



**2021 – 2022**

**ANNUAL  
OFFICIAL REPORTS**

*of the*

**Town of Petersham**

**MASSACHUSETTS**



Town of Petersham - Annual Report

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# PETERSHAM TOWN OFFICERS

FY 22 July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022 ELECTED BOARDS AND OFFICERS

	<u>Term Expiration Date</u>		<u>Term Expiration Date</u>
Moderator		Constables	
Bart Wendell	2023	Denis N. Legare	2025
Board of Selectmen		Mahar Regional School Committee	
Rebecca Legare	2023	Maryanne Reynolds	2025
Nancy Allen	2025	Petersham School Committee	
Henry Woolsey (resigned 9/1/2021)		Tina Leslie	2023
Annette S. Ermini (elected 11/15/2021)	2024	Jennifer Howes	2024
Tax Collector		Lynn Peredina	2025
Renee Wingertsman	2024	Planning Board	
Town Clerk		John Lawson	2023
Diana L. Cooley	2024	Fraser Sinclair	2023
Treasurer		Donna Byron	2025
Dana C. Robinson	2023	Stephen Herzog	2024
Board of Assessors		Irene Perkins	2024
Ellen Anderson	2023	Trustees of Public Library	
Jean W. Robinson	2025	Hilary Loring	2025
Jamie Hatch	2024	Kent Byron	2023
Board of Health		Fifi Scofopoulos	2024
Rebecca Jackson	2024		
Fifi Scofopoulos	2025		
Stephen Loring	2023		

**PETERSAHM TOWN APPOINTED / HIRED BOARDS AND OFFICERS  
Fiscal Year 2022**

<b>Position /Person</b>	<b>Term Expiration Date</b>
<b>Chief of Police</b>	
Dana Cooley	Nov-21
Peter Buck	2026
<b>Police Sargeant</b>	
Randy Horne	2022
<b>Police Detective Sargeant (Part Time)</b>	
Peter Buck	2022
<b>Police Officers (Part time)</b>	
Stanley Andriski	2022
Jesse Berard	2022
Russell Davidson	2022
Marc Duguay	2022
Michael Gobeille	2022
Steven Gould	2022
Kara Hartung	2022
Jason Lichtenberger	2022
Thomas Martin	2022
Brandon Newell	2022
Charles Pinder	2022
<b>Board of Overseers, Central Dispatch</b>	
Dana Cooley	Nov-21
Peter Buck	2026

<b>Fire Chief</b> Dana Robinson	2022
<b>Assistant Fire Chief</b> Robert Legare	2022
<b>Tree Warden</b> David Lockesmith Gregory Waid	Mar-22 2022
<b>Forest Warden</b> Dana Robinson	2022
<b>Deputy Forest Fire Warden</b> Robert Legare Shawn Legare	2022 2022
<b>Sexton</b> Robin Koenig	2022
<b>Trench Safety Officer</b> Gregory Waid	2022
<b>Town Accountant</b> Jean Joel	2022
<b>Emergency Management Director</b> Lynne Shaw	2022
<b>Emergency Management Assistant Director</b> Dana Cooley	2022
<b>Directors of Veterans' Services and Veterans' Agent</b> Sarah Custer	2022
<b>Northeast Veterans' District Representative</b> Vincent J. Purple	2022

<b>Custodian of Tax Title Possessions</b>	
Dana Robinson	2022
<b>Animal Control Officer</b>	
Deb Bachrach	2022
<b>Animal Shelter Manager</b>	
Deb Bachrach	2022
<b>Animal Inspector</b>	
Marc Page	2023
<b>Assistant Animal Inspector</b>	
Deb Bachrach	2023
<b>Building Inspector/Commissioner</b>	
Bill Cantel	2022
<b>Broadband Municipal Light Plant Board</b>	
Blum John	2023
Gurganus Thomas	2024
Andre Pierre	2023
<b>Local Building Inspector</b>	
Robert Legare	2022
<b>Electrical Inspector</b>	
Gary Terroy	2022
<b>Assistant Electrical Inspector</b>	
Glenn Tattan	2022
<b>Gas Inspector</b>	
Daniel Joly	2022
<b>Gas Inspector Alternate</b>	
Michael Pluta	2022
<b>Plumbing Inspector</b>	
Daniel Joly	2022
<b>Plumbing Inspector Alternate</b>	
Michael Pluta	2022

**ADA Coordinator**  
Sherry Berube 2022

**Legal Counsel**  
Kopelman and Paige 2022

**TOWN-APPOINTED COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS, AND BOARDS**

(Unless noted, appointed on an annual basis)

**Position /Person** **Term Expiration Date**

**Cemetery Commission (3 year appointment)**

Glenede Albertine	2022
Debra Bachrach	2023
Pam Chevalier	2025
Barbara Hanno	2022
Robin Koenig	2022
Ken Levine	2023
Richard Nicoletti	2024
Marcia Lynn Shaw	2022
Sheila Youd	2024

**Board of Registrars**

Diana Cooley	2022
Alfred Berry	2023
Henry Woolsey	2025

**Capital Improvement Planning Committee**

James Dowd (AFC Rep)	2022
Lynn Peredina (PCS School Rep)	2022
John Lawson (Planning Brd Rep)	2022
Nancy Allen (Selectboard Rep)	2022
Irene Graeff (Citizen at Large)	2022
Hilary Loring (Citizen at Large)	2022
Dana Robinson (Treasurer)	2022



**Conservation Commission (3 year appointment)**

Jennier Albertine	2023
Anne Cavanaugh	2024
Robert Clark	2022
Ann Lewis	2022
Mike Seitz	2023
Henry Woolsey	2024

**Council on Aging (3 year appointment)**

Katherine Berry	2022
Pam Chevalier	2024
Cynthia Crosson	2025
Rebecca Davis	2025
Wanda Dickson	2022
Marilyn Fisher	2023
Phil Hanno	2024
Marcia Lynn Shaw	2022
Kathy McCrohon	2024
Paul Williams	2024
Sheila Youd	2022

**Cultural Council (3 year appointment)**

Emily Anderson	2022
Lori Everman	2024
Trisha Delorey Kleras	2024
Carly Hutchinson	2023
Jane Lynch Gilbert	2024
Linda Paquet	2023
Kaitlin Switzer Walsh	2022

**Emergency Management Committee**

Debra Bachrach	2022
James Burke	2022
Dana Cooley	2022
Becky Legare	2022
Dana Robinson	2022
Lynne Shaw	2022
Gregory Waid	2022
Christine Warburton	2022

**Forest and Shade Tree Committee**

Anne Cavanaugh	2022
Robert Clark	2022
Clarisse Hart	2022
David Lockesmith	2022
Jordan O'connor	2022
Sheila Youd	2022

**Historic District Commission/Historical Commission (5 year appointment)**

Claudette Bishop	2023
Robert Clark	2024
Jeremy Gabrenas	2024
Hilary Loring	2025
Marcia Lynn Shaw	2025

**Monty Tech School Committee**

Simms V. Edward	2022
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**Montachusett Regional Planning Committee**

Nancy Allen	2022
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**Montachusett Joint Transportation Committee**

Nancy Allen	2022
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**Municipal Light Plant Broadband Committee**

Nancy Allen	2023
John Blum	2023
George Bull	2023
Thomas Gurganus	2021
Andre Pierre	2023

**Nichewaug Inn & Academy 2020 Committee**

Ann Lewis	2022
Jane Lynch-Gilbert	2022

**Open Space and Recreation Committee**

Emery Boose	2022
Anne Cavanaugh	2022
Robert Clark	2022
Ari Pugliese	2022
Clinton Shaw	2022
Henry Woolsey	2022

**Zoning Board of Appeals (3 year term)**

Brian Macewen	2022
Carole Hutchinson	2024
Maryanne Reynolds	2023
Donald Eaton	2024

**Constables**

Dana Cooley	2022
Randy Horne	2022
Peter Buck	2022

**MODERATOR APPOINTMENTS**

<b>Position /Person</b>	<b>Term Expiration Date</b>
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**Advisory Finance Committee (3 year appointment)**

Mark Bishop	2023
Richard Cavanaugh	2023
John James Dowd	2023
Sandra Page	2022
Tally Lent	2025



**TOWN of PETERSHAM**  
**OFFICE of the SELECTBOARD**

3 South Main Street • P.O. Box 486 • Petersham, Massachusetts 01366  
Tel 978-724-3353 • Fax 978-724-3501  
[www.townofpetersham.org](http://www.townofpetersham.org)

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**Annual Report of the Selectboard, Fiscal Year 2022**

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

**The Petersham Selectboard is grateful to all who participated in this year's town business — town staff, town committee members, elected officials, and volunteers — working together and with residents on a variety of needs and projects for the well-being of the community.**

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**COVID-19 Pandemic**

The impact of the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic continued for the town. The Selectboard continued to work with the Board of Health for best protocols including limited public access to the Town Office in an effort to ensure the well-being of the part-time staff who work there. Town committees held their meetings both remotely and in person at Town Hall and the building was re-opened for public use. The Selectboard is deeply appreciative of everyone's collective efforts during this time.

**American Rescue Act Plan COVID funding**

As a response to COVID-19, Petersham received its allotment of federal American Rescue Act Plan (ARPA) stimulus funding totaling \$376,632. The nationwide funding is population based and Petersham received its Phase I allotment in June 2021 in the amount of \$65,418; the balance followed during the months. The Board began the review process for allocation of the funds and continued throughout the entire fiscal year using a phase process for review and decision-making. Based on defined uses allowed by the federal government for these funds, the Selectboard established a definition for project consideration which focused on a spectrum of town needs addressing health and safety of the public and town staff; upgrades allowing for improved public health and sanitary settings and services; upgrades improving remote access to Town business for public and staff; and upgrades and support for recreational activities for healthy living. The Selectboard also emphasized that the federal government considered ARPA funds as economic stimulus support and the Board recognized that use of the funds in a timely manner supports that equally important purpose of the funding.

Projects voted for approval in Fiscal Year 2022 included supplementing the Center School playground project funding, additional building improvement funds for the Fire Station, additional hazardous town tree work funding, upgrading the mobile data terminals for the three Police Dept. cruisers, upgrade of the Board of Assessors' software system, upgrade to a Center School walk-in freezer, funding towards the Nichewaug & Academy building demolition project, upgrade of Police Station computer equipment, purchase of Police Dept./EMT hemorrhage control kits, funding for Bandstand repair work,

a new computer tablet for the Board of Health and funding support for the Memorial Library to make building code upgrades for improved public access. The Selectboard is deeply grateful that these projects could be funded with this federal grant source. The review and implementation process continued into the new fiscal year.

### **Nichewaug Inn & Academy Property**

Review of the status of the town-owned Nichewaug Inn & Academy property continued during the year. In July 2021, the Selectboard received a citizens' letter submitted and signed by 134 residents making various requests about the building and citing its risk to the town due to failing conditions and long-term lack of use. A letter was received from the Memorial Library Board of Trustees requesting 1 to 1.5 acres from the property for future Library use. The work of the Nichewaug Inn Advisory Committee was ongoing and the Selectboard met with them several times in the Fall.

