valuable educational experience for the students and 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.

Climate change increases extremes in weather and an unusually dry spring and summer in 2017 with strong southwest winds at the time of the gypsy moth caterpillar hatch caused caterpillars to be transported on their silken threads to many places in town. Wet weather finally arrived just before pupation triggering the fungus that attacks the caterpillars. There was an incredible die-off but sufficient numbers of females survived to produce many egg masses which hatched in the spring of 2018. Wet weather was more prevalent in 2018 and there were fewer egg masses.

Another result of extreme weather was a sudden warm rain event on 13 January 2018 where 4 in. of warm rain overnight melted a foot and a half of snow providing the equivalent of five and a half inches of rain which caused extensive flooding and culvert damage

On 6 April 2018, a cold front came through with extremely high winds leaving much of western Massachusetts without power and over 50,000 homes in upper NY State without power. National Grid indicated wind gusts were close to hurricane force.

Fiscal 2018 marks the thirty-fifth 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 Kindergarten through Sixth grade as well as field trips to the Lewis and Corrine Babbitt Wildlife Sanctuary. This program provides students with a lasting appreciation for the natural world around them, helps them to become environmentally responsible citizens, and gives them an 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 nesting tree swallows and a nesting pair of bluebirds.

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 2018

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 FY2018 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 24th 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 helpers have received certification in ServSafe practices, choke saver and heart resuscitation, allergen training and sanitation. We are an approved site. This year 550 meals were served on 39 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 940 hours of their time wearing several different hats. Thank you for your dedication to the seniors of Petersham. A \$3.00 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 418 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 plus 10-week sessions led by YMCA instructors on Mondays and Fridays on the main floor of the Town Hall.
- Floor yoga was held on the main floor of the Town Hall on Tuesdays for two 10-week sessions led by Pat Roix and Elizabeth Garrett.
- Two 10-week sessions of t'ai chi were led by Valerie and Nick Wisniewski.
- North Quabbin Community Senior Picnic at Silver Lake Park pavilion in Athol.
- Senior trip to the Eastern States Exposition on Sept. 21, 2017.
- Quabbin Valley Healthcare delivered coupons for free pies for Thanksgiving.
- Petersham Center School chorus and band rehearsal at the school in Dec. 2017.

- Falls Prevention Program with Director, Pharmacy Out Reach at MCPHS Univ. in Worcester on January 22, 2018
- Elder legal matters program led by Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate Court on March 12, 2018.
- On June 29, 2018, Board Members Lynn Shaw, Phil Hanno, Sheila Youd and Kay Berry attended a Grant Training class in Northampton, MA led by Emmett Schmarsow, Director of Exec. Office of Elder Affairs.
- Pam Chevalier and Kay Berry did the Meals-on-Wheels Walk and contributed \$155 from Petersham on April 28, 2018.
- We had three catered meals this year from The Country Store and The Inn at Clamber Hill. 83 people in total attended the three meals.
- We were very saddened by the loss of two board members, Michael Huppert and Brian Miner. They are greatly missed.

The Council wishes to thank all that helped to make 2017/2018 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 on February 19, 2018.
- 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
Philip Hanno, Treasurer
Janice Olson, Corresponding Secretary
Pamela Chevalier, Recording Secretary

Lynn Shaw, Co-Vice Chairman
Sheila Youd, Co-Vice Chairman
Mary Russell, Meal Site Manager
Wanda Dickson
Sandra Page

**Annual Report of the Petersham Fire Department
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

To the Citizens of Petersham:

I herewith submit my report of activity by the Petersham Fire Department for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2018.

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

Structure Fires	0
Chimney Fires	2
Brush Fires	3
Stove Fire	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	9
Alarm Activations – No fire	8
Carbon Monoxide Alarm Activation	3
Smoke/Fire Investigations	1
Trees Down on Wires	1
Lightning Strike – No Fire	1
Delayed Ignition	4
Equipment Fire	1
Assist Highway Department	1
Public Assistance	5
Medical Emergencies	38
Fire Watch	1
Fireworks Investigation	1
Mutual Aid	<u>8</u>
Total	86
Permits Issued:	
Smoke/ CO Inspections	29
Oil Buner Permits	11
Fuel Transfer Tank Permits	0
Propane Storage Permits	21
Burning Permits	<u>323</u>
Total Permits Issued	519

The Annual Town Meeting funded the fifth year of a five year hose replacement program. Much of the hose carried by the Department prior to this program was purchased 40 to 45 years ago. With the fourth allotment, we replaced 1500 ft. of 1 1/2 inch attack line with 1 3/4 inch attack line. This type of hose flows more water and is still easy for one firefighter to handle. The Annual Town Meeting also funded year two of a two year program to replace the turn out gear that the firefighters wear to protect themselves. The NFPA and the Department of Fire Safety require that this protective clothing be replaced every ten years.

In March the Department received word that it had been awarded a Lucas III CPR machine by the Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts. Petersham was one of 17 departments to receive the equipment. The Lucas machine performs CPR more effectively than firefighters or EMTs/Paramedics can. It also allows the caregiver to monitor and treat the patient more efficiently while CPR is being performed. This equipment which has a purchase price in excess of \$14,000.00 is something that we would not have otherwise been able to purchase, because of its cost, had it not been for this award.

Our 1990 Tanker 2 received some upgrades to its emergency warnings lights, replacing original flashing lights that had become corroded with new LED flashers. It also received repairs to the pump and other items to keep it in top operational form. The Tires were replaced on Engine 2 (a 2000 KME International) our primary response apparatus. These were the original tires that came on the vehicle. Although the tires still looked new they were replaced for safety reasons because of their age. Tires and replacement wheels were also installed on the 1986 Chevrolet Brush Truck.

Throughout the year training was provided at our regular meetings. In the good weather months practical training evolutions were conducted to refresh and hone firefighting skills. 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.

Residents continued to take 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. Again this year, over 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 get involved and to give back to the community please consider being a firefighter. The Department meets on the First and Third Wednesdays of each 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 most of our current firefighters work out of town. Training is provided at our regular meetings and through regional training opportunities sponsored by area departments or the MA Fire Academy. These training classes are usually available at no cost to the participants. Anyone interested is urged to contact the chief or a member of the department for more information.

I would also like to thank the Highway Department and the Police Department for their assistance throughout the year. Good working relationships between departments are 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 understanding. 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

Submission for Petersham Town Report FY19

The Petersham Forest & Shade Tree Committee – Town Report for FY2019

The PFSTC meets the first 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 and to ensure that they are a resource for all:

- The Wood Bank administered 42 wood crate vouchers (approximately 21 cords) of split, dry firewood to residents last heating season. The Wood Bank continues to gain in popularity and efficiency, with a great deal of additional capacity added in FY2019 via DCR staff support and volunteers from a UMass forestry program. We are working with the Tree Warden, volunteers, and the DCR to plan for the future. Strategic, collaborative planning for the program's long-term growth and maintenance includes:
 - o Grant-writing/fundraising to mechanize the work with new (to us) equipment
 - o Scheduling the full year's volunteer work days
 - o Prepare 50 crates before October 2019, for the 2019-2020 heating season.
- Conducting programming at the Center School (tree planting, Arbor Day poster contest)
- Creating re-useable bags provided at the Country Store (and for Arbor Day), as a fundraiser for planting trees in town.
- Creating and mailing educational postcard series of tree information to residents
- Strategizing for the diversification and longevity of our roadside canopy in the wake of invasive forest pests and pathogens, climate change, and other challenges
- Working to secure a seamless staff transition of our Tree Warden
- Transitioning new committee members onto the Board.

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

DATE	EVENT	TOTAL HR. CHARGED TO SNOW ACCT.		# OF OPERATORS	SUMMARY	TIME		REGULAR TIME		EST PRODL
		PART TIME	REGULAR			IN	OUT	IN	OUT	
1	9-Dec SNOW STORM 5"	38.5	43	6	Sanded roads and plowed and sanded spot sanded and scraped roads	12pm	2am			36 ton
2	10-Dec CLEAN UP	5	4	2		9AM	3:30PM			6TON
3	10-Dec POLICE REPORTED SLIPPERY COND.	4	8	3	SANDED ALL ROADS	6PM	11PM			18 TON
3	12-Dec SNOW & RAIN THEN SNOW		18	3	SANDED SCRAPED AND SANED AT NIGHT	3AM	10PM	6:30AM	2:30PM	36TON
4	13-Dec CHECKED ROADS		3.5	1	SPOT SANDED	3AM	6:30AM			6 TON
5-Jan	15-Dec LIGHT SNOW	4	8	3	Sanded roads and plowed and sanded	9PM	1AM			18TON
6	22-Dec LIGHT SNOW ALL DAY AND AT NIGHT	4	27.5	4	Sanded roads and plowed and sanded	5AM	12AM	6:30 AM	2:30 PM	36 TON
7	23-Dec SLEET RAIN AND FREEZING ALL DAY	16.5	27	6	SANDED PLOWED AND SANDED	7:30AM	11PM			36 TON
8	24-Dec SLIPPERY DIRT ROADS	4	4	2	SPOT SANED MAIN ROADS SANDED DIRT	9AM	1PM			9 TON
9	25-Dec SNOW STORM 5"	13	27	5	SANDE PLOWED AND SANDED	5:30AM	2:30PM			36TON
10	30-Dec LIGHT SNOW		4	1	CHECKING ROADS					
11	31-Dec SLIPPERY ROADS		12	3	SANDED ALL ROADS	11:30 AM	3:30 PM			24 TON
12	1-Jan SLIPPERY ROAD DISPATCH CALL ACCIDENT		4	1	SANDED GLEN VALLEY	1AM	5AM			2TON
13	4-Jan SNOW STORM 12"	37.5	24	6	SANDED AND PLOWED ALL ROADS	6:30AM	10:30PM	6:30am	2:30pm	18TON
14	5-Jan PRIOR SNOW STORM	11	24	4	SCRAP SAND RD. PARK AREAS DRIFTS ALL NIGHT	3:00AM	9PM	6:30am		18 TON
15	6-Jan PRIOR SNOW STORM POLICE CALL	4	8	2	SNOW DRIFTS LOADER WORK PUSH BACK AN SAND	6:00AM	6PM			6 TON
16	7-Jan PRIOR SNOW STORM POLICE CALL	6.5	12	3	SNOW DRIFTS PUSH BACK	6AM	2:30 PM			24TON
17	8-Jan LIGHT SNOW COVERING ROADS		4	1	CHECKING ROADS FOR ICING	4PM	8PM			
18	13-Jan RAIN STORM ENDING GETTING COLD		4	1	SANDED ICE DAMS ON ROADS	9AM	1PM			3TON
19	14-Jan ICE BUILD UP ON ROADS		4	1	SANDED ALL ROADS	4PM	8PM			18 TON
20	16-Jan SNOW STORM STARTING		12	3	PLOWED SANDED ALL ROADS PARKING	3AM	6:3PM			24 TON
21	17-Jan SNOW STORM CON. LASTING ALL DAY	23.5	24	5	SANDED ALL ROADS A FEW TIMES	3:30AM	11PM			48 TON
22	22-Jan FREEZING RAIN		16	3	sanded all roads	10pm	2am			24TON
23	23-Jan ROADS SLIPPERY		12	3						



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, 2017–June 30, 2018

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 requesting to add a shed dormer to the first floor front side of their single story house; the addition would be visible from the public way. A site visit and Public Hearing were held. Upon review, the HDC did not approve the Application due to its impact on architectural features of the dwelling. An Application was received from a resident requesting to replace windows on the front facade of their garage, the structure is visible from the public way. A site visit and Public Hearing were held. Upon review, the HDC approved the project as all parties agreed to a specific window style and a Certificate of Appropriateness was issued to the owner with a copy to the Building Inspector.

During the year the Commission received two requests from residents to determine whether their projects required HDC review. Upon review, the HDC determined both projects involved only ordinary repair & maintenance with one of them not visible from the public way as all work was being conducted at the rear side of the dwelling. The HDC issued Certificates of Non-Applicability to both owners with copies to the Building Inspector. HDC member and contractor Jeremy Gabrenas reported that a District residential project of his required a new front door to replace a failing existing door. The new door matched the old and the project fell within the definitions of ordinary repair & maintenance. A query was submitted by a contractor regarding renovations that would change the style and details of the front entrance of a District house. Upon review, the HDC determined that the proposed changes would alter architectural features and would require an Application and Public Hearing. The contractor chose to instead make renovations while maintaining the existing features. A renovation project underway on a District dwelling had included changing existing front porch columns without review by the HDC. The Commission conducted a site visit with the contractor-owner who agreed to return the columns to their original architectural style.

The HDC met with a representative of the Congregational Church seeking a support letter for a grant submission to the National Trust for Historic Preservation seeking funding support for restoration of the Church steeple and building repairs. Members supported this important renovation effort and issued the letter. At the request of the Selectboard, the Commission discussed restoration of the Town's World War I monument on the south common and in which the marble facade is failing. No action was taken this year by the Town on the project.

During the year, the HDC received the final report on the study at the Stone-Wheeler property, '*Archeological Reconnaissance of the Stone-Wheeler Site, Petersham, MA,*' dated January 2018, by UMass/Amherst professor Eric Johnson and his students. The HDC also received the annual edition

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, 2017–June 30, 2018 – continued

of the *Massachusetts Historic Register* showing the two Petersham school houses have been added, the 1846 Ledgeville school (Fourth District) and the 1849 Second East Street School (Fifth District).

The HDC-HC held initial discussions about re-issuing an updated version of the 'Historic District Properties' book. The book was last issued in the mid 1990s. HDC member Christine Mandel has conducted extensive research and writing on a majority of the District properties. Her work includes full Deed research for each property along with additional information such as maps, news clippings, and personal reminiscences. Nancy Allen drafted an initial proof of three representative properties including historic and contemporary images. Commission members Claudette Bishop, Melissa Martinez, and Lynn Shaw, along with Chris and Nancy, held an initial meeting to review process and project needs including further research for the individual properties still requiring attention. A walking tour brochure and/or general smaller brochure were also discussed as possible projects which could utilize the content from the larger 'Properties Book.'

HDC-HC materials including District map, Bylaw, Application forms, submitted Project Applications, and Certificates of Appropriateness are easily accessible to interested persons via the townofpetersham.org website at the Historic District Commission link on mytowngovernment.com

The Commission is grateful to Petersham residents, property owners, and fellow town officials for providing their ongoing 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, 2017 through June 30, 2018

Category

Building Permits

Number

71

4 **New Homes**
0 **Additions**
10 **Remodel**
3 **Repairs**
3 **Sheds**
0 **Demo**
5 **Woodstoves**

Building Permits

4 **Decks and Porches**
13 **Roofs and Siding**
4 **Barns/Garages**
18 **Other**
6 **Solar Panel**
1 **Pool**

The Town of Petersham has joined an inter-municipal agreement with the towns of Barre, Hardwick and New Braintree for Building Inspection services, which has equated to a cost savings to the town, while allowing for more availability of the Building Inspector.

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

**Respectfully Submitted
Brianna Skowyra
Inspector of Buildings**

PETERSHAM MEMORIAL LIBRARY

23 Common Street
Petersham, Massachusetts, 01366

Annual Report to the Town Of Petersham
of the Petersham Memorial Library
July 01, 2017 – June 30, 2018

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
- Ashley Gabrenas
- Janice Olson
- Don Clarkson
- Kent Byron
- Robert Bellefeuille
- Mark Ailinger
- Tally Lent
- Hilary Loring
- Fifi Scoufopoulos
- Clint Shaw

Six hundred and sixty-two Petersham residents were library cardholders in Fiscal Year 2018. Petersham Memorial Library patrons checked out 5,976 books, 595 print serials,

681 audio books and 2,105 movies. 2,367 interlibrary loans were received and 1,558 were provided. 1,874 on-site loans were made to patrons who do not reside in Petersham.

FY2018 the library had 2 computers, 1 laptop and 2 tablets for public use. An average of 12 patrons per week accessed the internet using the library's computers. 694 wireless sessions were provided to patrons. The library's web address: www.petershamlibrary.net.

Our digital library offerings included 6 data base licenses, 170,561 e-book titles, 19,271 audio book titles and 1,236 video titles. In 2018, 1089 electronic titles were downloaded from the digital catalog by our patrons.