In September 2021, the Selectboard hosted the Police Chief and Fire Chief at a meeting to review the building conditions and status from their perspectives; both Chiefs expressed that the building should be taken down due to ongoing risk to the town. The Selectboard followed up with Town Counsel regarding correct procedures for any possible transfer of land to the adjacent Library. Town Counsel stated that the Library is considered a "privately owned public facility" and that any transfer that exceeds the value threshold of greater than \$35,000 per Mass. General Law Chapter 30B would require a request for proposal process and voters' approval at a Town Meeting.

Using prior Nichewaug Inn bid scenarios & specifications from past years, the Selectboard undertook updating of a bid package for various scenarios of building removal; the project specs went out to bid in October 2021. Twenty-three bid packages were requested by contractors and seven sealed bids were received by the November 2 deadline. Working with the Moderator and Town Clerk the Selectboard decided to set a Special Town Meeting for December 6 to allow voters to review the project and decide next steps. The Selectboard reviewed the project with the Advisory Finance Committee and Town Treasurer for financing ideas. A site visit was held on November 20 for the Selectboard, Advisory Finance Committee, and Historic District Commission members to view current conditions; the Fire Dept. provided support for the interior walk-thru. A Public Information meeting was held on November 21 with about 40 people in attendance for a slide presentation and questions & answers session. At Special Town Meeting of December 6, voters approved the scenario of full removal of the building expecting the small separate garage. With status now defined by the voters for full removal, in January 2022 an application, was put before the Historic District Commission requesting demolition. The Commission unanimously supported demolition as they had done in 2010. The project was subsequently awarded to the low bidder, Stamford Wrecking Company.

In April 2022, the Selectboard learned from the Town Treasurer that because the project loan amount was over \$500,000, the loan process is reviewed by a bond advisor. The review process hit two technical by-law issues that required the town to re-vote the borrowing terms at Town Meeting in June 2022; one was the accidental lack of mailing a Special Town Meeting postcard notice and the second was that the Capital Improvement Planning Committee did not review the project; both steps are per the Town by-laws. The complete December 6, 2021 Special Town Meeting Warrant had been sent to all

town addresses along with many postings, news articles, and advertising for the Meeting so every town voter was informed the Meeting was being held. The bond advisor still needed the bylaws satisfied. The contractor was notified of the status and pausing of the project until after June. The Selectboard submitted a project request to the Capital improvement Planning Committee which was unanimously approved. The project Articles were placed on the June 2022 Special Town Meeting Warrant where voters again approved full demolition excepting the small garage. Stamford Wrecking Company was notified of the confirmed status and project scheduling was developed for work to commence in the summer.

### **Selectboard Member Steps Down and Special Election Held**

In August 2021, Selectman Henry Woolsey submitted a letter of resignation to the Selectboard effective September 1. Prior to Henry's last meeting, a surprise gathering of town staff, committee members, and residents was held at Town Hall to thank Henry for his service. Selectboard members expressed their great pleasure in working with Henry and members of the public thanked him for his work on the Board.

In light of the opening on the Board, a Special Election was required to fill the open position. The Selectboard reviewed election dates with the Town Clerk and November 15, 2021 was set. Three candidates were on the ballot and a Candidate's Forum was held on November 6 for residents to meet and hear from the candidates. Annette Ermini was elected by the voters and joined the Selectboard on November 16.

### **Retiring Police Chief, New Police Chief**

In June 2021, the Selectboard received a retirement letter from Petersham Police Chief Dana Cooley for effective December 1, 2021. Chief Cooley had served eleven years in the position and been an officer in the Department since 1989. The Board accepted the Chief's notice with sincere thanks for his dedicated work for the entire community and for his fellow officers.

Beginning in late Summer 2021 the Selectboard, engaged with long-time part-time Police Department Detective/Sergeant Peter Buck to be promoted to the position of Police Chief. Both parties signed a letter of intent to hire followed by contract review sessions. In October 2021, a contract was signed between parties and Chief Buck took his assignment on November 1. Chief Cooley and incoming Chief Buck overlapped for one month for guidance and in order to share information for a smooth transition.

A retirement party was held for Chief Cooley and a swearing-in ceremony was held on Petersham Common for Chief Buck.

### **Small Scale Cannabis Farm**

In October 2021, proprietors of Green Origin Farm on Glasheen Road provided an introduction to the Selectboard for a proposed one acre, small-scale cannabis farm. Medical use of marijuana was approved in Massachusetts in 2012 and adult recreational use was passed in 2016. Cannabis cultivation and sales is overseen by the Mass. Cannabis Control Commission. Among other steps, the Selectboard and Green Origin Farm began the process of reviewing a Host Community Agreement and community impact fee.

The Agreement states that commencing in the first year of operation that 1% of gross sales will be provided to the town and up to 2% of gross sales will be paid via invoicing by the town for actual needs, for a total of up to a 3% fee. Both parties signed the Agreement in March 2022.

### **Petersham Center School Feasibility Investigation**

The Center School initiated an investigation considering returning PCS to independent public school status. Nancy Allen served as the Board's representative for that effort with School committee members.

### **Glen Valley Road Bridge and Quaker Drive Bridge**

Engineering and design work continued on both bridge projects. The Selectboard received and approved Glen Valley Road Bridge temporary construction easements with abutters. The Selectboard thanks Highway Dept. Supt. Greg Waid for his work with the engineers on these large projects.

### **Matrix-Town of Barre Fiber Optic Network Extension**

In January 2022, The Selectboard reviewed a proposed Memorandum of Agreement for Provision of Broadband Internet Service between the Town of Barre, the Town of Petersham, and Matrix Design Group, Inc. The document was prepared by Petersham's Town Counsel with the MLP Broadband Committee approving of the request by Matrix. The agreement is for Matrix to deliver services for 23 households in the Spring Hill neighborhood of Barre, located just beyond Petersham's Dana Road area and via connection from the last Petersham utility pole in that neighborhood. The project would incur no bills, no cost, and no risk to the Town of Petersham. The Selectboard noted that regional agreements are important so that towns may assist one another. The Selectboard approved the Agreement.

### **Town Budget & Annual Town Meeting – June 2022**

The Selectboard conducted annual town budget development from January into June 2022 working jointly with the Advisory Finance Committee and with the participation of all town departments and committees. Voters supported the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget and Warrant as presented. The Selectboard is grateful to all who worked to make Town Meeting a success and for the dedication of local voters.

### **Other Business and Projects**

In August 2021, upon review of the ongoing drivers' speeding problems at the Center School zone with Police Chief Cooley and Highway Dept Supt. Greg Waid, a solar lit stop sign was installed on Hardwick Road. East Street speeding was also reviewed with Chief Cooley: radar data indicated the average speed was below the posted 40 MPH. The Police Dept. will continue with review and patrols.

In August 2021, a presentation ceremony of the Boston Post Cane was held on the Common before the evening's Brass Band Concert for the town's oldest resident, Ernie Richards. The Council on Aging organized the event and all Selectboard members were pleased to attend to honor Mr. Richards.

Also in August 2021, the Selectboard met with new Tree Warden David Lockesmith for a general review of budget and projects underway. The Tree Warden provided detailed reports on recent tree work throughout the town and upcoming projects and concerns including working closely with National Grid on State roadside trees and review with the Cemetery Commission on their tree concerns.

In September 2021, the Board met with members of the Council on Aging, Petersham Partners, and LifePath to review and approve an application for Petersham to be a part of the Age and Dementia Friendly project in Franklin County and North Quabbin to the AARP Network of Age Friendly Cities and Communities.

In December 2021, the Petersham Lions once again did a beautiful job decorating the Bandstand for the holidays.

In March 2022, the Selectboard added Wednesday afternoons as a second day for public hours at the Transfer Station to supplement Saturday hours. This additional day was well received by residents.

In May 2022, the Selectboard received notice from new resident Susan Dougherty expressing interest in post COVID-19 renewal and organizing of the annual Fourth of July Parade with resident Lynn Scott. Selectboard member Annette Ermini was a key liaison for this effort which included support from Police Chief Buck, resident and Legion member Bill Berry, and various parade participants.

In June 2022, the Selectboard received a resignation letter from Marc Page as Animal Inspector due to his pending move out of state. The Board is very grateful for Marc's dedicated work and to Assistant Animal Inspector Deb Bachrach for all of her work.

Also in June 2022, working with Highway Dept. Supt. Greg Waid, the Selectboard reviewed and approved the special Massachusetts Winter Recovery Assistance Program (WRAP) contract; the state-wide program funded additional roadwork and Petersham's allotment was \$205,722 to be used by Dec. 31, 2023.

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In closing, we thank the staff at the Selectboard Office – Sherry Berube and Derrick Vannoy – for their dedicated work for the Office, fellow staff and Committee members, residents, and visitors.

The Selectboard expresses our sincere thanks to all town and school staff, elected officials, and committee members who worked so hard this year for the residents and in the best interests of the entire community.

*Respectfully submitted – Petersham Selectboard,*

~ Nancy Allen  
*Chair*

~ Henry Woolsey  
*Vice Chair*  
*(to Sept. 2021)*

~ Rebecca Legare  
*Clerk / Vice Chair*

~ Annette Ermini  
*Clerk*  
*(effective Nov. 2021)*



**Town of Petersham  
Advisory Finance Committee Report  
Reserve Fund Transfers  
Fiscal 2022**

**Balance July 1, 2021**      \$      40,000.00

Available for FY22      \$      40,000.00

<b>Transfers:</b>		<b>Account Description</b>
March 28, 2022	\$      925.00	Police Dept. - Unanticipated Cruiser Repairs
May 31, 2022	1,600.00	Town Hall/Town Office - Emergency Well Pump Repair
June 6, 2022	3,032.72	Highway Dept. - Unanticipated Grader Repairs
June 30, 2022	16,572.92	Police Dept. - Unanticipated Chief Transition Costs
June 30, 2022	4,469.54	Transfer Station - Unanticipated Operating Costs
June 30, 2022	7,332.07	Fire Dept. - Unanticipated Wages

**Total Transfers**      \$33,932.25

**Balance June 30, 2022**      \$      6,067.75

Respectfully Submitted:  
 Richard Cavanaugh, Chairman  
 Mark Bishop, Vice Chair  
 Talitha Lent, Clerk  
 John James Dowd  
 Rachael Shea

Animal Control  
Petersham, MA

Reporting Period: 01 July 2021 thru June 2022

Animal control continues to handle calls in Petersham for domestic animals, all wildlife, and livestock. This past year was similar to previous years with approximately 50% of calls related to domestic (pet) situations, 40% wildlife reports, and 10% livestock incidences. Petersham Animal Control also continues to provide back up for surrounding towns as required. Currently, 25-30 calls are received monthly.

There was a marked increase over the reporting period for barking dogs, lost and roaming animals, and wildlife strikes. Petersham is fortunate to have a secure animal shelter which has been invaluable again over this past year for found/secured animals that were roaming and the management of animals under quarantine.

The annual rabies clinic was held again in February of 2022 with Dr. Heidi Langendoen assisting. This successful event has been held in Petersham for well over 20 years. (All dogs, cats, and ferrets are required to be rabies vaccination compliant in Massachusetts.)

If you have animal control related questions, concerns, or comments....please reach out to animal control.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Bachrach



# Town of Petersham BOARD OF ASSESSORS

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

## ANNUAL TOWN REPORT FY 2022

Expense Account	\$26,971.00
Deeds, Postage and all Misc Bills	
Point Software, Software Maintenance	
Personal Property, Cartographic, Inc.	
Recertification	
Vision Appraisal-Software Maintenance	\$ 4,704.00
Vision Appraisal-Interim	\$ 3,000.00
Vision Revaluation – 5 year requirement	Article 32
Assessor's Salary	\$ 9,343.00
Asst. Assessor Salary	\$36,471.00

## TAX RECAPITULATION

Total amount to be raised	\$4,577,722.47
Total estimated receipts & revenue	\$2,091,086.31
Net amount to be raised by taxation	\$2,486,636.16

Tax Rate \$ 13.54 per thousand

## CALCULATION

Value of Town divided by 1000  
 $163,670,194 / 1000 = 163,670$  will equal \$1.00 on tax rate.

Personal Property Accounts are not for public information.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Board of Assessors

Ellen Anderson, Chair  
Jean Robinson, Clerk

Jamie Hatch, Member  
Andrea Gale, Assistant Assessor



## PETERSHAM BOARD OF HEALTH

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

### ANNUAL REPORT July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

The Board of Health has three elected officials, Chair, Fifi Scoufopoulos, Stephen Loring, Rebecca Jackson, administrative assistant, Renee Wingertsman and Health Agent Phil Leger. The Board meets on the first and third Thursday at 6:00 p.m. or as posted on [www.townofpetersham.org](http://www.townofpetersham.org).

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

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

This year COVID-19 continued to dominate business, as many difficult discussions centered on establishing policy, best practices and local conditions to protect the community. Special thanks to Petersham School staff for their communications and cooperation.

Memberships: Region II Public Health Coalition, the Mass. Assoc. of Health Boards, Wachusett Medical Reserve Corps, and the Mass Toss Cooperative. The BOH assists the Select board with the operation of the Transfer Station. The BOH is responsible for the Public Health portion of the Emergency Management Program with the Department of Homeland Security.

The annual rabies clinic held on February 20, 2022 was sponsored in collaboration with the Animal Control Officer, Board of Health, Highway Department and veterinarian Dr. Heidi Langendoen, DVM and Deb Bachrach, Amelia Wendell and Lynn Peredina. Proceeds are donated to PAWS (Petersham Animal Welfare System), the local animal welfare group.

The Board of Health received a recycling grant of \$2800.00 from DEP for its achievements in recycling.

Annual participation in the regional Household Hazardous Waste collection in Orange on September 25, 2021, allows 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 provides a small income to the town.

#### Local Board of Health Duties

Perc Tests	19	Food Operations	09
Plan Reviews	11	Temporary Food permits	03
Repair; minor	03	Lyme disease reported	07
Systems Installed	11	Tobacco permit	01
System Haulers Permits	05	Housing Inspection	00
System Installers Permit	06	Outdoor Wood Boiler Permit	00
Private Well Permits	07	Public Water Systems	07

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 health of our community.

Rebecca Jackson ♦ Fifi Scoufopoulos  
Stephen Loring



## PETERSHAM Inspector of Buildings

3 South Main Street • P.O. Box 486 • Petersham, MA 01366-0486

[www.townofpetersham.org](http://www.townofpetersham.org)

978/724-3586 tel. • 978/724-3501 fax

[buildingdept@townofpetersham.org](mailto:buildingdept@townofpetersham.org)

### Permits issued FY21 July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

17	New construction/Additions/Alterations	
02	Accessory Buildings/Sheds	
65	Building Envelope (siding, roofing, windows, insulation, etc.)	
10	Solid Fuel Appliances (wood, coal, pellet)	
01	Chimney/ Fireplace	
00	Swimming Pools	
		In ground
		Above ground
01	Demolition	Commercial
		Residential
10	Solar	
00	Signs	
00	Sheet Metal	Commercial
		Residential
00	Temporary Structures (tents)	
00	Moving Dwelling/Structure or Temporary Housing	
00	CMR 780 Table 110 Required Inspections	

#### Staff

William Cantell	Building Commissioner
Robert Legare	Alternate Building Inspector
Gary Terroy	Electrical Inspector
Dan Joly	Gas & Plumbing Inspector
Renee Wingertsman	Administrative Assistant



TOWN OF PETERSHAM  
**Petersham Broadband Municipal Light Plant Board**

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



**July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022 -REPORT OF THE PETERSHAM  
BROADBAND MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT BOARD**

2022 represented a milestone year for Petersham as we celebrated our first anniversary of the completed Matrix Connected Fiber Broadband Network. This represented the culmination of our twelve-year-long effort to bring 100% of the residents, businesses and students of our community ultra-fast fiber-optic Broadband connectivity. For the Broadband Board and for Petersham's Broadband subscribers, one of the primary measures of success is the percentage of time that the network is providing uninterrupted service. In reviewing the most recent 12-month data, the network has been fully operational and serving the community 99.925% of the time.

In reflecting upon this successful effort, it is worth remembering the events that have brought us to this point.

In September of 2016, the Broadband Board released another of its Request for Proposals for Broadband services. Only one company, Matrix Connected Fiber, responded to that widely advertised RFP. No other companies indicated any interest in the project.

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 would be required before Matrix could begin to install, at its own expense, the equipment and fiber-optic cable required to connect Petersham customers to high-speed Broadband.

This funding was approved by the Town contingent upon two events:

Petersham would have to wait to see if it was mentioned in the State's own RFP for a major national cable company to build our network. On January 23, 2017 the Massachusetts Broadband Institute announced that they had received no cable company 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 7<sup>th</sup> to June 9<sup>th</sup>, 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.

Pole owners, National Grid and Verizon began their detailed 1900 pole survey in January 2018 and completed it on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

Over the following 16 months the two utilities slowly completed the necessary pole Make-Ready work paving the way for Petersham's Broadband partner Matrix Connected Fiber to begin the actual construction of the 130-mile-long network. Despite working at the height of the Covid Epidemic the Matrix work was completed in the late summer of 2021.

In 2022 Matrix, without additional cost to the Town or its customers, increased the network speed from the contracted 50 Mbps to over 100 Mbps with up to gigabit speeds available on a tiered pricing schedule.

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 2022

The Capital Improvement Planning Committee would like to recommend the following budget for Capital Improvement items for Fiscal Year 2022. All requests were evaluated on need, cost effectiveness, quality of improvement, completeness, and availability of funds.

The following items are recommended for inclusion in the Annual Town Meeting Warrant for June of 2021.

Fire Department – Paint Station	\$ 15,000.00
Town Clerk – Town Records Preservation	\$ 5,000.00
School – Playground Renovation	\$ 23,000.00
Highway Department – Truck Replacement	\$ 100,000.00
Town Hall & Office - Generator	\$ 25,000.00

The CIPC believes that this Capital Budget is reasonable and necessary. The first three items recommended are left over from Fiscal Year 2021. None of the Capital items from last year were funded due to the uncertainty of how much revenue would be available due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Therefore, they have been included here for funding in the FY 2022 budget. The remaining two items replace existing equipment that are at the end of life cycle. One additional item was submitted late by the School Department and was subsequently withdrawn from consideration as it was determined that it could be funded through the regular school budget.

~ Respectfully Submitted,

Dana Robinson, Ch.  
Nancy Allen  
Sandra Page  
John Lawson  
Irene Graeff  
Lynn Peredina  
Hillary Loring

Petersham Cemetery Commission  
Annual Report July 21-June 30, 2022

The Cemetery Commission worked throughout 2021 to update the Rules and Regulations. Investigation was made into requirements for natural burial. When the Rules and Regulations draft was finished in November 2021, it was sent to town counsel to review. It had not been returned as of fiscal year end in June of 2022.

The Commission has been working on ascertaining the number of lots available for burials. Ground penetrating radar was done on the south upper side of West Rd Cemetery, on the northeast side of Ledgeville, and in the north section of Mann (Harvard) cemeteries for unmarked burials. One burial was found in the West Rd section, thirteen unmarked burials were found in Ledgeville, and one in Mann (Harvard). Most of the south side of Mann/Harvard is ledge and is unsuitable.

Barnes excavated two six-foot test holes in the annex of East Street cemetery. These holes filled with water up to the 5 foot level, which makes the annex unsuitable for traditional burials.

The Commission made a priority list of landscaping maintenance needs. Barnes worked on the list and accomplished extra maintenance needs in Center, West Road, Mann/Harvard, and Williams/Indian. The tree warden said he would make rounds with the Commission to determine what tree work is a priority. One large maple was removed from Ledgeville, but the rest of the priority survey has not been finished.

One issue is the hemlocks in the back of Center Cemetery. There is a row of thirteen very tall trees and they are all infected with the woolly adelgid. The family who planted them was contacted, but there was no response. The tree warden, David Locke-Smith, and the Petersham Conservation Commission were consulted. They felt the trees would not deteriorate for many years. Barnes trimmed the lower branches to contain overgrowth and the trees will be monitored.

We were fortunate to have Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School students and their instructors in the woodworking and metalworking departments make signs for the cemeteries at no charge, except for materials. Petersham DPW agreed to install them when they are ready.

TaMara Conde of Historic Gravestone Preservation in New Salem restored five stones, four in Center Cemetery, and one in East Street cemetery. She always provides excellent service to help honor our citizens and maintain the beauty of our cemeteries.

MGL dictates that a Lot Representative be named for every grave plot. The original purchaser has initial jurisdiction, but if that person is no longer available, families will need to designate to the Cemetery Commission which family member will be their spokesperson for determining



who can be buried in the plot and what monuments can be placed. The Commission is working to create a system for this.

Several members of the Commission retired at year's end in 2022. All of them had been serving on the Commission for many years. A reception in gratitude for their years of service was held and Certificates of Commendation were given to them for their dedication. The members who retired were Lynn Shaw, Sheila Youd, Deb Bachrach, and Glenede Albertine.

New members were welcomed for the oncoming fiscal year. Joining the Commission were Linda Everett, John Ewing, Pam Chevalier, and Rich Nicoletti. They are gratefully thanked for their commitment to service.