The library was open a total of 939 hours which included 200 hours on Saturday and 98 hours after 5PM. 5,554 people entered the library during open hours.

Our shelves currently hold 7,823 books for adults and 4,834 books for children and 988 young adult titles. There are 43 volumes of print periodicals, newspapers and other print serials. 1,077 DVD titles were available for loan as well as 588 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 2017-2018 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.

Our two new trees, newly trimmed shrubbery, and our reading garden all add to the elegant look of our library.

The Library Book Sale was held October 5 and 6. 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 handed out the treats.

Many guests enjoyed our literary fundraiser, an Evening with Sherlock Holmes & Friends and gladly enough, the murder mystery at the Nichewaug Manor was solved. The event helped raise funds for the Library's Building Improvement Fund. The Building Improvement Committee has reviewed the options for our new toilet room and settled on a composting toilet system. An architect is working on building plans so that we can

restructure space within the library and use the resulting information to proceed in applying for grants and raising money for the project during 2019.

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 11 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 37 children's programs and 8 adult programs.

Highlights for the year included:

- Author Ted Reinstein spoke about his book: *New England General Stores*
- Bart Wendell offered his program on Curing Migraines
- Musical Performance by After the Rain
- Sounds of Silence with Jerry Schneider introduced participants to the world of bats
- Wild About Turtles Program for children
- Mike the Bubbleman brought bubble magic to the library for all to enjoy
- Creative Cooking with Liz Barbour
- Caterpillar Lab brought a living exhibit of various native species for an up close exploration.
- Author DB Sweeney discussed his book: *Frost in Hell*
- A Magical Visit from Santa's Helper to Story Hour

Non-library use of the building included meetings for the Historic District Commission, Aging in Place, Ukulele Group, Petersham Democratic Committee and the Petersham Grange

Petersham Cultural Council award a 2018 grant to the library for Ted Reinstein's New England General Store Program.

Over 150 volunteer hours were logged at our library in 2017/2018 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 2017 through June 2018

INCOME 92347.45

- Building Improvement Income 4757.22
- Annual Appeal & Gifts 6265.00
- Trash Bags 6828.00
- Investment Income 62400.00
- State Grant 2506.52
- Other 290.71

EXPENSE 84063.76

- Collection Materials 10728.14
- CW MARS 2990.00
- Insurance 599.00
- Trash Bags 6175.00
- Payroll Expense 50315.50
- Project & Programs 1321.46
- Utilities 9238.32
- Other 2393.34

NET ORDINARY INCOME 8283.69

- Capital Expense 3152.23
- Corporation Expense 5532.00

NET INCOME 400.54



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 2018

Regular monthly meetings were held on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM. The Committee explored proposals for the next Open Space & Recreation Plan (OS&RP) as the current OS&RP expires in October 2018. It was agreed that protecting farmland and promoting agriculture should be a high priority. The Open Space & Recreation Committee continued to explore resources to encourage local agriculture and to protect land with valuable agricultural soils. The draft conservation restriction (CR) for the 7.2 acre Wilder parcel on North Main Street was approved by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs on 7 May 2018 and was expected to be recorded in the near future. This parcel of prime agricultural soil will be owned by the East Quabbin Land Trust with the Conservation Commission holding the CR and will remain available for agriculture in perpetuity.

People come from far and wide to hike the many trails in Petersham. The goal is to link our extensive trail system as much as possible and connect them with trails in adjacent towns. Work on the Bob Marshall Trail connecting the Gould Woodlot at Harvard Forest to the Harvard Pond/Tom Swamp Tracts continued. The footbridge over Nelson Brook has withstood weather and high water making the northern portion of the trail accessible. Some trail work continued at the Babbitt Wildlife Sanctuary, Hallberg parcel, and Ganson parcel to reopen existing trails and create new trails.

Invasive species control and trail management continues to be a challenge. Sudden storm events make trail maintenance a higher priority and climate change has increased the spread of invasive species.

Identifying and proposing improvements in existing Town owned lands for public recreation should be a component of the new OS&RP. Public recreation facilities especially swimming continues to be difficult to address. The Committee continued to explore opportunities and improvements in existing Town owned areas for public recreation. Ari Pugliese, Anne Cavanaugh, and Henry Woolsey organized a day of "Games on the Common" (Bocce, Badminton, Cornhole and Ping-Pong) on the South Common to build community involvement in fun recreational activities.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert A. Clark, Chair
Emery R. Boose, Clerk
Anne F. Cavanaugh
Ari J. Pugliese
Clinton A. Shaw
Henry L. Woolsey

Petersham Planning Board Annual Report
FY July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018

There were four plans with a total of seven new lots endorsed as ANR (Approval Not Required) during FY 2017:

- 10/26/2017 Lots 415/21 and 415/22 Loring Hill Road
- 02/22/2018 Lot 401/1 Monson Turnpike (604.1 and 604.2 combined into one lot)
- 04/26/2018 Lots 403/3, 403/4 Nelson Road dividing line changed
- 04/26/2018 Lot 407/63 Phillipston Road (Rte 101) divided into 2 lots

There were two plot plans reviewed for a new house seeking a building permit:

- 10/26/2017 Lot 201/82 New Salem Road (Rte. 122)
- 02/22/2018 Lot 416/36 Nichewaug Road

On January 11, 2018 the board met with a group of local farmers to discuss a possible "Right to Farm Bylaw" which many other towns have adopted. Changes were suggested to the State template but it was agreed that absent any advantage to the Town there was no need to have one since the town is already zoned for farming. Also it was pointed out that in case of a dispute, the balance which we presently have would be unreasonably tipped in favor of the farmer.

The board put an article on the June Town Meeting warrant to split the Town bylaws into two separate files (General Bylaws and Zoning Bylaws). The Zoning Bylaws were also reorganized to put the original zoning sections before the long sections recently added. The town voted in favor of this change.

Respectfully submitted,

Fraser Sinclair, Chair

Police Department Statistics
(2018)

Description	No. of Calls
E-911 Hang Up Calls	10
911 Mis Dial	9
911 Transfers	1
Abandoned MV	2
Alarms	55
Animal Calls	71
Assist Citizens	70
Assault	2
Assist other Agency	88
Building Issues	1
BOLO	8
Burglary (B & E)	2
Burning Issues	4
Building Checks	711
Community Policing	28
Carbon Monoxide Alarms	1
Complaints	9
Court	26
Disturbance	3
Disabled Motor Vehicle	49
Domestic Disturbance	6
Directed Patrol	9
Escort/Transport	2
Fire Alarm	17
Fire Alarm Testing	2
Fire / Brush	2
Illegal Burns	2
Fire Mutual Aid	1
Fire Other	3
General Info	52
Gun Shots	5
Hazardous Incident	1
Harrassment Prevention Orders	1
Identity Theft	3
Illigal Dumping	3
Inspections Fire	2
Investigations	32
Larceny/Theft/Shoplifting	5
Lockout	3
Lost/Stolen Plate	3
LTC/FID	67
Medical Emergency	42
Medical Alarm	6
Missing Person	1
Motor Vehicle Accident	33

Police Department Statistics
(2018)

Complaint /MV Operations	16
Motor Vehicle Investigation	35
Motor Vehicle Stops	651
Neighbor Disputes	1
Notifications	12
Officer Initiated Investigations	49
Parking Complaint	1
Property Damage	1
Phone Calls / Annoying	88
Property Lost/Found	6
Psych Emergency	1
Radar	51
Records Checks	3
Repossession	2
Serve Restraining Order	2
Safety Hazard	105
Scam	2
Snow Ban / Parking Violations	2
Serve Summons	5
Suspicious Activity	44
System Trouble	2
Threats	1
Trespass	3
Traffic Control	5
School Zone Traffic	112
Unattended Death	1
Utility Issues	12
Vehicle Maintenance	57
Welfare Check	28

2751

**REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT
FISCAL YEAR 2018**

I hereby submit my report for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018.

Account Name	Year-To-Date Revenue
Personal Property Taxes	182,795.86
Real Estate Taxes	2,211,933.18
Tax Liens Redeemed	-
Motor Vehicle Excise	201,755.53
Interest & Penalties on Real & Personal Property	15,132.50
Interest on Motor Vehicle Taxes	1,777.57
In Lieu of Taxes	522,524.39
Total Taxes and Excise	3,135,919.03
Fees - Miscellaneous	151.00
Transfer Station Fees	37,968.00
Rentals	450.00
Dept Revenue - Police	1,030.00
Total Departmental Revenue	39,599.00
Licenses - Alcoholic	1,750.00
Licenses - Dog	1,538.75
Licenses - Miscellaneous Business	60.00
Permits - Building	24,307.34
Permits - Miscellaneous	15.00
Permits - Other	136.86
Total Licenses and Permits	27,807.95
State Owned Land	64,067.00
Elderly Abatements	1,507.00
Exemptions: Vets, Elderly, Etc.	6,751.00
Chapter 70	431,323.00
Unrestricted General Government	114,528.00
Court Fines	25.00
Registry of MV Fines	5,225.71
Veterans' Benefits	4,538.00
Total State Revenues	627,964.71

Account Name	Year-To-Date Revenue
Fines	1,110.00
Earnings on Investments	2,075.07
Miscellaneous Revenue	3,726.44
Sale of Municipal Equipment	-
Total Unclassified	6,911.51
Total General Fund Revenues	3,838,202.20

Town of Petersham
Fiscal Year 2018

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	\$7,673.00	\$7,673.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$9,197.80	\$8,794.19	\$403.61
Floating Secretary	\$3,770.00	\$2,977.72	\$792.28
Part - Time Clerk	\$5,385.00	\$5,384.66	\$0.34
Total Board of Selectmen	<u>\$26,025.80</u>	<u>\$24,829.57</u>	<u>\$1,196.23</u>
Town Admin Coordinator			
Salary	\$47,298.00	\$47,278.40	\$19.60
Admin Coordinator Overtime	\$856.00	\$102.29	\$753.71
Total Town Admin Coordinator	<u>\$48,154.00</u>	<u>\$47,380.69</u>	<u>\$773.31</u>
Finance Committee			
Expenses	\$505.00	\$135.00	\$370.00
Total Finance Committee	<u>\$505.00</u>	<u>\$135.00</u>	<u>\$370.00</u>
Reserve Fund	\$45,000.00	\$19,208.93	\$25,791.07
Town Accountant			
Salary	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$5,693.00	\$5,591.74	\$101.26
Audit	\$24,500.00	\$0.00	\$24,500.00
Accounting Clerk	\$2,050.00	\$1,268.66	\$781.34
Total Town Accountant	<u>\$52,243.00</u>	<u>\$26,860.40</u>	<u>\$25,382.60</u>
Board of Assessors			
Board Members Salaries	\$8,460.00	\$8,460.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$18,555.75	\$18,555.75	\$0.00
Assistant Assessor Salary	\$33,040.00	\$33,034.20	\$5.80
Mapping Project	\$4,900.00	\$4,900.00	\$0.00
FY 20 Revaluation	\$3,550.00	\$1,380.00	\$2,170.00
			\$0.00
Total Board of Assessors	<u>\$68,505.75</u>	<u>\$66,329.95</u>	<u>\$2,175.80</u>
Treasurer			
Salary	\$15,980.00	\$15,980.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$4,286.00	\$4,226.00	\$60.00
Payroll Processing Fees	\$3,500.00	\$3,206.64	\$293.36
Total Treasurer	<u>\$23,766.00</u>	<u>\$23,412.64</u>	<u>\$353.36</u>
Tax Collector			
Salary	\$13,421.00	\$13,421.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$18,066.00	\$12,706.39	\$5,359.61
Total Tax Collector	<u>\$31,487.00</u>	<u>\$26,127.39</u>	<u>\$5,359.61</u>
Town Counsel			
Legal Fees	\$12,189.63	\$3,794.06	\$8,395.57
Total Town Counsel	<u>\$12,189.63</u>	<u>\$3,794.06</u>	<u>\$8,395.57</u>

Department:	Budget	Expended	Unexpended
Town Clerk			
Salary	\$10,858.00	\$10,858.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$2,959.00	\$2,854.16	\$104.84
Vital Statistics	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
Vital Records	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Software & Maintenance	\$1,285.00	\$1,285.00	\$0.00
Part-Time Clerk	\$650.00	\$650.00	\$0.00
Total Town Clerk	\$20,852.00	\$15,747.16	\$5,104.84
Election & Registration			
Salaries	\$2,700.00	\$2,100.05	\$599.95
Expenses	\$1,650.00	\$1,650.00	\$0.00
Total Election & Registration	\$4,350.00	\$3,750.05	\$599.95
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	\$68.00	\$432.00
ZBA Consultant	\$960.00	\$0.00	\$960.00
Total Zoning Board of Appeals	\$1,460.00	\$68.00	\$1,392.00
Land Court / Tax Title Fees			
Land Court Fees	\$17,298.65	\$0.00	\$17,298.65
Tax Title Surveys / Appraisals	\$52,509.18	\$0.00	\$52,509.18
Total Land Court / Tax Title Fees	\$69,807.83	\$0.00	\$69,807.83
Town Hall			
Town Hall / Office Maintenance	\$5,368.81	\$5,228.85	\$139.96
Town Hall / Office Expenses	\$26,638.97	\$24,206.03	\$2,432.94
Town - Phone	\$13,500.00	\$8,540.73	\$4,959.27
Handicap Access / Town Hall / Office	\$47,157.32	\$0.00	\$47,157.32
Computer Service	\$1,090.52	\$957.96	\$132.56
Insurance Deductible - Hail Damage	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Town Hall Window Shutters & Steeple	\$10,000.00	\$5,475.00	\$4,525.00
Town Hall Bldg Exterior	\$62,000.00	\$56,096.00	\$5,904.00
Town Hall / Office Wire	\$6,278.34	\$439.96	\$5,838.38
Total Town Hall	\$177,033.96	\$100,944.53	\$76,089.43
Printing			
Town Printing	\$1,750.00	\$1,071.27	\$678.73
Total Printing	\$1,750.00	\$1,071.27	\$678.73
Police Department			
Police Chief Salary	\$75,370.00	\$75,370.00	\$0.00
Police Wages	\$34,412.00	\$30,637.61	\$3,774.39
Full Time Officer Wages	\$53,144.00	\$53,144.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$43,791.15	\$38,684.83	\$5,106.32
Speed Radar Sign	\$4,845.00	\$4,845.00	\$0.00
Training - Full Time	\$3,510.00	\$3,476.95	\$33.05
Training - Part Time	\$7,236.00	\$6,890.59	\$345.41
Total Police Department	\$222,308.15	\$213,048.98	\$9,259.17

Department:	Budget	Expended	Unexpended
Fire Department			
Salaries/Wages	\$34,071.30	\$24,448.76	\$9,622.54
Expenses	\$29,575.00	\$18,272.40	\$11,302.60
Deluge Gun Set	\$1,950.00	\$1,950.00	\$0.00
Fire Hoses	\$5,000.00	\$4,500.00	\$500.00
Turnout Gear	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$25,000.00
Breathing Apparatus	\$6,257.00	\$0.00	\$6,257.00
Total Fire Department	\$101,853.30	\$49,171.16	\$52,682.14
Emergency Management			
Emergency Management	\$6,266.59	\$4,943.42	\$1,323.17
Total Emergency Management	\$6,266.59	\$4,943.42	\$1,323.17
Building Inspector			
Building Inspector Salary	\$7,558.00	\$7,557.70	\$0.30
Clerical	\$2,633.29	\$2,633.29	\$0.00
Total Building Inspector	\$10,191.29	\$10,190.99	\$0.30
Animal Control Officer			
Salary	\$2,005.00	\$2,005.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$1,425.00	\$254.92	\$1,170.08
Total Dog Officer	\$3,430.00	\$2,259.92	\$1,170.08
Tree Warden			
Salary	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$685.00	\$550.50	\$134.50
High Tree Work	\$9,785.34	\$8,068.96	\$1,716.38
Total Tree Warden	\$13,470.34	\$11,619.46	\$1,850.88
Forest Warden			
Salary	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Total Forest Warden	\$50.00	\$25.00	\$25.00
Public Safety Communications			
Communication Radio Repairs	\$1,800.00	\$824.78	\$975.22
IMC & LEAPS	\$3,075.00	\$2,540.00	\$535.00
Total Public Safety Communications	\$4,875.00	\$3,364.78	\$1,510.22
Broadband Network			
Expenses	\$560,000.00	\$253,080.62	\$306,919.38
Total Broadband Network	\$560,000.00	\$253,080.62	\$306,919.38
Education			
Petersham Center School	\$1,493,121.34	\$1,426,946.64	\$66,174.70
Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District	\$742,371.00	\$742,369.00	\$2.00
Montachusett Regional Vocational Tech.	\$27,801.00	\$27,792.42	\$8.58
Total Education	\$2,263,293.34	\$2,197,108.06	\$66,185.28

Department:	Budget	Expended	Unexpended
Highway Department			
Salaries	\$144,309.00	\$143,397.52	\$911.48
Expenses	\$50,000.00	\$46,386.27	\$3,613.73
	<u>\$194,309.00</u>	<u>\$189,783.79</u>	<u>\$4,525.21</u>
Town Barn			
Expenses	\$8,485.00	\$8,468.58	\$16.42
Total Town Barn	<u>\$8,485.00</u>	<u>\$8,468.58</u>	<u>\$16.42</u>
Snow & Ice Removal			
Expenses	\$84,272.47	\$84,272.47	\$0.00
Total Snow & Ice Removal	<u>\$84,272.47</u>	<u>\$84,272.47</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
Street Lights			
Street Lights	\$6,500.00	\$6,065.06	\$434.94
Total Street Lights	<u>\$6,500.00</u>	<u>\$6,065.06</u>	<u>\$434.94</u>
Cemetery Department			
Expenses	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Care of Cemeteries	\$20,523.00	\$20,523.00	\$0.00
Computerizing Cemetery Records	\$155.01	\$34.97	\$120.04
Cemetery Repairs	\$7,504.43	\$4,700.00	\$2,804.43
Total Cemetery Department	<u>\$28,482.44</u>	<u>\$25,257.97</u>	<u>\$3,224.47</u>
Board of Health			
Board Members Salaries	\$490.00	\$490.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$2,842.00	\$699.99	\$2,142.01
BOH - Admin Assistant	\$6,232.00	\$6,220.91	\$11.09
Inspector of Animals	\$2,460.00	\$2,460.00	\$0.00
Total Board of Health	<u>\$12,024.00</u>	<u>\$9,870.90</u>	<u>\$2,153.10</u>
Transfer Station			
Transfer Station	\$52,000.00	\$44,134.47	\$7,865.53
Total Transfer Station	<u>\$52,000.00</u>	<u>\$44,134.47</u>	<u>\$7,865.53</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	\$3,851.00	\$3,850.28	\$0.72
Veterans' Benefits	\$9,000.00	\$520.00	\$8,480.00
Total Veterans' Agent	<u>\$12,851.00</u>	<u>\$4,370.28</u>	<u>\$8,480.72</u>
Library			
Operating Subsidy	\$9,300.00	\$9,300.00	\$0.00
Total Library	<u>\$9,300.00</u>	<u>\$9,300.00</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	\$148.60	\$176.40
Total Bandstand	\$325.00	\$148.60	\$176.40

Town Clock

Care of Town Clock	\$73.00	\$73.00	\$0.00
Total Town Clock	\$73.00	\$73.00	\$0.00

Care of Common

Expenses	\$7,680.00	\$7,680.00	\$0.00
High Tree Work	\$32,288.05	\$3,000.00	\$29,288.05
Friday Market Concerts	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Total Care of Common	\$40,968.05	\$11,680.00	\$29,288.05

Historical Commission

Expenses	\$85.00	\$0.00	\$85.00
Total Historical Commission	\$85.00	\$0.00	\$85.00

Historical District Commission

Expenses	\$252.00	\$78.39	\$173.61
Total Historical District Commission	\$252.00	\$78.39	\$173.61

Memorial Day

Expenses	\$645.00	\$491.29	\$153.71
Total Memorial Day	\$645.00	\$491.29	\$153.71

Debt Service

Mahar Dam Debt	\$2,142.00	\$2,142.00	\$0.00
Nichewaug Inn & Academy Dibt	\$5,763.00	\$0.00	\$5,763.00
Center School Debt	\$104,755.00	\$104,755.00	\$0.00
Mahar Debt	\$19,559.00	\$19,559.00	\$0.00
Interest Expense	\$5,400.00	\$400.00	\$5,000.00
Total Debt Service	\$137,619.00	\$126,856.00	\$10,763.00

Assessments

School Choice	\$35,000.00	\$61,100.00	(\$26,100.00)
Air Pollution	\$365.00	\$365.00	\$0.00
Regional Transit	\$23.00	\$23.00	\$0.00
RMV Non-Renewal	\$1,120.00	\$1,120.00	\$0.00
Total State Assessments	\$36,508.00	\$62,608.00	(\$26,100.00)

Retirement

Assessment	\$138,452.00	\$138,452.00	\$0.00
Total Retirement	\$138,452.00	\$138,452.00	\$0.00

Insurance

Health	\$70,986.32	\$70,986.32	\$0.00
Retirees Health	\$22,528.05	\$22,528.05	\$0.00
Medicare	\$21,259.82	\$21,259.82	\$0.00
General Insurance	\$74,474.00	\$74,474.00	\$0.00

Department:	Budget	Expended	Unexpended
Insurance Reserve Fund	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00
Total Insurance	\$219,248.19	\$189,248.19	\$30,000.00

Nichewaug Dispostion	\$6,086.25	\$0.00	\$6,086.25
Nichewaug Maintenance	\$2,825.07	\$2,546.58	\$278.49
Nichewaug Property Insurance	5,720.00	5,720.00	\$0.00
Asbestos Removal - SpTM 12-12-16	443,328.25	432,604.43	\$10,723.82

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

Fiscal Year 2018 – This year was a busy year but not lots of good stuff to tell. The office continues to sell Hunting and Fishing licenses for those who don't want to go on-line and do them. I miss seeing many of my hunters/fishermen. For many, it was the only time they would come into my office all year.

I continue to offer my services as a Notary Public and a Justice of the Peace.

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.

This is also the last full year of having Steven Boudreau to assist with the daily things that would come along. His help and assistance was always appreciated.

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. Elections and Town Meetings continue to keep us busy.

My Board of Registrars members, Alfred Berry and Annie Woolsey never let me down. They are always ready, willing and able to help when asked. We are fortunate in this town to have such dedicated individuals.

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 23 years.

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 Special Town Meeting, held on June 4, 2018, at which a quorum was present, the following votes were taken:

The Town voted to transfer from Free Cash, the sum of \$29,272.47 to eliminate the Fiscal Year 2018 Snow & Ice Account deficit. Unanimous

The Town voted to adjourn the STM at 7:54 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 4, 2018, 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, Joanie Menard – Petersham Center School, Daniel Hayes – Ralph C. Mahar Regional, Chris Lynch – Matrix and John Woolsey – Resident Non-Voter

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 2019, 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 2019.

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 2019.

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 2019.

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 2019.

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 2019 not to exceed \$20,000.00.

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 2019.

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 2019.

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 2019.

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 \$6,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2019.

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 2019.

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 2019.

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 2019.

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 2019.

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 2019.

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 \$3,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2019.

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 3,754,358 for the total of the Selectboard Budget for FY2019 summarized as follows: 2 Opposed

Town General Office & Finance:	\$ 339,776.00
Total Protection of Persons & Property:	\$ 409,181.00
Total Health and Sanitation:	\$ 64,199.00
Total Highway Department:	\$ 273,568.00
Total Charities and Veterans Benefits:	\$ 12,483.00
Total Unclassified	\$ 337,168.00

TOTAL \$1,436,375.00

The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 768,307.00 for the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District FY2019 Budget.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 40,505.00 for the Montachusett Regional Vocational School District FY2019 Budget.

The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 1,509,171.00 for the Petersham Center School FY2019 Budget. 2 Opposed

The Town voted to raise and appropriate the Grand Total General Budget of \$3,754,358.00

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; Town Treasurer \$17,380.00; Town Clerk \$11,129.00; Tax Collector \$13,757.00; Selectboard, Chair \$2,855.00; two members \$2,505.00 each; Board of Assessors, Chair, \$3,235.00, Clerk, \$2,800.00, other member, \$2,636.00; Trustee of Library FREE; Constables \$12.50/per hour; Board of Health chair, \$203.00, other members, \$150.00 each.

Article 21: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$24,364.00 to pay contractual obligations for the Chief of Police upon his retirement from the Police Department.

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

Article 23: 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 2018. 1 Opposed

Article 24: 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 25: The Town voted to raise and appropriate, appropriate from available funds, take from the Stabilization Fund, borrow, or any combination thereof, the sum of \$101,380.00 to pay the Fiscal Year 2019 principal and interest due on the Petersham Center School building project.

Article 26: The Town voted to raise and appropriate \$19,611.00 to pay the Fiscal Year 2019 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 \$2,167.00 to pay the Fiscal Year 2019 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 the sum of \$20,543.00, take from the existing Asbestos Removal Project Account No. 015925.001 the sum of \$10,723.00 and take from the existing Board of Health Revolving Fund Account No. 275510.000 the sum of \$10,000.00 for a total sum of \$41,266.00 to pay the principal and interest for the debt service for asbestos removal at the Nichewaug Inn & Academy building included in the Bond Anticipation Note for Fiscal Year 2019. Unanimous

Article 29: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,725.00 for the Board of Assessors to contract for services for the update of values of all real estate for Fiscal Year 2020, as required by State Law.

Article 30: 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 31: The Town voted to transfer from free cash \$5,000.00 for payment of year five of five of hose replacement for the Fire Department.

Article 32: The Town voted to transfer from free cash the sum of \$25,000.00 for payment of year two of two for turnout gear for the Fire Department.

Article 33: The Town voted to take from the existing HandicapAcc/TownHall/Town Office Account No. 015192.003 the sum of \$20,000.00 for construction and installation of a three-stop handicap accessible lift for exterior and interior access at Petersham Town Hall; and that said appropriation be designated as matching grant funding and be subject to and in combination with a positive grant award notification of a Municipal ADA Improvement Grant from the Massachusetts Office of Disabilities or other granting authority.

Article 34: The Town voted transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$80,000 for payment for purchase of a new Highway Department Ford F550 truck with dump body, plow, and sander.

Article 35: The Town voted to take from the existing Town Hall Window Shutters Account No. 015192.021 the sum of \$4,525.00 and take from the existing Town Hall Bldg. Exterior Account No. 015192.025 the sum of \$5,475.00 for a total sum of \$10,000.00 for payment for regrading, repair, paving, and parking lot striping at the northern side parking area of Town Hall.

Article 36: The Town voted to take no action.

Article 37: The Town voted to take from the existing CDBG – Town Athol Expenses Account No. 255698.000 the sum of \$4,900. 00 for payment for maintenance repairs at the Bandstand on Petersham Common.

Article 38: The Town voted to transfer from free cash the sum of \$4,850.00 for regarding, repair, loam and seed at locations around the Town Common edges.

Article 39: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,483.00 and transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$33,517.00 for a total sum of \$35,000.00 for deposit into the Reserve Fund for Fiscal Year 2019.

Article 40: The Town voted to take from the existing HandicapAcc/TownHall/Town Office Account No. 015192.003 the sum of \$27,157.32 for deposit into the Stabilization Fund. 2/3 Needed - Unanimous

Article 41: The Town voted unanimously to amend the Town of Petersham Zoning By-laws, currently codified as Article XVI in the Town's General By-laws, as follows, such changes being shown in a copy of the full Zoning By-laws on file in the office of the Town Clerk; or act in relation thereto:

5. by removing them from the General By-laws and establishing them as a separate document entitled "Town of Petersham Zoning By-laws" with its own table of contents;
6. by moving and re-numbering the following sections and subsections as follows:
 - Subsection 5.D, Telecommunication and Cellular Towers – renumber as Section 16
 - Subsection 5.E, Earth Removal/Sand and Gravel Extraction – renumber as Section 17
 - Subsection 5.F, Solar Electric Installations – renumber as Section 18
 - Section 5.B, Subdivisions – renumber as Section 19
 - Section 1.1, Townwide Rate of Development – renumber as Section 20
7. by deleting from Section 4, Dimensional Requirements, the words, "See TABLE OF DIMENSIONAL REQUIREMENTS, Page 42A", inserting the existing table from page 42A in its place with deleted text shown below in ~~strike through~~, and eliminating page 42A.

TABLE OF DIMENSIONAL REQUIREMENTS

	Minimum Lot Area	Minimum Lot Frontage on a Street	Minimum Front	Yard Rear (b) (c)	Depth Side (b) (c)	Maximum Height (d)	Maximum Building
Residential Use	1.5 acres (63,340sf)	150 ft	40 ft	40 ft	20 ft	2.5 stories or 35 ft	20%
Business Use	1.5 acres (63,340sf)	150 ft	50 ft	50 ft	50 ft	2.5 stories or 35 ft	20%
Rear Lots	1.5 acres plus access strip	40 ft on street 150 ft width of lot at front of house	40 ft	40 ft	20 ft	2.5 stories or 35 ft	20%

Article 42: The Town voted unanimously to amend the Town of Petersham General By-laws, as follows, such changes being shown in a copy of the full By-laws on file in the office of the Town Clerk; or act in relation thereto:

- A. Correct the page numbers in the Table of Contents to reflect prior amendments and revise the Table of Contents text as shown in the copy on file with the Town Clerk, including as shown below for the following article, with the deleted text shown in ~~striketrough~~ and the new text shown as underlined:

Article XVI ~~Zoning By-laws Deleted and replaced by a separate document~~...37

- B. Reword the text for Article X as follows:

**ARTICLE X
EARTH REMOVAL BY-LAW
~~DELETED AND REPLACED BY ARTICLE XVI, ZONING BY-LAW SECTION 5.E.~~ — MOVED
TO ZONING BY-LAW**

- C. In Article XVIII, Stretch Energy Code, delete the initial listing of sections after the title as follows: ~~Section 1—Definitions Section 2—Purpose Section 3—Applicability Section 4—Stretch Code~~; and insert the word “Section” before each numbered section.

- D. For Article XIX, Local Licenses and Permits, Denial, Revocation, or Suspension, revise the title so that it reads as follows:

**ARTICLE XIX
LOCAL LICENSES AND PERMITS; DENIAL, REVOCATION, OR SUSPENSION
~~FOR FAILURE TO PAY MUNICIPAL TAXES OR CHARGES~~**

Article 43: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to support the Petersham Friday Market and its 2018 program of up to 20 live music performances to be held on the town common. 54 in favor – 6 opposed

Article 44: The Town voted to take no action.

Article 45: The Town voted to take no action.

Article 46: The Town voted to take no action.

Article 47: The Town voted to take no action.

Article 48: The Town voted to take no action.

The Town voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:13 PM.

This is a True Copy Attest.



Diana L. Cooley, Town Clerk

Vital Statistics of the Town Clerk

Births

From July 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017 there were 5 babies born – 4 girls and 1 boy.
From January 1, 2018 through June 30, 2018 there were 2 babies born – 1 girl and 1 boy.

Marriages

July 8, 2017	Corey Brown	Athol
	Brandi Cooley	Athol
August 24, 2017	Samuel Williamson	England
	Patty Upshaw	Petersham
September 30, 2017	Steven Vieira	Petersham
	Sofia McDonald Games	Petersham
January 27, 2018	Ralph Jardine	Canada
	Margaret Baxter	Athol
May 11, 2018	Patrick Roohan	Petersham
	Jennifer Storke	Petersham
June 9, 2018	Alexander Ufema, III	Petersham
	Miah Brigham	Petersham

Deaths

July 9, 2017	Elizabeth Day	Petersham	48
July 26, 2017	Bartholomew Germond	Petersham	91
August 4, 2017	Joseph Kenney	Petersham	66
August 16, 2017	Mark Hager	Petersham	55
August 25, 2017	Michael Huppert	Petersham	70
December 14, 2017	Barbara Corey	Petersham	90
January 30, 2018	Edward Shamgochian	Petersham	92
February 10, 2018	Mary Cooley	Petersham	77
March 14, 2018	Suzanne Page-Neri	Petersham	68
May 13, 2018	William Byrne	Petersham	72
June 7, 2018	Brian Miner	Petersham	66
June 14, 2018	Thomas Maloof Jr.	Petersham	76
June 27, 2018	Alice Shamgochian	Petersham	97

There were 9 burials brought into town.