There were ten burials and two lot sales in FY 2021-2022. Eight burials occurred in East St Cemetery and two in West Road Cemetery. The lot sales were in East Street and Ledgeville cemeteries.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Hanno, Chair



## PETERSHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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

### REPORT OF THE PETERSHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

#### FISCAL YEAR 2022 (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022)

Regular monthly in person meetings held on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM were curtailed due to the ongoing COVID-19 State of Emergency and all meetings from July 2021 through March 2022 were held by Zoom. Meetings for April, May, and June 2022 were held in the Lower Town hall. Public Hearings and Special Meetings were scheduled to either coincide with regular monthly meetings or between monthly meetings as necessary.

Twelve regular meetings, two special meetings, and one public hearing were held. Two emergency certifications, four Determinations of Applicability, one Order of Conditions, and one Certificate of Compliance were issued. Site visits were conducted for all Emergency Certifications, Requests for Determinations of Applicability, and Notices of Intent, requiring Conservation Commission recommendations or approval. The Commission issued an Enforcement Order which was successfully completed.

Over twelve Forest Cutting Plans were reviewed including landowner submissions, DCR Service Forester approvals, and DCR Service Forester final inspections. The Commission received a renewed Forest Management Plan for the Gould Woodlot, reviewed two Approval Not Required Plans from the Planning Board, and two DCR Advisory Rulings. The Commission supported the work of Rocio Lalanda, Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust, in the preparation of the Flye Conservation Restriction which was approved by the Selectboard.

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 Davenport Pond Property is protected under Chapter 97 with USDA Forest Legacy funds with the expectation for sound forest management. The property has a renewed Forest Stewardship Plan. Access and gates were discussed and Ann Lewis has taken the lead in researching the best scenarios.

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 of the Swift River on Harvard Forest property and The Trustees' Brooks Woodland Preserve. The required annual monitoring of the CRs continued to be done by Dr. Richard King as the students from Clark University were no longer available due to the discontinuation of the Land Conservation course. Richard King's CR monitoring is a valuable service to the Conservation Commission and to Petersham. Annual CR monitoring of the Davenport Property was conducted by Harvard Forest and CR monitoring of the Hallberg and Ganson Parcels was conducted by Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust. Annual mowing of the open fields continued at the Babbitt Sanctuary.

Fiscal 2022 marks the thirty-eighth year the Commission has funded the Environmental Education Program at the Petersham Center School. The program taught by Chris Eaton of Mass Audubon for many years includes classroom work Kindergarten through Sixth grade as well as

outdoor study. Chris Eaton is retiring from teaching the school program. The Petersham Conservation Commission commends her for her many years of service in teaching with field trips to the Lewis and Corinne Babbitt Wildlife Sanctuary and more recently the school grounds and Buell's Pond.

We greatly appreciate her expertise and dedication in working with the children at the Petersham Center School and giving them a lasting appreciation for and understanding of the natural world around them. Many will become responsible environmental citizens as they grow in their understanding, appreciation, and respect for the environment. Chris has enriched their lives with a lasting sense of living in harmony with nature. Thank you Chris for inspiring the children and making this program a success.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert A. Clark, Chair  
Anne F. Cavanaugh Clerk  
Jennifer M. Albertine  
Ann M. Lewis  
Michael J. Seitz  
Henry L. Woolsey

PETERSHAM COUNCIL ON AGING ANNUAL REPORT  
FISCAL YEAR 2022

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

We are a volunteer organization with a new Meal-Site Manager who will receive payment. We have one salaried position at this time. Funds to carry out our activities come from an annual grant of \$6,000 from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs and \$1,100 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 FY2022 has met monthly, except for June and July in 2022, in order to plan health and entertainment programs for Petersham's seniors; 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 10:00 a.m. in the Lower Town Hall. We welcome anyone to come and share ideas and concerns.

The Luncheon Club through the LifePath's Meals-on-Wheels Program is in its 28<sup>th</sup> year. We meet every Wednesday at 12:00 in the Lower Town Hall. Paul Williams was hired as Meal-Site Manager on November 8, 2021 and has some help from Kay Berry. We are an approved site. 714 hot and grab 'n' go meals were served on 52 Wednesdays to 22 participants. The volunteers that provide this service comply with the requirements of the Massachusetts Department of Health and the Petersham Board of Health. Thank you for your dedication to the seniors of Petersham. A \$3.00 donation is recommended for lunch. To reserve a meal, please call Paul Williams at 978-821-5549 on Monday for a Wednesday lunch.

The COA newsletter, underwritten by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA), is sent to all Petersham residents 60 and older. This past year 504 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 Sandra Page and our email address is: [pshamcoa@gmail.com](mailto:pshamcoa@gmail.com).

Petersham Partners is dedicated to helping seniors stay connected to our community. The COA tries to coordinate programs with them whenever possible.

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

- 17 Floor and 34 Chair Yoga classes held on the main floor of the Town Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday for 34 weeks led by Loren Magruder.
- 35 weeks of Tai Chi were led by Valerie and Nick Wisniewski on Wednesday.
- A foot clinic is held on the first Thursday of the month in the lower Town Hall with Melinda Powling. Cost is \$5.00 and people need to bring a towel. They get a foot soak and nail clipping.
- All of the above programs are sponsored by the COA and underwritten by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs.
- The Boston Post Cane was presented to the oldest resident, Ernest (Ernie) Richards at the last band concert of the season.

- Technology Day for seniors, held on March 21, 2022, with volunteer students from Wellesley College and was coordinated by LifePath.
- Worcester Red Sox (WooSox) bus trip on September 22, 2021.
- Storyteller Davis Bates performed in the Town Hall with a Cultural Council program grant in September 2022.
- Age-Friendly Survey gathered information on how to make the region a better place for people to grow older.

The Council wishes to thank all that helped to make 2021/2022 a good year.

- The Selectboard for their help and support of all the COA's activities.
- Administrative Coordinator Sherry Berube, and Assistant Derrick Vannoy for help with any problems, updates, and Town Hall concerns.
- Highway Superintendent Gregory Waid for keeping the walkways clean and sanded.
- Mike Seitz 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  
Lynn Shaw & Sheila Youd, - Co Vice-Chairs  
Rebecca Davis, Treasurer  
Pamela Chevalier, Recording Secretary  
Cynthia Crosson, Correspondence Secretary

Paul Williams, Meal-Site Manager  
Robin Koenig, Newsletter Editor  
Marilyn Fisher, Foot Clinic Coordinator  
Kathy McCrohon, Events Coordinator  
Lynn Shaw, LifePath Citizens Advisory  
Board Representative

Jane Lynch Gilbert

Petersham Cultural Council

Report year ending 2022

Petersham Cultural Council (PCC) received 31 applications for 2022. Our allocation for this year was \$5000. On occasion we are able to supplement grant funding with our own budget. We were able to fund 10 applicants. Our goal in determining funding is in our stated PCC priorities on the Mass Cultural Council LCC website.

We fund local entities such as our schools, our libraries and other town and local institutions that benefit the greater community. We seek diversity in programming.

Some highlights of our grant recipients for 2022 are:

Petersham Anti-Racism Coalition Nipmuc Celebration, a well attended (over 200 attendees) outdoor event on Petersham Common.

Petersham Friday Market, a well run community market open May through October with foods, crafts and music.

Uniquely Quabbin, a local free magazine published 4 times/year with news, happenings and important local information.

Petersham Jams, an open mike musical event that happens each season and is well attended by the larger community.

Petersham Historical Society presentation of Ken Levine's Rabbit Run. A historical and artful presentation of the Quabbin's historic Rabbit Run Railroad.

Stone Church of Hardwick, a newer musical venue with many performances through-out the year.

Katelyn Walsh art programming for elementary children at the Petersham Memorial Library.

Wildlife Education with Chris Eaton at the Petersham Center School.

Funding for Haley Bain's children's book project, and funding for upcoming musical events tbd.

The PCC also held their annual Art Show and Sale. It was a huge success with record sales of art from our local artists! The opening reception had a wonderful performance by Mary Carfagna and Myra MacLeod .

Our 3rd annual Scarecrow Event on the Common was a huge success with 12 scarecrows lining the cCommon, prizes, snacks and Pumpkin Rolling event.

We are always seeking new members to our fun committee!

We look forward o rescheduling events delayed by the pandemic. Stay Tuned!

We look forward to another wonderful year of Music, Art and Education!

**Annual Report of the Petersham Fire Department  
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022**

To the Citizens of Petersham:

I herewith submit my report of activity by the Petersham Fire Department for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2022.

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

Structure Fires	2
Chimney Fires	1
Brush Fires	3
Car/Equipment Fire	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	14
Elevator Problem	2
Alarm Activations – No fire	25
Carbon Monoxide Alarm Activation	8
Transformer Explosion	1
Trees Down on Wires	5
Cellars Pumped	2
Smoke Investigation	5
Large Animal Rescue	2
Fuel Leak	2
Lost Person	1
Propane Leak	1
Illegal Burning	1
Good Intent Call	4
Remove Hazard	1
Public Service	5
Fire Watch	8
Small Outside Fire	2
Medical Emergencies	96
Mutual Aid	<u>15</u>
Total	208
Permits Issued:	
Smoke/ CO Inspections	22
Oil Burner Permits	9
Tank Removal Permit	1
Propane Storage Permits	20
Burning Permits	<u>398</u>
Total Permits Issued	452

Fiscal Year 2022 was the busiest year ever experienced by the Fire Department. This department responded to 208 calls almost half of which were requests for Medical Assistance. Petersham is fortunate to have a strong emergency medicine partnership with the Athol Fire Department for Ambulance Service. Unlike some municipalities, Athol provides the ambulance service at no cost to the Town as our Mutual Aid

partner. Even as the pandemic began to wind down, the volume of medical calls during the year kept reminding us of the importance of the Covid precautions implemented in the early stages of the pandemic.

The Department was able to secure funding through the Department of Fire Services " Firefighters Equipment Grant Program" that enabled us to purchase a washer/extractor to clean our turnout gear and a basic accountability system to use on the fire ground for both local and mutual aid calls. We also were able to purchase some new Multi-gas meters and battery powered lighting. The lights that we purchased have proved very effective at motor vehicle accident. In addition, we purchased an equipment dryer that was too small for the needs of the Orange Fire Department at a deeply discounted price.

As the state and country continue to move toward more renewable energy, we continue to see many new installations of underground propane tanks as more homes are heated with propane. Most propane contractors are very good about coordinating the inspection of these tanks before the tanks are buried. It just takes a little bit of planning.

The housing market saw a decline in inventory and sales of homes in Fiscal Year 2022. The number of Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detector inspections dropped by almost 50%. From the high in Fiscal Year 2021 of 40 inspections, to 22 in this Fiscal Year.

Firefighters continued regular training at the bi-monthly meetings. In the good weather months practical training evolutions were conducted to refresh and hone firefighting skills. These outdoor trainings help to keep the firefighters familiar with the operation of all equipment and improve the driving skills necessary when operating larger vehicles. During this fiscal year we completed the requirements for Fire Fighter I and most of Fire Fighter II. Many firefighters were able to take part in a live burn through the generosity of the Gardner Fire Department who let us use their burn building. The Athol Fire Department hosted a cold water rescue course for us as well. All firefighters were able to recertify as First Responders and in CPR as well. Thanks to the training committee for putting our training programs together.