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

General Government

Selectmen

Nancy Allen	Selectman	2,785.00	
Fredrik Marsh	Selectmen	2,444.00	
Henry Woolsey	Selectman	2,444.00	
Steven Boudreau	Admin. Coordinator	47,336.69	
Sherry Berube	Secretary	7,955.48	\$ 62,965.17

Assessors

Dana Kennan	Assessor	3,156.00	
Ellen Anderson	Assessor	3,512.02	
Jean Robinson	Assessor	2,691.98	
Kelly Garlock	Asst. Assessor	33,439.38	\$ 42,799.38

Tax Collector

Renee Wingertsman	Salary	13,421.00	
	Fees	4,369.00	\$ 17,790.00

Town Clerk

Diana Cooley		14,361.75	
Renee Wingertsman	Secretary	650.00	\$ 15,011.75

Town Treasurer

Dana Robinson		15,980.00	\$ 15,980.00
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Town Accountant

Jean Joel		20,000.00	
Kelly Garlock	Assistant	699.52	\$ 20,699.52

Building Inspector

Brianna Skowrya	Paid thru District	0.00	
Renee Wingertsman	Secretary	1,701.62	\$ 1,701.62

Board of Health

Stephen Loring	Health Board	142.00	
Fifi Scoufopoulos	Health Board	142.00	
Robert Pasic	Health Board	193.00	
Michael Seitz	Transfer Station	1,696.18	
Fredrik Marsh	Transfer Station	1,838.46	
Renee Wingertsman	BOH Secretary	12,152.38	\$ 16,164.02

Town Hall & Office Custodian

Neil Legare		8,339.09	\$ 8,339.09
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Tree Warden

Melissa LeVangie		3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
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Animal Inspector

Marc Page		2,460.00	\$ 2,460.00
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Animal Control Officer

Debra Jones- Bachrach		2,005.00	\$ 2,005.00
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Plumbing & Gas Inspector

Daniel Jolly		6,160.00	\$ 6,160.00
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Electrical Inspector

Gary Terroy		9,595.00	
Glenn Tattan	Asst. Electrical Inspector	150.00	\$ 9,745.00

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

Elections & Registration

Ralph Hebert		120.52	
Anne Hyde-Hebert		120.52	
Dana Kennan		63.00	
Mary Kenney		63.00	
Carolyn May		150.52	
Karen O'Connor		248.37	
Monika Perkins		39.00	
Annie Woolsey		100.00	
Alfred Berry		100.00	
Denis Legare	Constable	23.12	
Larry Robinson	Constable	24.00	\$ 1,052.05

Emergency Management Director

Lynne Shaw		1,830.00	
			\$ 1,830.00

Police Department

R. Dana Cooley Jr.	Chief	78,828.21	
	Detail Pay	5,348.00	
John Bell		2,652.60	
Jesse Berard		5,295.98	
Jeffrey Boyer		836.35	
Peter Buck		3,537.43	
Marc Duguay		8,314.58	
Randy Horne	Salary	53,943.56	
	Detail Pay	35,406.00	
Daniel Kimball		5,197.35	
Robert Legare		4,671.97	
Michael Leslie		3,070.71	
Jason Lichtengerger		4,414.86	
Richard Martin		352.00	
Brandon Newell		3,478.97	
Charles Pinder		10,326.31	
Timothy Wright		6,000.57	
			\$ 231,675.45

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

Fire Department

Dana Robinson	Chief	6,482.90	
	Inspection Fees	1,675.00	
Robert Legare	Assistant Chief	4,663.64	
Larry Robinson	Deputy Chief	2,315.20	
Shawn Legare	Captain	1,761.60	
Vinnie Acito		245.60	
Raymond Balzer		159.20	
Scott Churchill		397.60	
Jacob Cooley		1,198.90	
Ronald Dejackome		30.60	
Peter Devoll		1,430.80	
Rebecca Jackson		854.20	
Josiah Legare		26.00	
Rebecca Legare		818.20	
Charles Pinder		1,607.10	
Ashley Reed		790.30	
Matthew Robinson		54.90	
Jason Scott		2,162.30	
Kevin Shortis		31.40	
Peter West		30.60	
			\$ 26,736.04

Highway Department

Gregory Waid	Superintendent	61,024.92	
Leslie Cooley		57,851.84	
Brian Bassett		49,407.80	
Richard Cooley, Sr.		6,689.95	
Ryan Herk		3,624.56	
Neil Legare		1,767.36	
James Murphy		828.76	
Charles Pinder		209.69	
Jacob Cooley		3,335.00	
			\$ 184,739.88

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

School Department

Joanne Menard	Principal	90,177.00
Bridget Koetsch	Kindegarten	77,519.98
Alissa Roy	Grade 1	45,387.48
Wendi LeBlanc	Grade 2	77,470.76
Tracy Smith	Grade 3	66,693.03
Melissa Clark	Learning Specialist	61,498.78
Deirdre Keenan	Grade 4	47,783.42
Melissa Fournier	Grade 5	64,975.23
Nicole Ruggles	Grade 6	78,950.94
Christina Boyer- Thompson	Special Needs	56,018.12
Natasha Hanna	Music/Aide	21,331.57
Angela Haynes	Music/Aide	18,106.44
Kay Leonard	Art	11,359.68
Suzanne Tattan	Phys. Ed.	13,271.00
Christine Warburton	School Nurse	33,519.15
Charlotte Layton	School Nurse	503.25
Barbara Clough	Nurse Sub.	1,533.00
Katherine Arsenault	Technology/Library	10,615.10
David Weinberg	Guidance	43,895.71
Kimberlyn Rushford-Waugh	Aide	14,558.09
Kristen Orlando	Aide	18,934.62
Ann Degnan	Secretary	44,590.00
Debra Phelps	Cook	7,570.80
Kristine Wallace	Cook	21,819.92
James M. Burke III	Head Custodian	49,792.41
Justin Liversidge	Custodian	34,637.06
Pamela Chevalier	Substitute	1,828.25
Jennifer Berry	Substitute	1,621.50
Charles Black	Substitute	897.75
Carol Boudreau	Substitute	225.00
Jillian Casey	Substitute	147.00
Matthew Degnan	Substitute	66.00
Barbie Downing	Substitute	8,963.50
Karen Lewis	Substitute	218.00
Jenifer Sydla	Substitute	735.00
Mary Whitelaw	Substitute	2,849.00
Barbara Young	Substitute	1,516.25
		\$ 1,031,579.79

Total Payroll All Departments

\$ 1,702,433.76

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

1099 Vendors

Barnes Landscaping	Care of Common & Cemeteries	35,712.00
Louise Dowd		1,200.00
Eldridge Electric	Electrical Work	1,082.50
Alyssa Magoffin	School Committee	711.86
Thomas Garbett	Psychologist	13,205.00
Dejackome Excavating	Contractor	1,560.00
Favreau Forestry	Tree Work	4,712.96
Phillip Leger	Board of Health	3,625.00
Whittier Plumbing & Htg.	Repairs Town Hall & Office	3,010.93
Suzanne Saven	School Psychologist	10,688.00

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Total Payroll & 1099 Vendors

\$ 75,508.25
\$ 1,777,942.01

Respectfully Submitted,
Dana C. Robinson
Town Treasurer

**Town of Petersham
Trust Fund Activity
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

Fund	Princ. Bal. 7/1/2017	Earnings Bal. 7/1/2017	Princ. Contrib.	Earnings Net	Cash Disb.	Princ. Bal. 6/30/2018	Earnings Bal 6/30/2018	Ending Cash Value
<u>Cemetery Funds</u>								
Consolidated Cemetery I & II	\$ 78,651.71	\$ 2,487.87	\$ 600.00	\$ 212.54		\$ 79,251.71	\$ 3,421.00	\$ 82,672.71
E.M. Cook Cemetery Fund	1,026.25	43.76		2.89		1,026.25	56.03	1,082.28
L.L. Pond Cemetery Fund 1 & II	2,333.33	99.39		6.55		2,333.33	127.28	2,460.61
Belle Rickey Cemetery Fund	188.97	4.30		0.52		188.97	6.52	195.49
Cemetery Bequests	-	-		-		-	-	-
Annie Daniels Flower Fund	1,069.54	24.45		2.94		1,069.54	37.00	1,106.54
John Mudge Flower Fund	2,131.32	166.58		6.17		2,131.32	192.94	2,324.26
J & C Williams Flower Fund	544.61	12.45		1.51		544.61	18.85	563.46
William Smith Cemetery Fund	9,000.00	384.27		25.29		9,000.00	491.87	9,491.87
SubTotal	\$ 94,945.73	\$ 3,223.07	\$ 600.00	\$ 258.41	\$ -	\$ 95,545.73	\$ 4,351.49	\$ 99,897.22
<u>School Funds</u>								
McCarthy School fund	\$ 3,310.91	\$ 731.58		\$ 10.89	\$ -	\$ 3,310.91	\$ 777.93	\$ 4,088.84
Hildreth School fund	4,476.72	267.72		12.77	-	4,476.72	322.13	4,798.85
Josephine Dickman School Fund	2,926.79	211.45		8.45	-	2,926.79	247.45	3,174.24
Discovery Center School	459.22	296.09		2.04	-	459.22	304.74	763.96
Subtotal	\$ 11,173.64	\$ 1,506.84	\$ -	\$ 34.15	\$ -	\$ 11,173.64	\$ 1,652.25	\$ 12,825.89
<u>Library Funds</u>								
Mann Library Fund I & II	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,373.25		\$ 17.17		\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,446.34	\$ 6,446.34
GW Cook Library Fund	1,026.25	282.19		3.53		1,026.25	297.20	1,323.45
Spooner Library Fund I, II & III	4,659.00	12.77		12.77		4,659.00	66.35	4,725.35
Wheeler Library fund	3,000.00	823.95		10.30		3,000.00	867.82	3,867.82
Subtotal	\$ 13,685.25	\$ 2,492.16	\$ -	\$ 43.77	\$ -	\$ 13,685.25	\$ 2,677.71	\$ 16,362.96
<u>Conservation Funds</u>								
Babbitt Fund	\$ 58,235.13	\$ 121.56		\$ 165.57		\$ 58,235.13	\$ 790.71	\$ 59,025.84
Evelyn Murphy Conservation Fund	10,000.00	2,591.20		37.23		10,000.00	2,735.59	12,735.59
Subtotal	\$ 68,235.13	\$ 2,712.76	\$ -	\$ 202.80	\$ -	\$ 68,235.13	\$ 3,526.30	\$ 71,761.43
<u>Charity Funds</u>								
Elizabeth Newton Charity Fund	\$ 3,441.65	\$ 10,110.12		\$ 36.51	\$ -	\$ 3,441.65	\$ 10,265.51	\$ 13,707.16
E Newton Deserving Poor Fund	13,672.26	35,956.02		133.72	-	13,672.26	36,525.06	50,197.32
Subtotal	\$ 17,113.91	\$ 46,066.14	\$ -	\$ 170.23	\$ -	\$ 17,113.91	\$ 46,790.57	\$ 63,904.48

**Town of Petersham
Trust Fund Activity
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018**

Fund	Princ. Bal. 7/1/2017	Earnings Bal. 7/1/2017	Princ. Contrib.	Earnings Net	Cash Disb.	Princ. Bal. 6/30/2018	Earnings Bal 6/30/2018	Ending Cash Value
Other Funds								
Flint Memorial Fund	\$ 22,967.99	\$ 11,742.21		\$ 398.02		\$ 22,967.99	\$ 12,140.23	\$ 35,108.22
Disaster Fund	6,949.70	74,838.15	-	\$ 937.82		6,949.70	\$ 75,775.97	\$ 82,725.67
Stabilization Fund	158,955.86	402,294.36	122,511.00	\$ 5,625.42	300,000.00	281,466.86	\$ 107,919.78	\$ 389,386.64
Energy Commission fund	0.39	3.29		\$ 0.04	-	\$ 0.39	\$ 3.33	\$ 3.72
Petersham Village Imp. Soc	115.66	110.06		\$ 2.57		115.66	\$ 112.63	\$ 228.29
Davenport Property Maintenance	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 508.56	\$ (972.99)	\$ 124.79	\$ (587.01)	\$ 10,027.01	\$ 46.34	\$ 10,073.35
Subtotal	\$ 199,989.60	\$ 489,496.63	\$ 121,538.01	\$ 7,088.66	\$ 299,412.99	\$ 321,527.61	\$ 195,998.28	\$ 517,525.89
Grand Total Trust Funds	\$ 405,143.26	\$ 545,497.60	\$ 122,138.01	\$ 7,798.02	\$ 299,412.99	\$ 527,281.27	\$ 254,996.60	\$ 782,277.87

Respectfully Submitted

Dana C. Robinson
Town Treasurer

Submission for Petersham Town Report FY19

Tree Warden – Town Report for FY2019 (July 2018 -June 2019)

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

- I had the pleasure of collaborating with the Forest & Shade Tree Committee to hold our Annual Arbor Day Celebration on the Common that included an ambitious, volunteer-led tree planting of 18 trees in town, with costs reimbursed by a grant from the Mass. DCR. We also had tree-themed refreshments, and provided free tree seedlings.
- Tree removal: Over 30 high-risk or dead roadsides trees were removed, including an American Elm on the South Common, which succumbed to Dutch Elm Disease.
- 16 ash trees were provided preventative protection against Emerald Ash Borer; this work should be done in 2019-2020 for on-going maintenance of treatment.
- Gypsy moth continued to ravage our town for the second year, putting pressure on our old maturing trees. Suggestions have been made to consider adding mulch to the trees on the north and south common to aid long term health of our aged trees.
- Petersham was again granted Tree City USA status from the National Arbor Day Foundation, and honored in 2018 with a Tree City USA Growth Award, which recognizes higher levels of tree care and innovative programs and projects.

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

FY18 ANNUAL REPORT

July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018

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.

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 FY18 Veterans' Benefits paid, by community, to its eligible veterans and/or dependents. Benefits paid are reimbursed at
3. 75% by the commonwealth.

FY18 VETERANS' BENEFITS DATA

Town	Benefits Paid	State Reimbursements	% Reimbursed
Athol	\$203,273.24	\$152,465.07	75%
Orange	\$85,182.16	\$63,792.14	75%
Petersham	\$520.00	\$390.00	75%
Phillipston	\$8958.00	\$6718.50	75%
Royalston	\$0.00	\$0.00	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 **\$7.6M** 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



Report of Petersham Center School **2017-2018**

On August 29, 2017, Principal Menard and PCS staff welcomed grades 1-6 students to the 2017-2018 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 5, 2017. As of October 2018, Petersham Center School had 116 students enrolled in grades K-6. Class sizes averaged 17 students per grade. PCS was again fortunate to have students under the School Choice program from the towns of: Amherst, Athol, Baldwinville, Barre, Gardner, Hardwick, Orange, New Salem, North Brookfield, Oakham, Phillipston, Templeton, and Winchendon.

The Petersham Center School FY 2017-2018 Fund Expenditures (GF appropriation, school choice, and circuit breaker) totaled \$1,763,039.35. 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 is passionate about continuing to offer all K-6 students six specials throughout the week, along with daily recess. Throughout the week, every student attends: STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics), Physical Education (twice a week), Performing Arts, Art, and Music Theory & Concepts.

During last spring and summer, our library was updated. Every book is now scanned into a new system which enables teachers to "check-out" books for their students. Local student volunteers reshelved the books enabling all to enjoy our wide offerings on a regular basis.

The school continued to pilot "Flurry Folders" 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 Flurry Folder days do not have to be made up at the end of the school year.

PCS was thrilled to continue offering our After School Enrichment Program. The following programs were available: Arts and Crafts, Beginning Cake Decorating, BreakOut Edu, Building Club, Digital Music, Math Games and Making Games Mathy, Music, Outdoor Exploration, and Sports Galore . A total of 162 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. 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.

Students were able to participate in PCS traditional field trips; as well as experience some new locations that complemented their academic studies. In September, our 5th & 6th grades attended Nature's Classroom for a week in Ocean Park, Maine. The 3rd and 5th grades experienced Petersham in Colonial Days and Petersham's East Street One Room Schoolhouse 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 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. Grades K-4 attended a play at Mount Wachusett Community College in Gardner and the fifth and sixth graders enjoyed their experience in Boston on the Freedom Trail and at the Tea Party Museum.

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 4th, 5th, and 6th graders.

Parent and community involvement continues to be an integral component of our success. PCS hosted our third annual Veterans Day Breakfast and program, along with our third annual community Memorial Day celebration around the flagpole. Community members were invited to enjoy various plays performed by each grade at PCS. The Petersham Playground Committee

continues to fundraise 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, helped with Field Day, and treated the whole school to a Sturbridge Village field trip.

The PCS community welcomed new staff members, and saw staffing changes, in the 2017-2018 school year. Due to our Learning Specialist retiring, Bridget Koetsch moved into that role from Kindergarten teacher. Christina Thompson also switched roles from teaching 1st grade to Kindergarten teacher. Alissa Roy was then hired and welcomed into our PCS community to become our 1st grade teacher. Our PCS Nurse also retired and we were fortunate to have Christine Warburton join our team as our school nurse. Craig Newton joined our team as our new STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) teacher. Finally in October, our Food Services Director retired and Kris Wallace moved into the role.

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 2017-2018 school year was an exciting and successful one.

Submitted by Joanne Menard, Principal of Petersham Center School
January 2019

PETERSHAM CENTER SCHOOL
 FY 2018-17 FUND EXPENDITURES (GF APPROPRIATION, SCHOOL CHOICE & CIRCUIT BREAKER)

	FISCAL 2018-2017			
	FY 2018 <u>Spending</u>	FY 2017 <u>Spending</u>	<u>Change</u>	FY 2016 <u>Spending</u>
ADMINISTRATION	39,143.87	29,659.14	9,484.73	22,367.33
SCHOOL BUILDING LEADERSHIP	140,607.43	134,605.92	6,001.51	132,033.54
INSTRUCTION	656,157.75	666,923.69	(10,765.94)	683,016.19
GUIDANCE AND TESTING	42,842.41	32,679.99	10,162.42	29,636.20
OTHER SCHOOL SERVICES	57,854.60	72,364.96	(14,510.36)	62,963.42
TRANSPORTATION	108,094.24	106,920.00	1,174.24	102,600.00
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE	211,193.50	188,757.90	22,435.60	196,238.27
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND INSURANCE	168,673.32	161,617.12	7,056.20	142,250.63
SPECIAL EDUCATION	338,472.23	336,517.96	1,954.27	240,138.24
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,763,039.35	1,730,046.68	32,992.67	1,611,243.82
PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN SPENDING	1.91%			

PETERSHAM CENTER SCHOOL
FY 2018 GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

Object Code	FISCAL 2018					Fiscal 2017	2018-2017	
	Original Budget	Budget Adjustments	Adjusted Budget	Expended YTD	Unexpended Balance	Expended YTD	Expended Change	
ADMINISTRATION								
School Committee Expenses	1110	2,706.00	(116.16)	2,589.84	1,594.87	994.97	3,420.00	(1,825.13)
Union 73 Central Office Salaries	1230	31,596.00		31,596.00	31,549.00	47.00	20,016.00	11,533.00
Union 73 Central Office Expenses	1230	-		-	-	-	223.14	(223.14)
Legal	1430	7,210.00		7,210.00	6,000.00	1,210.00	6,000.00	-
Total Administration		41,512.00	(116.16)	41,395.84	39,143.87	2,251.97	29,659.14	9,484.73
SCHOOL BUILDING LEADERSHIP								
Principal Salary	2210	90,175.00	2.00	90,177.00	90,177.00	-	87,550.00	2,627.00
Principal Administrative Assistant Salary	2210	44,594.00	(4.00)	44,590.00	44,590.00	-	43,646.11	943.89
Principal Office Expenses	2210	4,500.00	(686.91)	3,813.09	3,813.09	-	1,752.36	2,060.73
Principal Dues and Travel	2210	2,345.00	(317.66)	2,027.34	2,027.34	-	1,657.45	369.89
Total School Building Leadership		141,614.00	(1,006.57)	140,607.43	140,607.43	-	134,605.92	6,001.51
INSTRUCTION								
Teacher Salaries	2305	388,585.00	34,023.11	422,608.11	422,608.11	-	443,748.52	(21,140.41)
Substitutes	2325	13,000.00	8,827.49	21,827.49	21,827.49	-	16,640.09	5,187.40
Classroom Specialists/Aides	2330	-		-	-	-	3,356.29	(3,356.29)
Instructional Technology	2451	41,739.00	(20,018.00)	21,721.00	21,721.00	-	13,768.06	7,952.94
Other Instructional Services	2440	5,950.00	(3,102.66)	2,847.34	2,847.34	-	5,247.60	(2,400.26)
Professional Development	2357	10,668.00	(3,186.33)	7,481.67	7,481.67	-	9,629.93	(2,148.26)
Supplies and Materials	2415	12,842.00	8,573.63	21,415.63	21,415.63	-	19,062.54	2,353.09
Total Instruction		472,784.00	25,117.24	497,901.24	497,901.24	-	511,453.03	(13,551.79)
GUIDANCE AND TESTING								
Counselor Salary	2700	31,367.00	1,540.89	32,907.89	32,907.89	-	-	32,907.89
Testing	2720	2,725.00	(521.00)	2,204.00	2,204.00	-	2,473.25	(269.25)
Total Guidance and Testing		34,092.00	1,019.89	35,111.89	35,111.89	-	2,473.25	32,638.64
OTHER SCHOOL SERVICES								
Health Services	3200	2,790.00	(532.85)	2,257.15	2,257.15	-	2,547.74	(290.59)
Total Other School Services		2,790.00	(532.85)	2,257.15	2,257.15	-	2,547.74	(290.59)
TRANSPORTATION								
	3300	110,150.00	(2,055.76)	108,094.24	108,094.24	-	106,920.00	1,174.24

PETERSHAM CENTER SCHOOL
FY 2018 GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

Object Code	FISCAL 2018					Fiscal 2017	2018-2017	
	Original Budget	Budget Adjustments	Adjusted Budget	Expended YTD	Unexpended Balance	Expended YTD	Expended Change	
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE								
Director of Buildings and Grounds	4110	46,821.00	(0.20)	46,820.80	46,820.80	-	46,716.40	104.40
Custodian Overtime	4110	1,500.00	1,520.67	3,020.67	3,020.67	-	1,667.48	1,353.19
Custodial Supplies	4110	8,569.00	(492.60)	8,076.40	8,076.40	-	8,004.85	71.55
Fuel Oil	4120	31,750.00	593.17	32,283.17	32,283.17	-	25,871.15	6,412.02
Utilities	4130	32,900.00	(3,397.90)	29,502.10	29,502.10	-	25,439.70	4,062.40
Grounds Maintenance	4210	2,470.00	1,579.39	4,049.39	4,049.39	-	2,102.82	1,946.57
Building Maintenance	4220	30,606.00	(8,404.60)	22,201.40	22,201.40	-	25,302.74	(3,101.34)
Equipment Maintenance	4230	17,025.00	14,206.57	31,231.57	31,231.57	-	14,926.54	16,305.03
Total Operations and Maintenance		171,641.00	5,544.50	177,185.50	177,185.50	-	150,031.68	27,153.82
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND INSURANCE								
Employee Health Benefits	5200	226,342.00	(57,668.68)	168,673.32	168,673.32	-	161,617.12	7,056.20
Total Employee Benefits and Insurance		226,342.00	(57,668.68)	168,673.32	168,673.32	-	161,617.12	7,056.20
SPECIAL EDUCATION								
Union 73 SPED Administration	1230	13,888.00	167.00	14,055.00	14,055.00	-	8,590.00	5,465.00
Administration Travel	1230	1,645.00	(1,126.86)	518.14	518.14	-	-	518.14
Office Supplies/Testing Materials	1230	6,403.00	1,045.93	7,448.93	7,448.93	-	-	7,448.93
Teaching	2305	28,521.00	12,496.55	41,017.55	41,017.55	-	34,366.81	6,650.74
Classroom Specialists/Aides	2330	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Speech Pathologist Salary	2320	39,922.00	(581.00)	39,341.00	39,341.00	-	39,313.68	27.32
Physical Therapist Salary	2320	29,640.00	(13,346.24)	16,293.76	16,293.76	-	26,452.69	(10,158.93)
Supplies and Materials	2415	3,642.00	1,197.41	4,839.41	4,839.41	-	1,488.82	3,350.59
Psychological Services	2800	13,680.00	2,724.00	16,404.00	16,404.00	-	28,814.50	(12,410.50)
Behavioral Services	2800	12,731.00	(836.00)	11,895.00	11,895.00	-	-	11,895.00
SPED Contracted Services	2800	5,363.00	(2,434.50)	2,928.50	2,928.50	-	3,737.84	(809.34)
Transportation	3300	37,818.00	4,713.00	42,531.00	42,531.00	-	36,271.78	6,259.22
Collaborative Assessment	9000	618.00	(122.00)	496.00	496.00	-	-	496.00
Out of District Tuition	9000	57,250.00	25,801.10	83,051.10	83,051.10	-	36,072.47	46,978.63

Total Special Education	251,121.00	29,698.39	280,819.39	280,819.39	-	215,108.59	65,710.80
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,452,046.00	-	1,452,046.00	1,449,794.03	2,251.97	1,314,416.47	135,377.56

PETERSHAM CENTER SCHOOL
 FY 2018 SCHOOL CHOICE FUND EXPENDITURES

Object Code	FISCAL 2018					Fiscal 2017	2018-2017	
	Original Budget	Budget Adjustments	Adjusted Budget	Expended YTD	Unexpended Balance	Expended YTD	Expended Change	
INSTRUCTION								
Teacher Salaries	2305	94,853.00		94,853.00	78,383.98	16,469.02	50,730.75	27,653.23
Specialist Salaries	2310	49,029.00	131.63	49,160.63	49,160.63	-	48,340.76	819.87
Enrichment Activities	2415	2,500.00	636.03	3,136.03	3,136.03	(0.00)	6,863.64	(3,727.61)
Classroom Specialists/Aides	2330	14,912.00	-	14,912.00	5,669.80	9,242.20	-	5,669.80
Instructional Technology Salary	2451	31,739.00	(14,764.40)	16,974.60	16,974.60	-	48,288.51	(31,313.91)
Instructional Materials and Supplies	2415	12,275.00		12,275.00	136.47	12,138.53	-	136.47
Professional Development	2357	25,800.00	(8,628.07)	17,171.93	4,795.00	12,376.93	1,247.00	3,548.00
Total Instruction		231,108.00	(22,624.81)	208,483.19	158,256.51	50,226.68	155,470.66	2,785.85
GUIDANCE AND TESTING								
Counselor Salary	2720	-	7,730.52	7,730.52	7,730.52	-	30,206.74	(22,476.22)
Total Guidance and Testing		-	7,730.52	7,730.52	7,730.52	-	30,206.74	(22,476.22)
OTHER SCHOOL SERVICES								
School Nurse Salary	3200	40,281.00	1,722.25	42,003.25	42,003.25	-	38,850.00	3,153.25
School Lunch Services	3300	9,758.00	3,836.20	13,594.20	13,594.20	-	30,967.22	(17,373.02)
Total Other School Services		50,039.00	5,558.45	55,597.45	55,597.45	-	69,817.22	(14,219.77)
OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE								
Custodian Salary	4110	34,008.00		34,008.00	34,008.00	-	32,886.00	1,122.00
Acquisition of Equipment	7300	-		-	-	-	5,840.22	(5,840.22)
Total Operations and Maintenance		34,008.00	-	34,008.00	34,008.00	-	38,726.22	(4,718.22)
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND INSURANCE								
Employee Health Benefits	5200	-		-	-	-	-	-
Total Employee Benefits and Insurance		-		-	-	-	-	-
SPECIAL EDUCATION								
Teaching	2305	36,693.00	1,841.99	38,534.99	38,534.99	-	46,912.49	(8,377.50)
SPED Summer Program	2330	-		-	-	-	4,688.30	(4,688.30)
Counselor Salary	2320	-		-	-	-	30,159.00	(30,159.00)
Transportation	3300	-	9,690.00	9,690.00	9,690.00	-	-	9,690.00
SPED Contracted Services	2800	11,624.00	(2,196.15)	9,427.85	9,427.85	-	13,512.58	(4,084.73)

Total Special Education	48,317.00	9,335.84	57,652.84	57,652.84	-	95,272.37	(37,619.53)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	363,472.00	0.00	363,472.00	313,245.32	50,226.68	389,493.21	(76,247.89)

PETERSHAM CENTER SCHOOL
SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
EDUCATION GRANTS AND REVOLVING
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2018

	Fund Balances July 1, 2017	Revenues	Expenditures	Other Financing Sources (Uses)	Fund Balances June 30, 2018
Special Revenue:					
Grants and Revolving					
School Lunch Revolving	15,487.84	32,236.35	33,057.18		14,667.01
School Choice Revolving	62,952.39	358,298.00	313,245.32		108,005.07
Circuit Breaker Revolving	-	27,916.00	-		27,916.00
Building Usage Revolving	847.52	210.04	-		1,057.58
Playground Gift Fund	650.00	3,926.67	243.02		4,333.65
Girl Scout Gift Fund	1,071.00	-	1,071.00		-
Big Yellow School Bus State Grant	-	200.00	200.00		-
Rural Education Federal Grant	-	14,040.45	20,163.46		(6,123.01)
Teacher Quality Federal Grant	-	2,390.00	2,390.00		-
SPED Program Improvement Federal Grant	3,000.00	-	3,000.00		-
Title I Grant	-	9,397.00	9,397.00		-
Early Education and Care Federal Grant	-	971.00	971.00		-
SPED Entitlement Federal Grant	-	30,968.00	30,968.00		-
Digital Connections Grant	-	3,331.31	-		3,331.31
New Salem Academy Local Grant	-	2,000.00	1,940.20		59.80
Total - Education Grants and Revolving	84,008.75	485,884.82	416,646.18	-	153,247.39

COMPARATIVE ENROLLMENT FIGURES
(October 1st)

Grade	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
K	15	18	16	17	16	15	20	8
1	18	18	18	19	16	18	16	21
2	16	17	21	14	19	16	18	16
3	18	16	15	19	15	19	16	19
4	16	17	16	14	17	18	19	17
5	15	14	15	15	19	17	18	16
6	15	15	14	15	15	17	17	19
Pre-school Out of Dist. Placement	1	1	1	1				
Total:	114	116	116	114	117	120	124	116

MONTY TECH ANNUAL REPORT 2018



MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL VOCATIONAL
TECHNICAL SCHOOL

1050 Westminster Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420

www.montytech.net



Schools across North Central Massachusetts are filled with eager students, talented educators and supportive administrators, all working together toward common goals: student achievement and academic excellence. While students and teachers at Monty Tech work together toward these goals daily, they also strive to achieve vocational-technical proficiency, assuring our graduates have a choice when they graduate: to pursue college or a career or both. As college costs continue to rise, and the need for qualified tradespeople is expanding across our region, having this choice is becoming increasingly important. Preparing our students to make this choice is a privilege, and so we remain committed to providing the best possible educational programs for our students.

Monty Tech academic programs are effectively serving students at all levels, as indicated on the most recent MCAS scores: 95% of students earned Advanced or Proficient scores in ELA, 85% earned Advanced or Proficient scores in mathematics, and 82% earned Advanced or Proficient scores in Biology. Student performance on this exam met or exceeded state-determined targets in every subgroup. Teachers continue to refine curriculum, incorporate new instructional strategies, and challenge every student to reach new levels, and we couldn't be prouder of the results.

School leaders also closely monitor each of the school's 21 vocational programs, to ensure they align with current industry standards, and that they continue to prepare students for entry-level careers in their chosen field. Whether it means purchasing new equipment, incorporating new certifications or credentials into the curriculum, or seeking new educational partners, vocational instructors and school leaders work collaboratively to ensure vocational programs at Monty Tech are among the most comprehensive, current, and innovative programs across the Commonwealth.

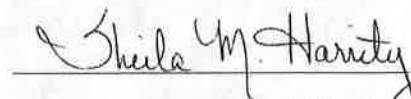
The 2017-2018 school year was marked by countless reasons to celebrate our students and staff, who consistently demonstrate vocational excellence and innovation.