The on-line burning permit system continues to be a popular alternative to the permit phone line. The on-line system has eliminated busy signals on the permit phone line and has continued to grow. 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](http://www.c8burnpermits.com).

Petersham, like many small volunteer fire departments, continues to struggle attracting new members. 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 have a critical need of individuals that are available during the day. Daytime calls provide the biggest challenge for response as most of our firefighters work out of town. Anyone interested in exploring the idea of becoming a firefighter, should contact the Chief 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



### **The Petersham Forest & Shade Tree Committee FY 2023**

The PFSTC has, once again, not met this year due to the lingering effects of COVID19 . Regardless, our committee's goal remains the same: to ensure the continued environmental health of Petersham's town trees.

With leadership by committee co-chair Jordan O'Connor, the Petersham Wood Bank made available 20 crates of split, dry firewood to residents during the 2022-2023 heating season, coordinating closely with:

- o Mass. DCR, on deployment of a new splitter/automated conveyor system
- o A growing volunteer group, including UMass students, to organize socially distant wood stacking during COVID closures.
- o Purchase of new equipment made possible by the successful culmination of a new USDA/DCR grant for \$14,933.00 (see attached press release)
- Throughout the year, individual committee members have weeded, watered, and re-mulched recently planted Town trees.
- We are currently planning an initiative to combat local knotweed thanks to the efforts of Anne Cavanaugh.
- We hope to enlist the volunteer efforts of more local and younger community members via a liaison with Petersham Partners.

*Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Forest & Shade Tree Committee,*

Jordan O'Connor & Clarisse Hart, co-chairs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Clarisse Hart, [hart3@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:hart3@fas.harvard.edu), 978-756-6157

### **PETERSHAM WOOD BANK BOOSTED BY FEDERAL GRANT**

The Petersham Wood Bank, a volunteer firewood heating assistance program managed by the Petersham Forest & Shade Tree Committee with support from the Mass. DCR and the Petersham Highway Department, has been awarded \$14,933 in federal funds to purchase safety, splitting, and storage equipment, and to support contracted labor by sawyers and log boom operators.

The Petersham Wood Bank – the first such operation in the state of Massachusetts – turns storm-downed street trees into firewood for Petersham households in need. The Wood Bank is actively seeking additional volunteers to help split and stack wood at the Transfer Station on volunteer days. To get involved, contact Jordan O'Connor at [joconnor@JOAarchitects.com](mailto:joconnor@JOAarchitects.com)

“Next winter will top off our first successful decade of helping local families stay warm in winter,” said Jordan O'Connor, lead organizer of the Petersham Wood Bank. “We started with one loaned splitter and some volunteers with chainsaws. But our operation has grown, and the need keeps coming. In winter 2022-2023, we served over 20 Petersham households. With this new equipment on board, next year we hope to serve even more, especially with heating prices being as high as they are,” he added.

The new grant funding comes from the Alliance for Green Heat, a non-profit organization chosen by the US Forest Service in 2022 to administer a nationwide grant program to support local firewood banks, with funds allocated by the US Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

Petersham resident and Harvard Forest Director of Education Clarisse Hart launched the first nationwide research study of wood banks in 2016, in partnership with Rick Harper, Extension Professor at the University of Massachusetts. Their work laid the groundwork for this federal funding and a national community of practice for wood bank leaders. They have documented more than 100 firewood banks around the US, including several more in Massachusetts (Athol, Goshen, Montague) that were launched in the past decade with grant support from the Mass. Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Mass. DCR, with leadership by forester Sean Mahoney, has supported the establishment and growth of firewood banks in Massachusetts since 2015 through the Bureau of Forestry Community Wood Bank Program. The Bureau is currently accepting applications for 2 seasonal positions for trained sawyers to help prepare wood for firewood banks in our region.

For more information on firewood banks and the nationwide firewood bank funding program, visit <https://www.firewoodbanks.org>.

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Town of Petersham  
Highway Department  
Annual Report  
2021-2022

Chapter 90 Work

Section of New Athol Rd. and Shaw Rd. was paved.  
Finalizing Design and Engineering was done on Quaker Drive Bridge.

General Highway

Roads were swept. Dirt roads graded Graveled and rolled, edged and ditched road sides, catch basins cleaned, and road sides mowed. General cleanup of limbs brush and debris from road sides. Sand was screened and hauled to highway dept. A small Bridge grant was awarded to the town for the replacement of Quaker dr. bridge.

Snow Account

Used about 550 ton of salt and 800 ton sand. Once again, the Part-time help was greatly appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Gregory Waid  
Highway Superintendent



## PETERSHAM HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION & HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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

### Historic District Commission & Historical Commission Annual Report Fiscal Year 2022 (July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022)

Meetings of the Historic District Commission & Historical Commission during 2021 normally held at the Petersham Memorial Library on the third Thursday of each month continued to be curtailed due to the ongoing COVID-19 State of Emergency and all meetings were held as necessary by Conference Call. In 2022, one public hearing was held in the Upper Town Hall by GoToMeeting.com and two meetings were held at the Petersham Memorial Library.

During Fiscal 2022 (July 2021 through June 2022) five meetings were held, one Application for Certificates of Appropriateness was received, one Application for Permit for Demolition or Removal was received, and one Certificate of Non-Applicability was issued for installation of rooftop solar panels on the rear of a home that were not visible from a public way.

Two Public hearings were held, one for a Certificate of Compliance for construction of garage and one for a Permit for Demolition or Removal by the Town of Petersham for the Nichewaug Inn and Academy building which was held in the Upper Town Hall.

Because of the continued COVID-19 State of Emergency, only essential business was conducted, and monthly meetings cancelled whenever possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert A. Clark, Chair  
Claudette H. Bishop, Clerk

Jeremy P. Gabrenas  
Hilary L. Loring

Marcia Lynn Shaw

**Petersham Memorial Library**  
23 Common Street  
Petersham, Massachusetts 01366

Annual Report to the Town  
July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Six Hundred and seventy-five Petersham residents were library cardholders in Fiscal Year 2022. Petersham Memorial Library's total circulation of materials was 11,630 items, which included 7,276 books, print periodicals, audiobooks, and DVDs. We checked out 4,354 audio and Ebooks Via Overdrive and the Libby app. Our digital materials circulation more than doubled for the second year in a row.

2,396 Inter-Library Loans were received for Petersham Residents from area libraries. We provided 1,143 Inter-Library loans to patrons of other libraries in the CWMars system.

People came into the library close to 3,000 times last year. Community members used our computers or wifi more than 300 times throughout the year. We were open for in-person browsing for 804 hours, with an additional 152 hours of curbside and home delivery service during the height of the Omicron wave. We answered more than 615 reference questions via phone, email, and in-person interactions.

Our shelves currently hold 15,404 items: 8,779 books for adults, 1,067 books for young adults, and 5,558 books for children. Our community has access to more than 190,000 digital eBooks and audiobooks through our Libby app. In FY22, we added a broadfork, a yarn swift and ball winder, and a community paper shredder to our Library of Things, which is free and accessible to anyone with a library card.

Our programs and events during the 2022 Fiscal Year included eight programs for adults, 22 programs for children, and three young adult programs, with a total of 360 attendees. These were a mix of virtual and in-person programs.

We are grateful to the Town of Petersham for providing three air purifiers for the library from COVID CARES Act grant funding.

We would like to extend our gratitude to the volunteers, staff, Trustees, and patrons of the Petersham Memorial Library for all they do to help keep the resources this library provides for the community free and available to everyone.



PETERSHAM OPEN SPACE & RECREATION  
COMMITTEE

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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 YEAR 2022  
(July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022)**

Regular monthly meetings held on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM were curtailed due to the ongoing COVID-19 State of Emergency and all meetings were then held as necessary by Zoom. Meetings were cancelled for November and December of 2021 and for January 2022. Meetings for April, May, and June were held in the Lower Town Hall. Additional meetings were held on 17 May and 21 June 2022.

The difficulties of trail management due to increased storm and wind damage were discussed. Ideas for recreation uses of the Nichewaug Inn and Academy property were discussed and will be revisited when the buildings are removed.

A strategy for developing the next Open Space & Recreation Plan, identifying stake holders of larger parcels of protected land, and developing goals and objectives were discussed at length. Especially important were the development of draft town wide surveys which are essential in writing the new Open Space & Recreation Plan. Anne Cavanaugh took the lead in researching surveys from other communities and identifying elements most appropriate for Petersham.

Invasive species control and trail management continues to be a challenge throughout the town, especially the proliferation of Japanese knotweed along roadsides. Anne Cavanaugh identified and mapped locations along roadsides and researched the best means to eliminate them and control the spread.

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, 2021-June 30, 2022

There were six plans with a total of 13 new lots endorsed as ANR (Approval Not Required) during FY 2022:

07/2021	Lots 407/74,75 Shaw Road
11/2021	Lots 406/63.1,63.11 Shaw Road
11/2021	Lots 201/75,75.1 West Road
12/2021	Lots 412/39,39.1 South Street
02/2022	Lots 201/75,75.1,75.2 West Road
06/2022	Lots 416/78,79 Old Hardwick Road

A total of \$800 in fees were paid to the Town for these endorsements.

Fraser Sinclair, Chair



## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Petersham, Massachusetts 01366-0486

Telephone (978) 724-3330

Fax (978) 724-3502

**Peter J. Buck**

Chief of Police

### **Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Report**

The Petersham Police Department is pleased to present you with our FY2022 Annual Report. Our department continues to work in partnership with our residents to provide bias free policing with a significant focus on community policing and the safety for all. Officers focus on engaging with our residents and visitors of Petersham through interactions at community events and during calls for service.

At the forefront of the department's community policing actions, we continue to work closely with the Petersham Center School staff and student body, providing educational programs and positive interactions with the department members, through these programs, as well as welcoming the students often times daily with a smile and warm greeting as they start their day. Many of our safety programs are conducted at the school in a team approach, working with members of the Worcester County District Attorney's Office Outreach Program members, and the Franklin County Sheriff's Office.

All members of the department continue in their pursuit for additional training and education. This is accomplished by the staff completing the Municipal Police Training Committees In-Service training, as well as attending specialized trainings, and in-house "Roll-Call" training blocks which are completed at the monthly staff meetings. Some of the topics covered during the FY2022 year include but are not limited to: First Responder & CPR, Mass Gatherings, Cultural Competency, Street Level Firearms, De-Escalation and Use of Force, Human Trafficking, Officer Wellness, Responding to Emergencies Involving the Mentally Ill, Legal Updates, Defensive Tactics, and Annual Firearms Qualifications.