Students and instructors in our Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, Masonry, HVAC and Property Maintenance, and Cabinetmaking trades completed a two-year long project – a 7,500 sq. ft. building, now home to the school's newest vocational program, Veterinary Science. This project was funded entirely by private sector donations, gifts, local, state and federal grants, and in-kind support in the form of donated materials and labor, and deep discounts on building materials and supplies. School officials raised an unprecedented \$2.6M to support the establishment of the Monty Tech Veterinary Science program - a tremendous accomplishment that reflects the support our community continues to provide our students, faculty and staff.

The Monty Tech Veterinary Clinic is not the only new and exciting opportunity available to our students. The school was recently awarded a \$500,000 Skills Capital Grant, to improve the Engineering Technology, Electrical, and CAD/Drafting & Design programs. This generous grant has allowed instructors to create two innovative learning spaces, intended to replicate working and learning environments maintained by industry leaders in advanced manufacturing and automation. Using this new equipment, students will prepare to become manufacturing technicians, robotics technicians, automation technicians, moldmakers, and CNC machinists at local corporations, filling the existing skills gap across these industries.

While students and instructors across the school continue to demonstrate creativity, innovation, and leadership, school leaders continue to keep an eye on emerging trends in vocational education. As we prepare these talented students to make important life choices, we are reminded that in the end, the choice is theirs to make: college or career or both. It is our job to support their aspirations and to educate and train them to achieve at the highest possible level. On behalf of our talented educators and administrators, who remain focused on delivering the highest quality academic and vocational-technical education possible, I am delighted to present the District's 2017-2018 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
Ashby
Athol
Barre
Fitchburg
Gardner

Harvard
Holden
Hubbardston
Lunenburg
Petersham
Phillipston

Princeton
Royalston
Sterling
Templeton
Westminster
Winchendon

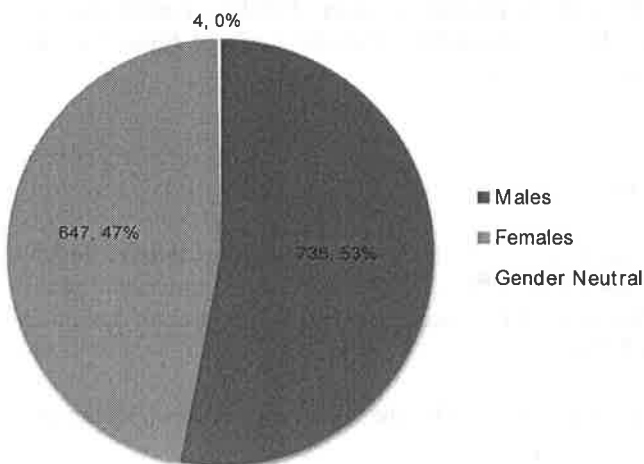
Leadership

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.

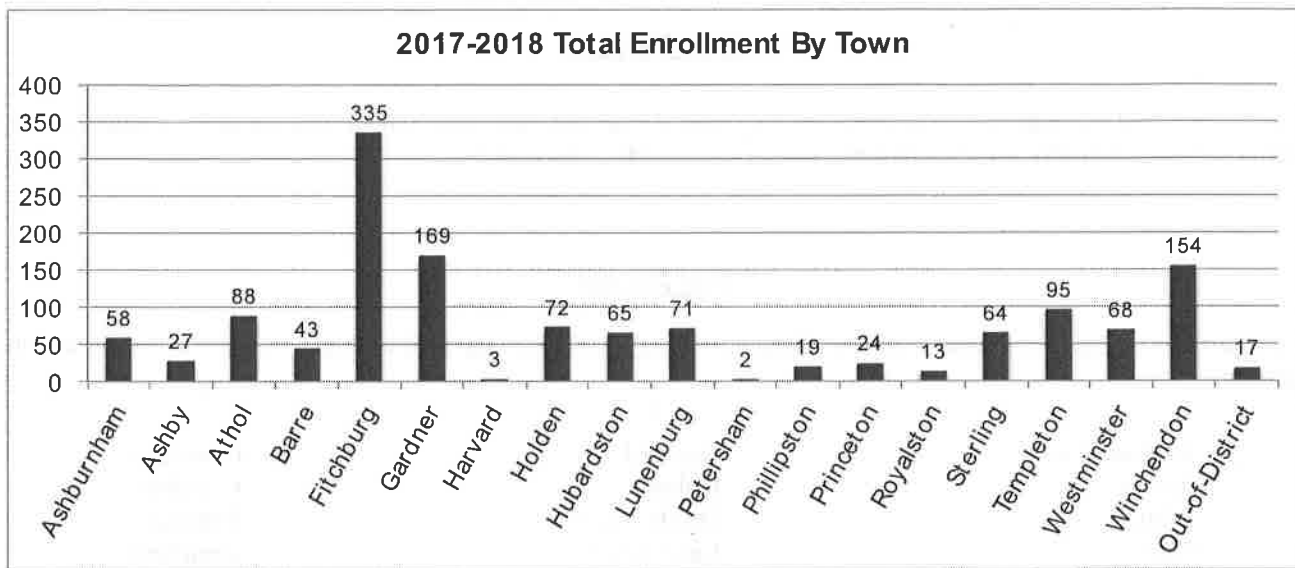
Sheila M. Harrity, Superintendent-Director
Tom Browne, Principal
Dayana Carlson, Assistant Principal
Tammy Crockett, Business Manager
Pamela Pothier, Director of Technology

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, 2018, student enrollment at Monty Tech included 1,387 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-one 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 2017-2018, Monty Tech offered a variety of opportunities for students, parents, and community members to learn about and visit the school. In October 2017, 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 2017-2018 school year, serving approximately 600 area students.

Class of 2018 Awards

Members of the Class of 2018 were awarded approximately \$97,000 in scholarships. The Monty Tech Foundation generously provided \$37,250 in scholarships to graduating seniors, ranging in amounts of \$100 to \$2,600. The Foundation also awarded \$3,240 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 57% of the graduating class of 2018 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 2017-2018. The final fiscal year 2017-2018 Educational Plan totaled \$26,895,680, which represents a 2.0% increase over the 2016-2017 Educational Plan. The District’s FY17 budget exceeds the minimum spending required by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 70 by only \$41,379 or .2%.

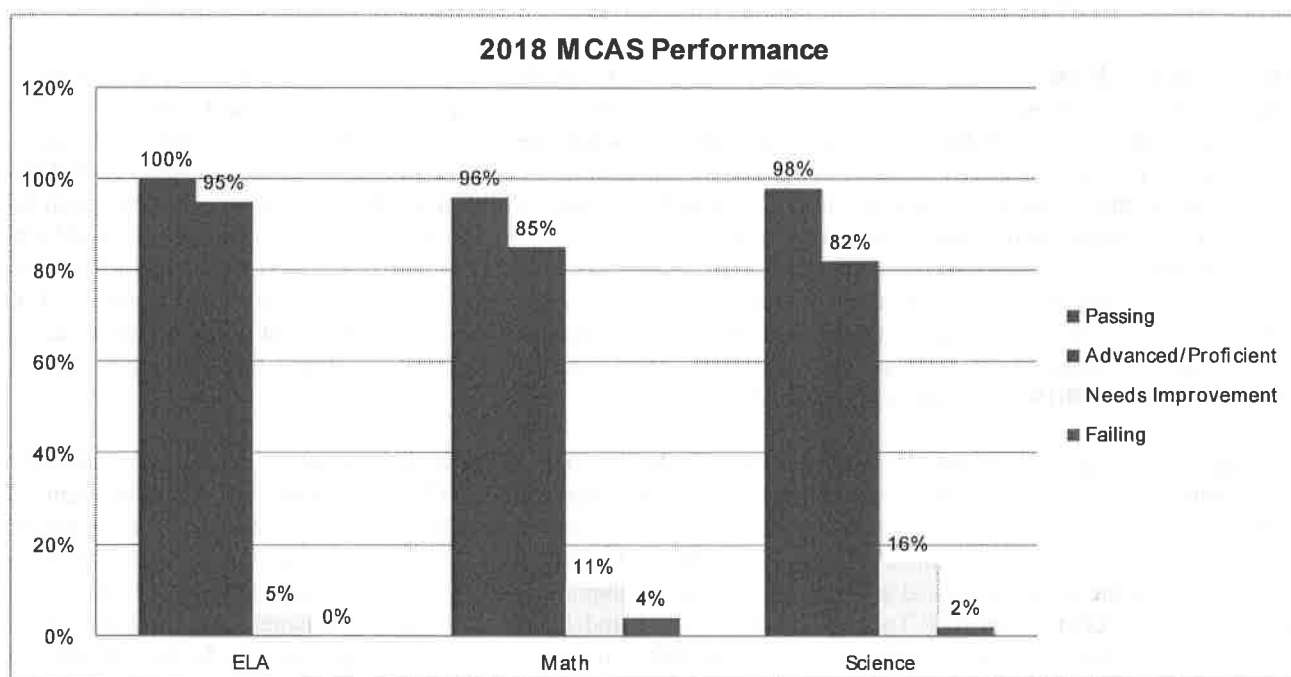
The District was audited in November 2018 as part of the yearly financial audit by the accounting firm of Melanson, Heath and Co. from Greenfield, MA, and received a very good report.

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 2018, state and federal grant sources provided the school with \$991,611. 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 \$508,000 in competitive grants, including a Skills Capital Grant for \$495,000 to purchase equipment for the Electrical, Engineering and CAD/Drafting and Design programs, and a grant from the Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts in the amount of \$13,919 to expand the school's continuing education program to include an Oil Burner Technician training program. 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 2017-2018, 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 2018, Monty Tech's passing rate on the English Language Arts was 100%, Mathematics 96%, Biology 98%.



Monty Tech is committed to providing students with rigorous STEM learning opportunities, and so in recent years, the curriculum has been expanded to include Advanced Placement Programs (two ELA courses, two mathematics courses, two science courses, and one computer science course) and teachers have participated in meaningful, high-quality professional development which will enable us to roll-out two Project Lead the Way biomedical courses in the 2018-2019 school year.

The school is in its 6th year of administering Advanced Placement exams, and students enrolled in AP courses continue to improve their performance. In 2017-2018, Monty Tech had forty-six students achieve qualifying scores, earning advanced standing and/or college credit. More than half of the students who tested in the following subjects received qualifying scores: AP Computer Science Principles (66%), AP Chemistry (53%), and AP BC Calculus (100%). In addition, the AP Chemistry program experienced the most growth in terms of qualifying score as their passing rate increased by 44.7% from 2017 to 2018.

AP Exam Results, 5-Year Review						
	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
Total AP Students	69	57	89	145	120	135
Number of AP Exams	69	62	116	187	148	133
AP Students with Qualifying Scores	36.2%	57.9%	52.8%	26.9%	44.2%	48.9%
Qualifying Scores (State)	72.6%	72.2%	70.9%	70.5%	69.7%	69.9%
Qualifying Scores (Global)	60.9%	61.3%	60.7%	60.3%	60.3%	61.3%
Courses Offered	2	2	3	5	7	7

Data provided by College Board, July 2018

Vocational Projects in the District Communities

Unlike students in traditional, comprehensive high schools, students at Monty Tech are asked to put their education 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 2017-2018 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 benefited from new instructional equipment this year. Eight new welding stations were installed, allowing instructors to expand the welding curriculum in an effort to better align with industry standards. New textbooks and a new nitrogen welder were critical as instructors worked to implement a more extensive plastic welding program. In addition to the 100+ community service projects completed last year, students and instructors repaired a trailer for the Westminster Police and clear coated the 9/11 Memorial for the Fitchburg Fire Department. Seniors received their EPA 6 H Certificate, I-Car Pro Level 1 in Refinishing and Non-Structural Repair. And, for the fourth consecutive year, Monty Tech Auto Body students won the coveted World of Wheels Pedal car competition. Seven students earned co-op placements, and one Senior traveled to Louisville, KY, competing in the SkillsUSA national competition in June 2018. Instructors are incredibly proud of his performance, as he was won at the national level and has qualified to compete in the Collision Repair World Competition in Russia, scheduled for summer 2019. (Total student enrollment: 65)

Automotive Technology: As in past years, the Monty Tech Automotive Technology program continues to service a variety of vehicles. Over 400 vehicles were serviced and repaired during the 2017-2018 school year, including vehicles brought in by faculty, staff, public, school and students. Students performed extensive repairs, to include head gaskets, timing belts, and various other technical repairs. Thanks for funding provided by the school's Perkins grant, every student enrolled in the program earned at least one industry-recognized certification, and Senior students were able to participate in the widely renown ASE Testing. A total of eight students earned co-op placements throughout the school year, which is a testament to the strength of the program, that continues to be the areas premier workforce pipeline for area automotive dealerships and businesses. (Total student enrollment: 70)

Business Technology: Monty Tech's Business Technology program continues 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 students, who completed 9 modules and earned a financial literacy certificate. As a member of the Massachusetts Schools Bank Association through the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, Monty Tech students are able to compete in the Banking Bowl and Marketing Competitions. 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. Students are eligible to receive 18 credits from Mount Wachusett Community College and 16 credits from New England Institute of Technology. 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, The Gear House School Store, and the Monty Tech Greenhouse. Seven Seniors and nine Juniors were out on co-op placements during the 2017-2018 school year. (Total student enrollment: 68)

Cabinetmaking: Students and instructors in the school's Cabinetmaking program spent a majority of their time during the 2017-2018 school year manufacturing, assembling and installing classroom cabinets, clinic casework, and solid surface countertops in the school's new Veterinary Science training center. Sophomore students crafted 400 maple bread boards with a purple heart accent strip for guests at the 2018 Superintendent's Dinner. Upperclassmen fabricated two credenzas and a bench for Mount Wachusett Community College. These unique pieces were made from the reclaimed maple trees that were cut from the site of their new science wing. Students and instructors completed an additional 40+ projects throughout the school and surrounding communities, to include: three canopy gutter enclosures for the Veterinary Center, a wall of upper cabinets and a computer station for the Electrical shop, two base cabinets and maple doors for Machine Technology, and 36 cosmetology nail tables for Cosmetology. A total of 14 students (9 seniors and 5 juniors) earned co-op placements. (Total student enrollment: 70)

CAD/Drafting & Design: The Monty Tech CAD/Drafting & Design program is increasingly busy each year with outside projects, completing miscellaneous signs and banners for community sports events, craft fairs, and non-profit events. Students also played an instrumental role in 2018 Superintendent's Dinner, designing the layout and décor for this annual fundraising event, and ended the year by designing and installing signage throughout the building for the 2018 graduation exercises. A total of six students were awarded co-op placements, working and learning in area businesses. Four students advanced to the SkillsUSA states competition, representing the program well. Over the course of the 2017-2018 school year, CAD/Drafting & Design students achieved over 100 industry-recognized certifications in AutoCAD, Inventor, Revit, and Solidworks. Program instructors were instrumental in the success of the school's 2018 Skills Capital Grant application, and, as a result, the school was awarded \$500,000. A portion of these funds will be used to establish a fabrication lab for 3D printing, 3D scanning, Injection molding, CNC work, and Laser cutting. (Total student enrollment: 62)

Cosmetology: The Monty Tech Cosmetology program welcomed a new instructor for the 2017-2018 school year, Stephanie Delphia, whose considerable experience in the field, and business acumen as a salon owner, brought fresh perspective and valuable lessons to the students enrolled in the program. Students and instructors in the program provided numerous community services, including basic manicures to the residents at Heywood Wakefield Commons, services to parents who work with disadvantaged children, and numerous walk-in clients. Senior students held three staff appreciation nights, raising funds so that they could travel to New York's International Hair show. Eleven seniors earned co-op placements - the largest number of Cosmetology students placed in the program's history. Finally, for the second consecutive year, every senior successfully passed the Massachusetts Cosmetology State Boards, earning licenses to practice. (Total student enrollment: 87)

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 11:30 am to 1:00 pm 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 Our Father's House, and NEADS events. Students and instructors also prepared and 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, during which students work side-by-side with some of the area's finest chefs, preparing a six-course dinner with extensive hors d'oeuvres for more than three hundred guests. Culinary Arts students value industry-recognized credentials, and were proud to earn Allergen Awareness and ServeSafe Certifications. A senior student was recognized by the Massachusetts Restaurant Association with a \$10,000 Scholarship to Johnson & Wales University. (Total student enrollment: 95)

Dental Assisting: A critical component of the Monty Tech Dental Assisting curriculum is the preparation for the Dental Assisting National Board certification exams. Every sophomore passed the DANB Infection Control exam, and every senior passed the DANB Radiology exam. In addition, all senior students successfully completed two full-mouth x-rays on live patients during the affiliation experience, meeting a state requirement for program completion. Three students (one senior and two juniors) earned co-op placements, while the remaining 22 students participated in affiliation/externship experiences in area dental clinics and offices. Students and instructors welcomed Community

Health Connections, a school-based dental hygiene program, and provided dental services to more than 60 students in need. Monty Tech Dental Assisting students were given valuable hands-on experience, assisting the staff from CHC during each dental procedure performed. Junior students provided dental education to students at Winchendon Memorial Elementary School and Meetinghouse Elementary School in Westminster, and two sophomore students delivered a presentation on oral care to community members at Gardner Golden Age. (Total student enrollment: 54)

Early Childhood Education: Students and instructors in the Monty Tech Early Childhood Education program are committed to community service activities, and the 2017-2018 school year was no exception. In addition to studying early education and care concepts, students worked collaboratively to raise funds for Lucy's Love Bus, an agency that provided grants for children with cancer that are not covered by health insurance; helped various clubs raise funds for SkillsUSA Change for Children; provided gifts for a child through Kylee's Kare Kits; and provided supplies to Department of Children & Families, in support of foster families taking in infants in emergency situations. Two outstanding program graduates earned their CDA (Child Development Associate) credential, and the Monty Tech Child Care Center continues to operate at full capacity with a waiting list, providing meaningful hands-on learning opportunities for all students in the Early Childhood Education program. (Total student enrollment: 60)

Electrical: Throughout 2017-2018, students and instructors in the Monty Tech Electrical program completed all wiring the school's new Veterinary Science Training Center. This included 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. Program instructor, Dean Lepkowski, worked closely with several program advisory committee members to develop a proposal for the school's 2018 Skills Capital Grant application. Their efforts resulted in an outstanding grant application and an award of \$500,000, a portion of which will be used to establish a state-of-the-art A.R.M. (Automation, Robotics, and Mechatronics) Lab, responding to regional workforce needs, student interest, and the critical shortage of high-quality electronic system control and fabrication training programs in the area. (Total student enrollment: 82)

Engineering Technology: The Engineering Technology program at Monty Tech is a rigorous program, infused with nationally certified curriculum provided by Project Lead the Way, and countless hands-on learning opportunities that provide students with opportunities to demonstrate creativity, make connections with prior learning, and earn college credits. During the 2017-2018 school year, 13 sophomore students took the Introduction to Engineering end-of-course assessment, and performed quite well. Seven students earned college credits, with scores of Advanced or Proficient. Eight juniors took the Principles of Engineering and Computer Integrated Manufacturing assessments, and six earned college credits in both areas. In addition, all freshmen completed the OSHA 10-hour General Industry training. Engineering program instructors were pivotal in determining the equipment and materials that should be included in the school's 2018 Skills Capital Grant application, and, as a result, the school was awarded \$500,000. A portion of these funds will be used to purchase a robotic arm, 3D printers and related software, which will benefit the program for years to come. (Total student enrollment: 41)

Graphic Communications: Throughout the 2017-2018 school year, the students in Monty Tech's Graphic Communications shop produced numerous projects for our district cities and towns, and a variety of non-profit organizations in the district. In total, student successfully produced approximately 400 orders, saving cities, towns and non-profit organizations more than \$200,000. The program welcomed 24 freshmen students to the shop, one of whom earned a gold medal at the SkillsUSA district competition. The program was enhanced with the addition of new equipment, which included a popular wide format printer. Of the 21 talented seniors who graduated from the Graphic Communication program, 18 were accepted into colleges/universities and three chose to enter the workforce in related careers. (Total student enrollment: 87)

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. A unique collaboration with Mount Wachusett Community College enables Senior students to participate in an Emergency Medical Technician training program, earning eight college credits at no cost; 11 Seniors completed the EMT Course in 2017-2018. In addition, 15 seniors earned co-op placements, and 24 seniors received their clinical medical assistant certificate. Every junior enrolled in the Health Occupations program earned CPR certification, as well as a certificate in dementia care from the

Alzheimer's Association. Students and instructors in the Health Occupations program are particularly invested in community service, and as a result, students hand-made veteran's day cards and sent them to Bedford VA Hospital; bought gifts and clothing for the Fitchburg Community Christmas party; hosted an American Red Cross Blood drive; and held a "Baby Shower" benefiting Battered Women's Resources, Inc. (Total student enrollment: 107)

House Carpentry: In addition to completing construction of the school's new 7,500 sq. ft. Veterinary Science training center, students and instructors in Monty Tech's House Carpentry program supported a number of community organizations, by building and installing window boxes, picnic tables, and even dugout benches for Quabbin Regional High School's softball field. Students also handcrafted countless adirondack chairs for charitable donations. A total of nine students (five seniors and four juniors) earned co-op placements throughout the school year, while all sophomore students successfully completed the OSHA 10-hour Construction training, which enables the students to work on outside projects and qualifies them for the school's popular co-op program in their junior year of study. (Total student enrollment: 59)

HVAC & Property Maintenance: Students and instructors in the HVAC & Property Maintenance program were pivotal in the completion of the new Veterinary Science training center, installing more than 1,000 feet of combined non-potable water, drain and refrigerant lines throughout the building. Five VRF wall units and 14 VAV modules designed to heat and cool the building were also installed. Students earned National EPA Certification for refrigerant recovery, and a total of 12 students (8 seniors and 4 juniors) were placed in area businesses through the school's popular co-op program. Instructors worked throughout the year with colleagues at partner institution, Mount Wachusett Community College, in an effort to share and align curriculum to a newly proposed post-secondary program at the college, a partnership that would yield benefits to program graduates in the form of articulated credits and/or advanced standing in the post-secondary training program. (Total student enrollment: 58)

Information Technology: The Information Technology program continues to offer students more industry-recognized certificates 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. All Freshmen completed their OSHA 10-hour General Industry training, and completed their VEX Robot Certification. The Sophomores have the opportunity to pass 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. Eight 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 and one Junior completed the Linux Essentials course, and all Seniors also completed the Python Programming course. Seniors who were not placed in the co-op program were able to participate in the AP Computer Science Principles course, which resulted in four students earning qualifying scores. A total of nine students earned co-op placements, applying their technical skills in area businesses. In total, more than 400 hours of community tech support was completed, which involved hardware and software troubleshooting on desktops, laptops, printers, and mobile devices. (Total student enrollment: 61)

Machine Technology: The 2017-2018 school year brought new technology, curriculum, and a renovated instructional space to the students and instructors in the school's Machine Technology program. As recipients of a \$435,000 Skills Capital Grant, instructors were able to train students in precision measurement, and granted more than 300 certifications to students accordingly. The program also received an additional \$12,000 Gene Haas Scholarship Grant, and used those funds to sponsor four students in advanced training endeavors, and award two college-bound students substantial scholarships. All freshmen received their OSHA 10-hour general industry certification, while 12 upperclassmen earned co-op placements, working and learning in area machine shops. Machine Technology students and instructors also completed a number of outside projects, which included engraving school plaques and cutting key tags for the Fitchburg Police Department. (Total student enrollment: 48)

Masonry: The talents of Monty Tech Masonry students are on display for all to see, with the completion of a beautiful stone veneer on the exterior of the new Veterinary Science training center. In addition, students and instructors poured several concrete pads, installed pavers, and tiled almost every room in the 7,500 sq. ft. clinic. Students also helped to maintain the main campus by replacing four sets of concrete steps at the busy Dukakis Performing Arts Center. Program instructors remain committed to community service, and as a result, worked with students to complete a number of projects in neighboring communities, to include repairing the memorial brick walk at the Winchendon Veterans Cemetery. Students were introduced to the new OSHA silica standard, and the program benefitted from new equipment,

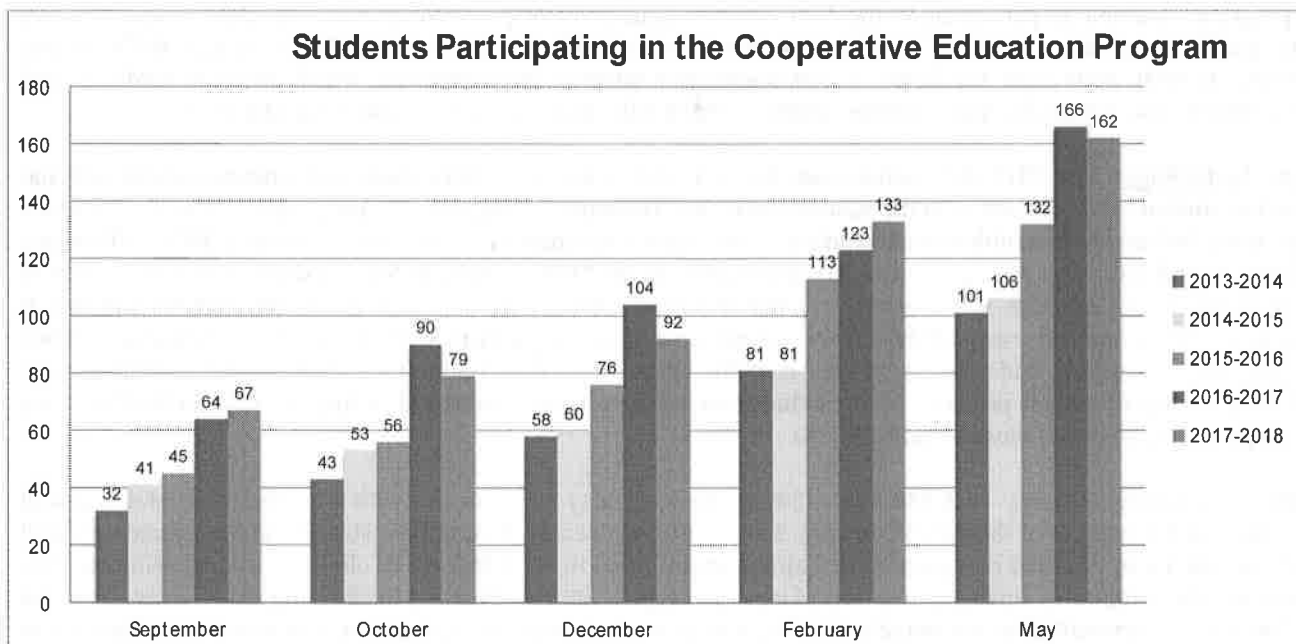
dust free saws and grinders, and continues to operate in compliance with trade regulations. Three students earned co-op placements, and continued to refine their skills working with business partners through the school's co-op program. (Total student enrollment: 60)

Plumbing: The 2017-2018 school year welcomed a new plumbing instructor, Christopher Morrissette, and 18 freshmen to the Plumbing trade. All freshmen successfully completed the OSHA 10-hour General Industry safety training, while the sophomores completed the OSHA 10-hour Construction Training. Seniors also earned the Mega-Press gas piping certification at the Viega training facility in Nashua, NH. Students and instructors worked diligently to complete the Veterinary Science training center, and completed a variety of plumbing repairs throughout the main building. A total of 13 students (nine seniors and four juniors) participated in the school's popular co-op program. Two outstanding seniors were recognized for their outstanding technical skills, receiving scholarships from the Plumbing, Heating, and Cooling Contractors Association of Massachusetts, and from the Central Mass Plumbing & Gas Inspectors Association, which will be used to continue their education. (Total student enrollment: 71)

Veterinary Science: In 2017-2018, Monty Tech launched its 21st vocational-technical education program, Veterinary Science. After a very successful exploratory program, 22 students were accepted into the program and are proud to be Monty Tech's first class of Veterinary Science students. All freshmen completed the OSHA 10-hour healthcare training, and spent the second semester engaged in introductory animal science lessons, as well as a number of valuable field trips to support the new curriculum, with trips to: UMASS Amherst to study Equine Reproduction Medicine, Lilac Hedge Farm and Jordan's Dairy to observe agricultural production facilities in Massachusetts, Feed Commodities International to observe individualized rations being created for dairy farms, and Dakin Humane Society to discuss the industry of animal sheltering, with particular emphasis on the veterinary care required. (Total student enrollment: 22)

Welding/Metal Fabrication: The 2017-2018 school year brought new equipment to the students in the school's Welding/Metal Fabrication program, which enabled instructors to incorporate pipe welding, light gauge material welding and grinding techniques into the curriculum. Numerous projects were completed by talented students, including more than fifty requests for individual projects from community members residing in the school's sending district. All freshmen students successfully completed the OSHA 10-hour General Industry training, and a total of 11 upperclassmen (eight seniors and three juniors) were placed in area shops, working and learning from trade professionals who support the school's co-op program. (Total student enrollment: 60)

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 2017-2018, approximately 25% of qualified students (Juniors and Seniors) earned Co-op placements, working, learning and applying their technical skills related in area businesses.

Student Support Services

During the 2017-2018 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.

SkillsUSA

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. Through the school's association with SkillsUSA, our students develop job skills, leadership and professional skills, as well as provide community service. The 2017-2018 school year was an extraordinary one for our chapter of Skills USA. The students met the challenges of district competitions, performed well at the state level, and prepared for the national conference. They also conducted several community service projects and raised money for various deserving charities. Serving as co-advisors were Michael Forhan, Auto Body Instructor, Anne Marie Cataldo, Early Childhood Education Instructor, and Brad Pelletier, Special Education Instructor. Highlights of the year include:

- In September 2017, twenty-seven students applied and were accepted to form the Monty Tech SkillsUSA Leadership Team. After two leadership training sessions, seven officers were elected.

- In November 2017, twenty students, consisting of chapter officers and Leadership Team members attended the Annual Fall State Leadership Conference, where they participated in workshops and leadership exercises and performed community service at an area YMCA Day Camp.
- The SkillsUSA local competitions took place November 27th – December 13th, and the students learned on December 15th who would advance to the next round of competition.
- In December, the chapter adopted twenty-five children from Kylee's Kare Kits and provided gifts for these underserved children. Several members of the leadership team assisted wrapping and packaging gifts for the children.
- A total of forty-two medals were captured at the District Competition held in March 2018 at Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical School: sixteen gold, thirteen silver, and thirteen bronze medals were awarded.
- Samantha Collette, a senior in the CAD/Drafting & Design program, was selected to serve on the State Advisory Committee to help aid in the planning of the State Conference.
- Thirty-six district medalists and qualifiers, thirteen local leadership and occupational related event contestants, one state officer, and sixteen voting delegates attended the State Leadership and Skills Conference, held in April 2018 at Blackstone Valley Vocational Technical School. There, five students were awarded gold medals, and earned the right to compete at the very competitive National Leadership & Skills Conference held in late June.
- Thirteen students and five instructors attended the National Leadership & Skills Conference in Louisville, KY in June 2018, where Kayla Gerry, a 2018 graduate of the Health Occupations program, earned a silver medal.

Technology

The 2017-2018 school year brought increased access to technology for all students, through the school's popular 1:1 Chromebook initiative. Google Cloud Print and numerous printers located throughout the building provide students with options to print or share their work with classroom instructors. Two Chromebook charging stations, located in the cafeteria and library, give an added layer to support to students who may need to charge their devices throughout the day.

An outstanding Instructional Technologist, Ellen Gammel, was hired, bringing expertise across a broad spectrum, to include educational technology, software, and troubleshooting tips. Several members of the school's leadership team joined Ms. Gammel, traveling to Orlando, FL to attend the annual Future of Education Technology Conference, with the goal of identifying new solutions, technologies, and best practices that will enhance the school's technology-driven approach to education.

To support the 1:1 Chromebook initiative and other technology needs, Monty Tech successfully completed a number of necessary infrastructure upgrades, using federal e-rate dollars totaling \$109,114.70. The school's external bandwidth speeds have been increased to 1.5 GB and internal bandwidth to 10GB to better ensure continued connectivity and speeds appropriate with a high-use learning community.

Marine Corps JROTC

The Monty Tech Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (MCJROTC) had an extraordinary 2017-2018 school year. Perhaps the most noteworthy accomplishment was the cadet corps' remarkable response to Hurricane Harvey. With the support of the surround communities, the cadets were able to raise almost \$100,000 in cash and materiel for relief efforts. With the assistance of the United States Marine Corps, 56 cadets and 15 adults flew to the Houston area where they spent 7 days working on homes that were damaged by the storm.