Our department would like to recognize Lynne Shaw for her continued efforts supporting the agency as the Town of Petersham Emergency Management Director, as well as for her hard work assisting us in obtaining equipment through grant funded sources.

The Petersham Police Department responded to over 2,619 calls for service between the months of July 01, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

On behalf of the department I would like to thank the community members for their support. I would also like to thank our officers for their continued dedication and service to the department and the community of Petersham, as well as their families for supporting all of us as we serve the town.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Chief Peter J. Buck



**REPORT OF THE TOWN ACCOUNTANT  
FISCAL YEAR 2022**

I hereby submit my report for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022.

Account Name	Year-To-Date Revenue
Personal Property Taxes	199,137.93
Real Estate Taxes	2,263,256.65
Tax Liens Redeemed	41,260.27
Motor Vehicle Excise	196,425.13
Interest & Penalties on Real & Personal Property	11,891.01
Interest on Motor Vehicle Taxes	233.44
Interest on Tax Liens	38,271.61
In Lieu of Taxes	500,027.39
<b>Total Taxes and Excise</b>	<b>3,250,503.43</b>
Fees - Miscellaneous	619.51
Transfer Station Fees	45,437.13
Rentals	600.00
Dept Revenue - Police	972.75
<b>Total Departmental Revenue</b>	<b>47,629.39</b>
Licenses - Alcoholic	1,400.00
Licenses - Dog	3,928.00
Licenses - Miscellaneous Business	270.00
Permits - Building	16,834.62
Permits - Other	355.00
<b>Total Licenses and Permits</b>	<b>22,787.62</b>
State Owned Land	67,809.00
Elderly Abatements	502.00
Veterans' Benefits Reimbursed	1,398.00
Chapter 70	437,559.00
Unrestricted General Government	139,772.00
Court Fines	
Registry of MV Fines	2,360.00
Veterans' Benefits	29,175.00
<b>Total State Revenues</b>	<b>678,575.00</b>

Account Name	Year-To-Date Revenue
Marijuana Violation Fines	500.00
Earnings on Investments	1,440.48
Miscellaneous Revenue	7,131.64
<b>Total Unclassified</b>	<u>9,072.12</u>
<b>Total General Fund Revenues</b>	<u><u>4,008,567.56</u></u>

Town of Petersham  
Fiscal Year 2022

Department:	Budget	Expended	Unexpended
<b>Board of Selectmen</b>			
Board Members Salaries	\$9,343.00	\$8,571.35	\$771.65
Expenses	\$4,873.60	\$4,873.60	\$0.00
Part - Time Clerk	\$8,100.00	\$7,596.06	\$503.94
<b>Total Board of Selectmen</b>	<u>\$22,316.60</u>	<u>\$21,041.01</u>	<u>\$1,275.59</u>
<b>Town Admin Coordinator</b>			
Salary	\$25,073.49	\$25,073.49	\$0.00
<b>Total Town Admin Coordinator</b>	<u>\$25,073.49</u>	<u>\$25,073.49</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>Finance Committee</b>			
Expenses	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Finance Committee</b>	<u>\$500.00</u>	<u>\$500.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>Town Accountant</b>			
Salary	\$22,078.00	\$22,078.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$7,533.00	\$6,695.77	\$837.23
Accounting Clerk	\$3,429.38	\$3,429.38	\$0.00
<b>Total Town Accountant</b>	<u>\$33,040.38</u>	<u>\$32,203.15</u>	<u>\$837.23</u>
<b>Board of Assessors</b>			
Board Members Salaries	\$9,343.00	\$9,343.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$26,971.00	\$19,040.59	\$7,930.41
Assistant Assessor Salary	\$36,471.00	\$31,446.94	\$5,024.06
FY 20 Revaluation	\$2,100.32	\$0.00	\$2,100.32
Full Measure & List ALL RE & PP	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
<b>Total Board of Assessors</b>	<u>\$84,885.32</u>	<u>\$59,830.53</u>	<u>\$25,054.79</u>
<b>Treasurer</b>			
Salary	\$19,743.00	\$19,743.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$7,885.00	\$4,754.19	\$3,130.81
Payroll Processing Fees	\$3,533.90	\$3,532.90	\$1.00
<b>Total Treasurer</b>	<u>\$31,161.90</u>	<u>\$28,030.09</u>	<u>\$3,131.81</u>
<b>Tax Collector</b>			
Salary	\$14,816.00	\$14,816.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$18,415.28	\$11,669.48	\$6,745.80
<b>Total Tax Collector</b>	<u>\$33,231.28</u>	<u>\$26,485.48</u>	<u>\$6,745.80</u>
<b>Town Counsel</b>			
Legal Fees	\$15,000.00	\$8,643.02	\$6,356.98
<b>Total Town Counsel</b>	<u>\$15,000.00</u>	<u>\$8,643.02</u>	<u>\$6,356.98</u>

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Expended</b>	<b>Unexpended</b>
<b>Town Clerk</b>			
Salary	\$13,011.00	\$13,011.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$2,984.00	\$2,662.98	\$321.02
Vital Statistics	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00
Vital Records	\$4,256.55	\$4,256.55	\$0.00
Software & Maintenance	\$2,359.00	\$2,359.00	\$0.00
Archiving & Preserving Records	\$5,000.00	\$2,060.45	\$2,939.55
Part-Time Clerk	\$720.00	\$720.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Town Clerk</b>	<b>\$28,430.55</b>	<b>\$25,169.98</b>	<b>\$3,260.57</b>
<b>Election &amp; Registration</b>			
Salaries	\$3,700.00	\$3,597.88	\$102.12
Expenses	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Election &amp; Registration</b>	<b>\$5,500.00</b>	<b>\$5,397.88</b>	<b>\$102.12</b>
<b>Zoning Board of Appeals</b>			
Expenses	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$350.00
ZBA Consultant	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
<b>Total Zoning Board of Appeals</b>	<b>\$850.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$850.00</b>
<b>Land Court / Tax Title Fees</b>			
Land Court Fees	\$17,302.65	\$0.00	\$17,302.65
Tax Title Surveys / Appraisals	\$52,509.18	\$0.00	\$52,509.18
<b>Total Land Court / Tax Title Fees</b>	<b>\$69,811.83</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$69,811.83</b>
<b>Town Hall</b>			
Town Hall / Office Maintenance	\$6,170.00	\$5,895.59	\$274.41
Town Hall / Office Expenses	\$32,206.98	\$32,206.98	\$0.00
Town - Phone	\$13,500.00	\$11,823.16	\$1,676.84
Computer Service	\$1,000.00	\$120.00	\$880.00
Handicap Accessible Lift	\$3,855.03	\$0.00	\$3,855.03
T Hall Northern Parking Area	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
South & West Parking Area	\$2,518.42	\$0.00	\$2,518.42
<b>Total Town Hall</b>	<b>\$69,250.43</b>	<b>\$50,045.73</b>	<b>\$19,204.70</b>
<b>Printing</b>			
Town Printing	\$1,866.59	\$1,866.59	\$0.00
<b>Total Printing</b>	<b>\$1,866.59</b>	<b>\$1,866.59</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Police Department</b>			
Police Chief Salary	\$99,769.92	\$99,769.92	\$0.00
Police Wages	\$53,473.00	\$46,108.98	\$7,364.02
Full Time Officer Wages	\$58,662.00	\$58,427.20	\$234.80
Expenses	\$42,681.00	\$41,764.14	\$916.86
Training Officers	\$9,674.00	\$8,069.36	\$1,604.64
Full Time Officer OT	\$7,114.67	\$7,114.67	\$0.00

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Expended</b>	<b>Unexpended</b>
Body Armor Vests	\$342.00	\$342.00	\$0.00
Police Reform Training	\$22,216.00	\$15,470.06	\$6,745.94
<b>Total Police Department</b>	<b>\$293,932.59</b>	<b>\$277,066.33</b>	<b>\$16,866.26</b>
<b>Fire Department</b>			
Salaries/Wages	\$41,765.82	\$41,765.82	\$0.00
Expenses	\$21,901.25	\$21,901.25	\$0.00
Fire Chief Salary	\$6,234.00	\$6,234.00	\$0.00
Fire Hoses	\$4,640.00	\$529.96	\$4,110.04
Turnout Gear	\$8,202.39	\$5,180.00	\$3,022.39
Breathing Apparatus	\$2,375.00	\$0.00	\$2,375.00
Exterior Painting Fire Station	\$15,000.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00
Quick Attack Pumper Truck	\$2,541.01	\$2,124.00	\$417.01
<b>Total Fire Department</b>	<b>\$102,659.47</b>	<b>\$77,735.03</b>	<b>\$24,924.44</b>
<b>Emergency Management</b>			
Emergency Management	\$4,444.00	\$3,876.92	\$567.08
<b>Total Emergency Management</b>	<b>\$4,444.00</b>	<b>\$3,876.92</b>	<b>\$567.08</b>
<b>Building Inspector</b>			
Building Inspector Expense	\$11,371.00	\$8,819.55	\$2,551.45
Clerical	\$3,336.00	\$3,336.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Building Inspector</b>	<b>\$14,707.00</b>	<b>\$12,155.55</b>	<b>\$2,551.45</b>
<b>Animal Control Officer</b>			
Salary	\$3,239.00	\$3,239.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$3,578.66	\$1,204.02	\$2,374.64
<b>Total Dog Officer</b>	<b>\$6,817.66</b>	<b>\$4,443.02</b>	<b>\$2,374.64</b>
<b>Tree Warden</b>			
Salary	\$3,152.00	\$2,626.66	\$525.34
Expenses	\$685.00	\$0.00	\$685.00
High Tree Work	\$34,724.83	\$28,276.00	\$6,448.83
<b>Total Tree Warden</b>	<b>\$38,561.83</b>	<b>\$30,902.66</b>	<b>\$7,659.17</b>
<b>Forest Warden</b>			
Salary	\$57.00	\$57.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Forest Warden</b>	<b>\$57.00</b>	<b>\$57.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Public Safety Communications</b>			
Communication Radio Repairs	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	\$1,800.00
IMC & LEAPS	\$4,705.00	\$3,916.75	\$788.25
<b>Total Public Safety Communications</b>	<b>\$6,505.00</b>	<b>\$3,916.75</b>	<b>\$2,588.25</b>
<b>Education</b>			
Petersham Center School	\$1,645,350.00	\$1,586,247.70	\$59,102.30
Encumbrance	\$99,145.07	\$99,145.07	\$0.00
<b>Playground Equipment</b>	<b>\$23,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$23,000.00</b>
Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District	\$862,683.00	\$862,683.00	\$0.00
Montachusett Regional Vocational Tech.	\$61,907.00	\$61,015.01	\$891.99
<b>Total Education</b>	<b>\$2,692,085.07</b>	<b>\$2,609,090.78</b>	<b>\$82,994.29</b>