The Monty Tech JROTC Cadet Corps was honored to host the Wreaths Across America Convoy with a remembrance ceremony as it made its way down to Arlington National Cemetery.

The Cyber Security Team received national recognition by securing a place to compete in the Air Force Association's National Cyber Security Competition held in Baltimore, MD, for the eighth consecutive year. The competition field began with over 1900 hundred teams battling for just 13 seats, and Monty Tech placed 6th in the highly competitive field.

The 2017-2018 Corps of Cadets completed over 10,000 hours of community service, conducting a major food drive with United Way, working side-by-side with the Marine Corps Reserve in a national Toys for Tots campaign, and spending six weekends working with the local Salvation Army helping to raise over \$25,000 for needy families.

During the summer of 2018, our Cadet Cyber Team was 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 120 students, representing twelve states, and was a wonderful success for all involved.

Student Athletics

The Monty Tech athletic program was proud to provide meaningful extracurricular activities to more than 500 students during the 2017-2018 school year, participating on our freshmen, junior varsity, or varsity teams. Seventeen teams competed in the fall 2017, thirteen during the winter season and 11 represented the school in the spring of 2018.

The varsity football team struggled the first part of the season, but won the two non-playoff games against Gardner and Tyngsboro, ending the season with a 2 – 9 record. The varsity boys soccer team finished the regular season with a 10 – 5 – 2 record, led by Charlie Kelley, with 23 goals and 8 assists on the season. The JV boys soccer team is expected to have a promising future, as the young team finished 7 – 7 – 2. The varsity girls soccer team finished at 5 – 9 – 3, while the junior varsity girls soccer team finished with a record of 7 – 3 – 5. The varsity field hockey team finished the season with a 10 – 7 – 2 record, losing 3-0 to Quaboag in the district tournament. The young freshman/sophomore jv field hockey team ended their season with a 3 – 2 – 4 record. The varsity golf team earned a spot in the district tournament, with a record of 7-7, while the junior varsity team participated in a handful of tournaments and official matches, working on improving their scores. The varsity girls volleyball team had a disappointing year, finishing 3 – 17, but the JV team may be able to help build a stronger program in future years, as they finished with an improved record of 7 – 9. The varsity boys cross country team finished 9 – 3 overall and 6 – 3 in the Colonial Athletic League, while the girls cross country team finished 6 – 4 overall and 3 – 4 in the league.

The boys varsity basketball team qualified for the district tournament, with a record of 13 – 7, losing in a thrilling home game with Marian, 80 – 76. The JV boys basketball team finished at 9 – 10 and looks to send some talented players to the varsity team next. The freshmen boys basketball team finished 5 – 14, winning three of their last four games. The varsity girls basketball team had a very successful campaign, with a regular season finish of 16 – 4. They extended their season, qualifying for the district tournament, where they defeated Tahanto 57 – 33 and Main South 40 – 36, and advanced to the semi-finals, where they played a hard fought game against Maynard, losing 60 – 54. With the core of the team retuning next year, it should be a very interesting season. The JV girls basketball team were 15 – 4 on the season, and expects to send some talented players to the varsity level during the 2018-2019 school year. The freshmen girls basketball team finished with a record of 9 – 7. The Monty Tech wrestling team finished with a record of 7 – 18, but were still able to place second in the Colonial Athletic League. The indoor track and field teams look to improve in the coming years, with a finish from the boys at 1 – 7 and the girls team recorded a 0 – 8 finish. The varsity boys ice hockey team finished 10 – 9 – 1, losing to the Worcester team 4 – 3 in the tournament. The girls ice hockey team continues to improve each year, and after graduating three players, hopes to recruit some new players in the coming school year.

Due to poor field conditions, the varsity baseball team was unable to host a home game, finishing the season with a record of 5 – 15. The JV baseball team finished 1 – 10, and freshman baseball team struggled with a record of 2 – 5. The varsity softball team continues to excel, finishing the regular 16 – 4, and winning the first two games in the district tournament, before losing to Hopedale 11-5 in the finals. The JV girls softball team finished 12 – 3 and should provide

some talented players to future teams. Boys varsity lacrosse finished with a 5 – 13 record, while the JV boys lacrosse team had a solid season, finishing 8 – 5. The varsity girls lacrosse team ended with a 3 – 14 record, while the JV girls lacrosse had 5 – 5 season. Finally, with more than 50 student athletes participating, the boys and girls track and field teams both had a very successful season; the boys finished at 5 – 3, while the girls ended with a record of 4 – 5.

Congratulations to the Outstanding Male and Female athletes for 2017-2018, Nick McDermott and Erica Regan.

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 2017, Monty Tech offered 140 classes with 871 registrations, and during the Spring 2018 semester, there were 114 post-graduate and continuing studies courses, with 671 registrations.

The program is on track to support North Central Massachusetts workforce readiness pipeline with an increase in career and licensure courses. The students earn industry-recognized credentials, and participate in externships to support the hands on learning component. We continue to increase our small business partnerships, and the number and quality of personal enrichment classes - sewing, knitting, acrylic painting and glass fusing, to name a few. Catalog distribution has more than doubled, from 80,000 to 170,000 copies, and the relatively new online registration feature continues to add value to our students and instructors.

Spring 2019 will see an Oil Burner Technician certification prep 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 120-hour program, students will have the opportunity to sit for the oil burner technician state licensing exam, and begin their work in the oil burner industry.

The continued success and sustainability of an adult education program is based on hiring quality instructors and meeting the needs of the community and supporting workforce development. Our goal in the coming year includes increasing our adult education course offerings, with a continued concentration on career programs. Stay tuned for Pharmacy Technician, Medical Billing and Coding, Manufacturing Boot Camp and Apprenticeship opportunities at the Monty Tech School of Continuing Education.

Practical Nursing Program

The Monty Tech 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. On June 28, 2018, a graduating class of 35 students completed the Practical Nursing Program and entered the nursing profession. The class achieved an initial pass rate of 77%, with 27 of the 35 graduates passing the NCLEX-PN exam. Five graduates are waiting to take their NCLEX- PN exam, and three graduates are expected to retake the examination in the coming months.

All of the 2018 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 2018 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 and implemented a

Maternity Sim lab boot camp where students utilize the new simulation models to simulate the birthing process. Student feedback has been positive regarding these new maternity scenarios, stating it better prepares them for an unexpected outcome during a delivery.

Substance abuse and the mental health setting job opportunities have increased with more funding being provided to combat the opiate crisis. Having a clinical rotation at AdCare Hospital in Worcester, and performing simulation scenarios involving substance abuse clients, has better prepared our graduates to work in a substance abuse clinical setting, as well.

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: For several months, school officials worked to launch an exciting new biomedical science program. Using grant funds, a science lab was renovated, transforming it into a biomedical science laboratory, aligned with current industry standards. In addition, one talented instructor, Mr. Dylan Hager, attended four weeks of intensive teacher training (2 weeks during summer 2017 at the University of San Diego, and 2 weeks during the summer of 2018 at the University of Washington). While Mr. Hager spent weeks preparing this exciting new coursework, school officials purchased the supplies and materials necessary to deliver two rigorous Project Lead the Way courses, Human Body Systems and Principles of Biomedical Sciences. 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.

Celebrate the completion of the school's newest instructional space: For two years, students and instructors in our Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, Masonry, HVAC and Property Maintenance, and Cabinetmaking trades worked to complete an incredible project – a 7,500 sq. ft. building, which would become home to the school's newest vocational program, Veterinary Science. With construction of this state-of-the-art facility completed during the summer months, school officials celebrated the finished product with local and state officials, donors, and community members who helped bring the innovative animal science program to Monty Tech. While the facility will not be open to serve pets until Fall 2019, Monty Tech Veterinary Science students will work and learn in the new space in the 2018-2019 school year, preparing for a successful opening September 2019.

Expand post-secondary and continuing education opportunities: Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School is home to a very popular evening program that, in recent years, has expanded to include countless workforce readiness programs. A generous grant provided by the Community Foundation of North Central Massachusetts has enabled school officials to begin developing a new, meaningful workforce training program that will have an immediate and positive impact on regional workforce needs. In 2018-2019, an Oil Burner Technician Certification course will be made available to non-traditional students with an interest in pursuing entry-level careers in HVAC trades. This evening program, the only such course in North Central Massachusetts, will include three industry-recognized certification opportunities and will undoubtedly benefit dislocated workers who have been interested in related careers but unable to participate in the required training, due to lack of offerings or high costs associated with similar training programs.

Expand the school's marketing efforts: A Monty Tech high school experience is one 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 variety of social media platforms. While the school currently hosts an updated website and Facebook page, school officials are exploring adding Twitter and Instagram accounts, in an effort to continue to engage interested students and parents.

The Monty Tech School Committee

The Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District Committee is comprised of twenty-one 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 2017-2018 School Committee for their outstanding service.

Brian J. Walker, Fitchburg
Chair

Diane Swenson, Ashburnham
Vice Chair

Peter Capone, Ashby
Toni L. Phillips, Athol
Whitney Marshall, Barre
Claudia Holbert/ Dr. Robert Babineau, Fitchburg
Dr. Ronald Tourigny, Fitchburg
Melanie Weeks, Fitchburg
Eric D. Commodore/ Matthew Vance, Gardner
James S. Boone, Gardner
Vacant Seat, Harvard
James Cournoyer, Holden
Kathleen Airoidi, Hubbardston
Barbara Reynolds, Lunenburg
Edward Simms, Petersham
Eric Olson, Phillipston
John P. Mollica, Princeton
Mary C. Barclay, Royalston
Dr. Kenneth I.H. Williams/ William Brassard, Sterling
James M. Gilbert, Templeton
Ross Barber, Westminster
Austin Cyganiewicz, Winchendon

Terri Hillman
Secretary

Norman J. LeBlanc
District Treasurer

Respectfully Submitted By:

Sheila M. Harrity, Ed.D., Superintendent-Director
January 17, 2019

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, 2018**

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Committee Member	Town	Term Expires
Peter Cross, Chair	Orange	2019
Patricia Smith, Vice-Chair	Orange	2021
Carla Halpern	New Salem	Appointed
Lynn Peredina	Petersham	Appointed
Heidi Shortis	Petersham	2021
Johanna Bartlett	Wendell	Appointed
Christopher Paul	Orange	2019
Rebecca Badgley	Orange	2020
Amy White	Orange	Appointed
Sunday Lefebvre	Orange	2020
Chante Jillson	Orange	2021



STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Jeanne Grutchfield

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, 2018 to December 31, 2018. As such, all reports cover the final half of the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year and the first half of the 2018-2019 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.

MASS Superintendent's Certificate of Academic Excellence for 2017-2018

Hannah Birch was awarded the MASS Superintendent's Certificate of Academic Excellence. 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.





The Grinspoon Excellence in Teaching Award 2018

In the spring of 2018, Kelly Ziomek, was honored this year for her tremendous commitment and impact on students at Ralph C. Mahar Regional. This annual program recognizes outstanding professionals in the field of education. Ms. Ziomek’s work with students, as a health educator has been remarkable. Students and staff alike cite her dedication, caring and impact as unique and special.

THREE STRATEGIC GOALS FOR 2015-2020



**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

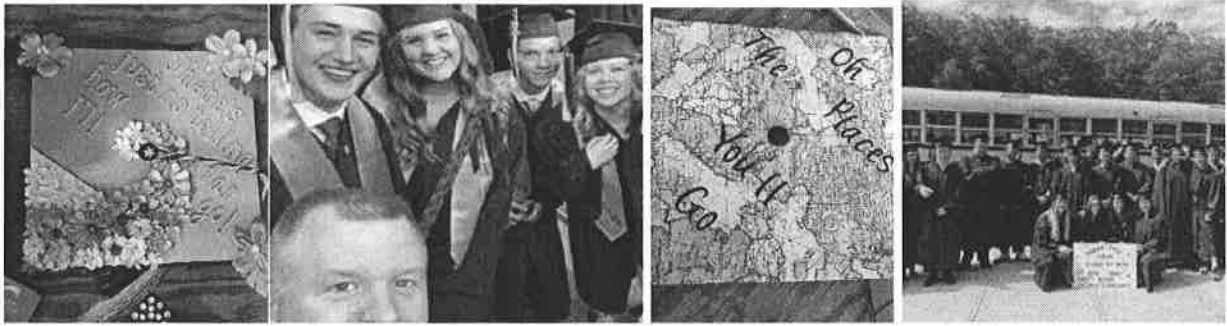
New Personnel

The district welcomed the expertise of the following new faculty/staff members during the 2017-2018 school year:

Taryn Dery
Doug Jillson
Meghan Mac Donnell
Thomas Quinn
Pamela Rogers
Brittany Spencer

Supervisor of Special Services
Head Cook/Manager in Food Services
Data Specialist/Registrar
Guidance Counselor
Guidance Secretary
Middle School Science





The Class of 2018

Class President	Katelyn Page
Vice President	Mayte Torres-Zelaya
Secretary	Hannah Birch
Treasurer	Emily Inman

Faculty and Staff Retirements

The following faculty/staff members retired at the conclusion of the 2017-2018 school year we had only one retirement:

Kathy Goodrum Title I/Literacy 31 years of service

We offer our thanks and appreciation to Kathy whose work has impacted countless students at 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. This partnership will be shifting to the Gardner Public Schools in 2019-2020 through program redesign.

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.



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 2018 John & Abigail Adams Scholarship Winners



ENROLLMENT for 2017- 2018

Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Total
126	119	115	83	101	97	641

KEY METRICS for 2017-2018

Enrollment at RC Mahar	641
Enrollment at Gateway	83
Enrollment at Pathways	36
Average Attendance Rate	95.5%
Average Class Size	13
Number of Teachers	59
Students with Disabilities	18.6%
High Needs	46.7%
English Language Learners	.8%
2016 Graduation Rate	83%

In Conclusion

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://reportcards.doe.mass.edu/2018/DistrictReportcard/07550000?Length=8>

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 2019

Student Assessment Results Spring 2018

Organization Information	
DISTRICT NAME Ralph C Mahar (07550000)	TITLE I STATUS Title I District
REGION West/Central	GRADES SERVED 07,08,09,10,11,12

Accountability Information

Overall classification Not requiring assistance or intervention
--

Reason for classification Partially meeting targets

Progress toward improvement targets 63% - Partially meeting targets	Accountability percentile -
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This district's determination of need for special education technical assistance or intervention Meets requirements (MR)
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OVERALL AND SUBGROUP DATA	DETAILED DATA FOR EACH INDICATOR	SCHOOLS IN THIS DISTRICT
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Overall results

Progress toward improvement targets

Indicator	All students (Non-high school grades)			Lowest performing students (Non-high school grades)			All students (High school grades)			Lowest performing students (High school grades)			
	Points earned	Total possible points	Weight %	Points earned	Total possible points	Weight %	Points earned	Total possible points	Weight %	Points earned	Total possible points	Weight %	
Achievement	English language arts achievement	2	4	-	0	4	-	2	4	-	4	4	-
	Mathematics achievement	4	4	-	4	4	-	1	4	-	4	4	-
	Science achievement	0	4	-	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-
	Achievement total	6	12	67.5	4	8	67.5	4	12	47.5	8	8	90.0
Growth	English language arts growth	3	4	-	1	4	-	3	4	-	-	-	-
	Mathematics growth	4	4	-	3	4	-	2	4	-	-	-	-
	Growth total	7	8	22.5	4	8	22.5	5	8	22.5	-	-	-
High school completion	Four-year cohort graduation rate	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	4	-	-	-	-
	Extended engagement rate	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	-	-	-	-
	Annual dropout rate	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	4	-	-	-	-
	High school completion total	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	12	20.0	-	-	-
Progress toward attaining English language proficiency	English language proficiency total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Additional indicators	Chronic absenteeism	0	4	-	4	4	-	4	4	-	0	4	-
	Advanced coursework completion	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	-	-	-	-
	Additional indicators total	0	4	10.0	4	4	10.0	8	8	10.0	0	4	10.0
Weighted total	5.6	10.3	-	4.0	7.6	-	4.2	10.7	-	7.2	7.6	-	
Percentage of possible points	54%			53%			39%			95%			
Percentage of possible points by gradespan	54%						67%						
	Weight of non-high school results:30%						Weight of high school results:70%						
Criterion-referenced target percentage	63%												
	Partially meeting targets												