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Expended</b>	<b>Unexpended</b>
<b>Highway Department</b>			
Salaries	\$175,661.00	\$172,188.59	\$3,472.41
Expenses	\$56,032.72	\$55,278.34	\$754.38
F550 Truck With Equipment	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00
	<u>\$331,693.72</u>	<u>\$227,466.93</u>	<u>\$104,226.79</u>
<b>Town Barn</b>			
Expenses	\$8,150.00	\$7,546.40	\$603.60
<b>Total Town Barn</b>	<u>\$8,150.00</u>	<u>\$7,546.40</u>	<u>\$603.60</u>
<b>Snow &amp; Ice Removal</b>			
Expenses	\$97,635.00	\$97,634.37	\$0.63
<b>Total Snow &amp; Ice Removal</b>	<u>\$97,635.00</u>	<u>\$97,634.37</u>	<u>\$0.63</u>
<b>Street Lights</b>			
Street Lights	\$8,500.00	\$7,616.47	\$883.53
<b>Total Street Lights</b>	<u>\$8,500.00</u>	<u>\$7,616.47</u>	<u>\$883.53</u>
<b>Cemetery Department</b>			
Cemetery Commissioners Stipends	\$801.00	\$655.04	\$145.96
Expenses	\$5,284.47	\$5,230.59	\$53.88
Care of Cemeteries	\$21,822.00	\$21,822.00	\$0.00
Computerizing Cemetery Records	\$120.04	\$0.00	\$120.04
Cemetery Repairs	\$1,894.31	\$1,883.99	\$10.32
<b>Total Cemetery Department</b>	<u>\$29,921.82</u>	<u>\$29,591.62</u>	<u>\$330.20</u>
<b>Board of Health</b>			
Board Members Salaries	\$545.00	\$545.00	\$0.00
Expenses	\$5,700.00	\$1,079.67	\$4,620.33
BOH - Admin Assistant	\$7,675.00	\$6,760.00	\$915.00
Inspector of Animals	\$2,720.00	\$2,720.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Board of Health</b>	<u>\$16,640.00</u>	<u>\$11,104.67</u>	<u>\$5,535.33</u>
<b>Transfer Station</b>			
Transfer Station	\$63,736.54	\$63,736.54	\$0.00
<b>Total Transfer Station</b>	<u>\$63,736.54</u>	<u>\$63,736.54</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>Council on Aging</b>			
Expenses	\$1,100.00	\$1,100.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Council on Aging</b>	<u>\$1,100.00</u>	<u>\$1,100.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>Veterans' Agent</b>			
Expenses	\$3,839.00	\$3,838.66	\$0.34
Veterans' Benefits	\$10,000.00	\$1,428.55	\$8,571.45
<b>Total Veterans' Agent</b>	<u>\$13,839.00</u>	<u>\$5,267.21</u>	<u>\$8,571.79</u>
<b>Library</b>			
Operating Subsidy	\$9,790.00	\$9,790.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Library</b>	<u>\$9,790.00</u>	<u>\$9,790.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Expended</b>	<b>Unexpended</b>
<b>Concerts</b>			
Concerts (6)	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Concerts</b>	<b>\$1,800.00</b>	<b>\$1,800.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Bandstand</b>			
Bandstand Lighting	\$250.00	\$154.10	\$95.90
Bandstand Maintenance & Repairs	\$4,900.00	\$0.00	\$4,900.00
<b>Total Bandstand</b>	<b>\$5,150.00</b>	<b>\$154.10</b>	<b>\$4,995.90</b>
<b>Town Clock</b>			
Care of Town Clock	\$73.00	\$73.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Town Clock</b>	<b>\$73.00</b>	<b>\$73.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Care of Common</b>			
Expenses - Contracted	\$7,863.00	\$7,863.00	\$0.00
Town Common Repairs	\$4,850.00	\$0.00	\$4,850.00
Friday Market Concerts	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Care of Common</b>	<b>\$13,713.00</b>	<b>\$8,863.00</b>	<b>\$4,850.00</b>
<b>Historical Commission</b>			
Expenses	\$85.00	\$0.00	\$85.00
<b>Total Historical Commission</b>	<b>\$85.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$85.00</b>
<b>Historical District Commission</b>			
Expenses	\$714.18	\$714.18	\$0.00
<b>Total Historical District Commission</b>	<b>\$714.18</b>	<b>\$714.18</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Open Space &amp; Recreation</b>			
Expenses	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$0.00
<b>Total Open Space &amp; Recreation</b>	<b>\$550.00</b>	<b>\$550.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Memorial Day</b>			
Expenses	\$682.67	\$682.67	\$0.00
<b>Total Memorial Day</b>	<b>\$682.67</b>	<b>\$682.67</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Debt Service</b>			
Mahar Dam Debt	\$2,262.00	\$2,262.00	\$0.00
Nichewaug Inn & Academy Debt	\$39,224.59	\$39,224.59	\$0.00
Center School Debt	\$106,180.00	\$106,180.00	\$0.00
Mahar Debt	\$19,777.00	\$19,777.00	\$0.00
Broadband Debt	\$26,807.00	\$26,725.97	\$81.03
<b>Total Debt Service</b>	<b>\$194,250.59</b>	<b>\$194,169.56</b>	<b>\$81.03</b>
<b>Assessments</b>			
School Choice	\$19,350.00	\$39,929.00	(\$20,579.00)
Air Pollution	\$371.00	\$371.00	\$0.00
Regional Transit	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$0.00
RMV Non-Renewal	\$960.00	\$140.00	\$820.00
<b>Total State Assessments</b>	<b>\$20,693.00</b>	<b>\$40,452.00</b>	<b>(\$19,759.00)</b>
<b>Retirement</b>			
Assessment	\$188,910.00	\$185,492.00	\$3,418.00
<b>Total Retirement</b>	<b>\$188,910.00</b>	<b>\$185,492.00</b>	<b>\$3,418.00</b>

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Expended</b>	<b>Unexpended</b>
<b>Insurance</b>			
Health	\$64,690.32	\$57,623.79	\$7,066.53
Retirees Health	\$58,460.00	\$40,148.49	\$18,311.51
Medicare	\$25,954.00	\$25,421.00	\$533.00
General Insurance	\$85,589.00	\$85,589.00	\$0.00
Insurance Reserve Fund	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00
<b>Total Insurance</b>	<b>\$264,693.32</b>	<b>\$208,782.28</b>	<b>\$55,911.04</b>
<b>Nichewaug / Academy</b>			
Nichewaug Disposition & Maintenance	\$8,175.59	\$3,503.09	\$4,672.50
Nichewaug/Academy Demolition	\$721,000.00	\$0.00	\$721,000.00
<b>Total Nichewaug/ Academy</b>	<b>\$729,175.59</b>	<b>\$3,503.09</b>	<b>\$725,672.50</b>
<b>Transfer to Stabilization Fund</b>	<b>\$40,403.00</b>	<b>\$40,403.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>





## *Report of the Town Clerk*

Hello Residents of Petersham,

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022 ~ As most of the world started reopen, the Town Office Building remained closed (for the most part).

Eventually, the door to the Town Clerk's Office was unlocked and residents and visitors were allowed access to this office again and truthfully, it was wonderful. It was so nice to see everyone's face – what we could see of it.

It was a busy year but very manageable. The elections ran smoothly thanks to the wonderful election workers that we had manning the tables. People were respectful and we all appreciated that.

Trying to write this report every year is challenging. First of all, trying to remember what happened a year ago is a challenge in its self, as I am sure most of you would agree. Secondly, the same people are always such a help to this office, so I will not rewrite the last of my report. These people mentioned are always there for me and this office so.....

Renee Wingertsman is my right hand. She helps with some of the behind the scenes work. Thank you Renee. Thank you Sherry Berube and Derrick Vannoy for your assistance all year.

And last but not least, thank you to the Boards and Committees that work together to make the cogs in the wheel keep moving. And to the residents in town who continue to support us. Without you, it wouldn't work.

Stay safe, healthy and keep being the great town that we are all proud to be a part of.

*Diana L. Cooley*  
*Town Clerk*

# PETERSHAM TOWN OFFICERS

FY 22 July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

## ELECTED BOARDS AND OFFICERS

	Term Expiration Date
Moderator	
Bart Wendell	2023
Board of Selectmen	
Rebecca Legare	2023
Nancy Allen	2025
Henry Woolsey (resigned 9/1/2021)	
Annette S. Ermini (elected 11/15/2021)	2024
Tax Collector	
Renee Wingertsman	2024
Town Clerk	
Diana L. Cooley	2024
Treasurer	
Dana C. Robinson	2023
Board of Assessors	
Ellen Anderson	2023
Jean W. Robinson	2025
Jamie Hatch	2024
Board of Health	
Rebecca Jackson	2024
Fifi Scoufopoulos	2025
Stephen Loring	2023
Constables	
Denis N. Legare	2025
Mahar Regional School Committee	
Maryanne Reynolds	2025
Petersham School Committee	
Tina Leslie	2023
Jennifer Howes	2024
Lynn Peredina	2025

Planning Board

John Lawson	2023
Fraser Sinclair	2023
Donna Byron	2025
Stephen Herzog	2024
Irene Perkins	2024

Trustees of Public Library

Hilary Loring	2025
Kent Byron	2023
Fifi Scofopoulos	2024

## Vital Statistics of the Town Clerk

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### Births

From July 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 there were 3 babies born – 3 boys.

From January 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022 there were 2 babies born – 2 boys.

### Marriages

July 24, 2021	Adam Christopher Tessier Tiffany Lee Montoni	Templeton Templeton
August 15, 2021	Patrick Norman Goodale Jessica Corynne Maki	Petersham Petersham
September 25, 2021	Gregory Harrison Kimball Elizabeth Marie Chicoine	Orange Orange
June 26, 2021	Jamie Joseph Hatch Melissa Aubrey Sonier	Petersham Petersham
November 27, 2021	Patricia M. Murray Jean M. Haggerty	Petersham Petersham
March 19, 2022	Robert Leo Hughes Kaitlyn Marie Douglas	Orange Orange
April 11, 2022	Brian Michael Scully Stuart Carter	Petersham Petersham

### Deaths

September 19, 2021	William J. Driscoll	Petersham	89
November 11, 2021	Dwight A. Cooley	Petersham	95
November 5, 2021	Wesley Laford	Petersham	86
December 25, 2021	Roger B. Thuot	Petersham	80
December 29, 2021	Mary Pillsbury	Petersham	95
January 19, 2022	Gary Marshall Waid	Petersham	76
April 19, 2022	Randall Rice	Petersham	62
April 29, 2022	Steven Patrick Flannery	Petersham	31

SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION  
NOVEMBER 15, 2021

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN - 2 YEARS**

Trevor Brooks	53
Annette S. Ermini	165
James A. Moseley	41

259 votes cast

**ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION**

**MARCH 7, 2022**

**Board of Selectmen – 3 Years**

**Nancy S. Allen            64**

**Board of Assessors – 3 Years**

**Jean W. Robinson        69**

**Board of Health – 3 Years**

**Fifi Scoufopoulos        70**

**Constable – 3 Years**

**Denis N. Legare           68**

**Mahar Regional School Committee – 3 Years**

**Maryann Reynolds        63**

**Petersham School Committee – 3 Years**

**Lynn Peredina            72**

**Planning Board – 3 Years**

**Donna Byron              69**

**Trustees of Public Library – 3 Years**

**Hilary Laring              70**

# PETERSHAM TOWN OFFICERS

FY 22 July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

## ELECTED BOARDS AND OFFICERS

	Term Expiration Date
Moderator	
Bart Wendell	2023
Board of Selectmen	
Rebecca Legare	2023
Nancy Allen	2025
Henry Woolsey (resigned 9/1/2021)	
Annette S. Ermini (elected 11/15/2021)	2024
Tax Collector	
Renee Wingertsman	2024
Town Clerk	
Diana L. Cooley	2024
Treasurer	
Dana C. Robinson	2023
Board of Assessors	
Ellen Anderson	2023
Jean W. Robinson	2025
Jamie Hatch	2024
Board of Health	
Rebecca Jackson	2024
Fifi Scoufopoulos	2025
Stephen Loring	2023
Constables	
Denis N. Legare	2025
Mahar Regional School Committee	
Maryanne Reynolds	2025
Petersham School Committee	
Tina Leslie	2023
Jennifer Howes	2024
Lynn Peredina	2025



TOWN OF PETERSHAM  
OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK

Diana L. Cooley

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

At the Special Town Meeting, held on December 6, 2021, at which a quorum was present, the following votes were taken:

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

Article 1: Reports were read by Nancy Allen - Selectboard, Richard Cavanaugh – Advisory Finance Committee, and Ann Lewis – Nichewaugh Inn & Academy Committee. The motion was made and seconded to accept the reports are read.

Article 2: The motion made by Irene Perkins was :

That the Town take \$ 100,000.00 from the Stabilization Fund, take \$121,000.00 from the American Rescue Plan Account, and borrow \$ 500,000.00, for a sum not to exceed \$721,000.00 for all costs incidental and related thereto for the complete demolition, deconstruction, and removal of the building known as the former Nichewaugh Inn and Maria Assumpta Academy; not including the free-standing garage and exterior stonework as feasible for retention, and as shown in Map Exhibit

No. 1, and as detailed in the bidders' documents noticed in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' CommBuys and Central Register effective September 20, 2021; for the Town-owned property located at 25 Common Street, Assessors' Map Parcel Number 116; said removal to include site clearance, filling, soil restoration, grading, and seeding of the land upon completion of demolition; and to authorize the Selectboard to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary to effect said demolition and removal; including subject to obtaining a "Permit for Demolition" from the Town of Petersham Historic District Commission; and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to issue bonds or notes therefor in accordance with the provisions of Mass. General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7(1) or any other enabling authority; and authorize the Selectboard to enter into all agreements and execute all instruments necessary to effect said work; that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, be authorized to issue bonds or notes of the Town for such borrowing; and provided that, any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

An amendment was made by Marie Erie to amend the article funding sources as follows: appropriate \$100,000 from the Stabilization Fund and borrow a sum of \$621,000. The amendment passed 90 for and 80 against.



Bob Bellefeuille made the motion to move the vote.

The vote was taken as follows:

That the Town take \$ 100,000.00 from the Stabilization Fund, and borrow \$ 621,000.00, for a sum not to exceed \$721,000.00 for all costs incidental and related thereto for the complete demolition, deconstruction, and removal of the building known as the former Nichewaug Inn and Maria Assumpta Academy; not including the free-standing garage and exterior stonework as feasible for retention, and as shown in Map Exhibit No. 1, and as detailed in the bidders' documents noticed in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' CommBuys and Central Register effective September 20, 2021; for the Town-owned property located at 25 Common Street, Assessors' Map Parcel Number 116; said removal to include site clearance, filling, soil restoration, grading, and seeding of the land upon completion of demolition; and to authorize the Selectboard to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary to effect said demolition and removal; including subject to obtaining a "Permit for Demolition" from the Town of Petersham Historic District Commission; and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to issue bonds or notes therefor in accordance with the provisions of Mass. General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7(1) or any other enabling authority; and authorize the Selectboard to enter into all agreements and execute all instruments necessary to effect said work; that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, be authorized to issue bonds or notes of the Town for such borrowing; and provided that, any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

A 2/3 vote was required. The article as amended passed 143 in favor 31 against.

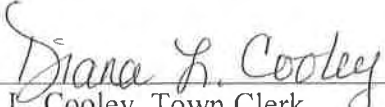
A call for a second vote was called by Ann Lewis. A second vote was taken. The article, as amended, was passed 142 in favor 31 against.

Article 3: Motion was made to pass over. 161 yes 13 against.

Article 4: Motion was made to pass over. 164 yes 10 against.

The Town voted to adjourn the STM at 9:05 PM.

This is a true copy attest.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Diana L. Cooley, Town Clerk



*Town of Petersham*  
*Office of the Town Clerk*

Diana L. Cooley

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

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At the Special Town Meeting, held on June 6, 2022, at which a quorum was present, the following was voted.

It was voted to allow the following guests to sit on the floor:

Greg Vine – Athol Daily News  
Dr. Liz Zielinski – Mahar Superintendent  
Michele Tontodonato – Mahar Finance Director  
Aaron O'Connor – Petersham Center School  
Tammy Crockett – Monty Tech Business Manager  
Tom Browne – Monty Tech Superintendent

Article 1: It was voted to allow the Town to receive reports of the Town Officers and Committees. A report was read by Nancy Allen for the Selectboard. A report was read by Richard Cavanaugh on behalf of the Advisory Finance Committee.

Article 2: The Town voted to rescind the vote taken of Article 2 of December 6, 2021 Special Town Meeting and that the Town vote to borrow the sum of \$621,000 and take the sum of \$100,000 from the American Rescue Plan Account for a total sum not to exceed \$721,000 for all costs incidental and related thereto for the complete demolition, deconstruction, and removal of the building known as the former Nichewaug Inn and Maria Assumpta Academy; not including the free-standing garage and exterior stonework as feasible for retention, and as shown in Article 2 Exhibit No. 1 in the Warrant, and as detailed in the bidders' documents noticed in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' CommBuys and Central Register effective September 20, 2021; for the Town-owned property located at 25 Common Street, Assessors' Map Parcel Number 116; said removal to include site clearance, filling, soil restoration, grading, and seeding of the land upon completion of demolition; and to authorize the Selectboard to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments as may be necessary to effect said demolition and removal; and as has been approved and permitted by the Petersham Historic District Commission at the Commission's Public Hearing held on January 20, 2022 and by the Petersham Capital Improvement Planning Committee at the Committee's meeting held on April 21, 2022; and to authorize the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, to issue bonds or notes therefor in accordance with the provisions of Mass. General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7(1) or any other enabling authority; and authorize the Selectboard to enter into all agreements and execute all instruments necessary to effect said work; that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectboard, be authorized to issue bonds or notes of the Town for such borrowing; and provided that, any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

2/3 required 10 opposed 126 in favor

Article 3: The Town voted to take the sum of \$18,098 from Free Cash and take the sum of \$8,142 from the Board of Assessors' Overlay Excess Account for a total sum of \$26,240 to pay for employee obligations incurred by the Town in Fiscal Year 2022 for the retirement of the Chief of Police.

Unanimously passed

Article 4: The Town voted to take \$1,000 from the Planning Board Revolving Fund; take \$5,000 from the Board of Health Revolving Fund; and take \$31,635 from the Board of Assessor's Overlay Excess Account for a total sum of \$37,635 to eliminate the Fiscal Year 2022 Snow & Ice Account deficit.

Unanimously passed

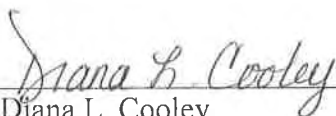
Article 5: The Town voted to take \$87,569 from Free Cash; take \$700 from the Planning Board Revolving Account; take \$1,500 from the Board of Health Revolving Account; take \$78,923 from the Board of Assessor's Overlay Excess Account; and take \$268,841 from the Stabilization Account; for a total sum of \$437,533 to eliminate the Fiscal Year 2022 Petersham Center School Elementary School Account deficit.

Unanimously passed

Article 6: The Town voted to take \$17,209 from Free Cash to eliminate the Fiscal Year 2022 Highway Department Wages Account deficit.

Unanimously passed

STM adjourned at 8:44 pm.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Diana L. Cooley  
Town Clerk



*Town of Petersham*  
*Office of the Town Clerk*

Diana L. Cooley

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At the Annual Town Meeting, held on June 6, 2022, at which a quorum was present, the following was voted.

Article 1: The Town took no action – Unanimous

Consent Agenda Article 2 – 18: The Town voted to approve Consent Agenda Articles #2 thru #18 as written.  
Passed

Article 2: The Town voted to authorize the Treasurer to enter into compensating balance agreements during Fiscal Year 2023, 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 2023.

Article 4: The Town voted for 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 2023.

Article 5: The Town voted for 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 2023.

Article 6: The Town voted for 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 2023.

Article 7: 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 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; and expenditures from said Revolving Fund shall not exceed \$20,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2023.

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 \$4,000.00 for Fiscal Year 2023.

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 2023.

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 2023.

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 2023.

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 2023.

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 2023.

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 2023.

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 2023.

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 2023.

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 2023.

Article 18: The Town voted to accept and expend Chapter 90 Funds from the State for the purpose of local road work projects, said expenditures to be 100% reimbursed by the State.

Article 19: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,622,621 for the total of the Selectboard Budget for Fiscal Year 2023 and summarized as follows:

Town General Office & Finance:	\$ 353,149
Total Protection of Persons & Property:	\$ 468,620
Total Health and Sanitation:	\$ 76,717
Total Highway Department:	\$ 303,767
Total Charities and Veterans Benefits:	\$ 13,928
Total Unclassified	<u>\$ 406,439</u>
Which equals a GRAND TOTAL of:	<u>\$ 1,622,621</u>

Unanimously passed

The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 1,034,949 for the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District Fiscal Year 2023 Budget.

Unanimously passed

The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 93,768 for the Montachusett Regional Vocational School District Fiscal Year 2023 Budget.

Unanimously passed

The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 1,734,698 for the Petersham Center School Fiscal Year 2023 Budget.

Unanimously passed

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 \$20,237.00; Town Clerk \$13,337.00; Tax Collector \$15,187.00; Selectboard, Chair \$3,573.00; Vice Chair \$3,093.00, Clerk \$2,913.00; Board of Assessors, Chair \$3,573.00, Clerk \$3,093.00, other member \$2,913.00; Board of Health Chair, \$227.00, other members \$167.00 each; Trustee of Library FREE; Constables \$13.86/PER HOUR.

Unanimously passed

Article 21: The Town voted to take \$1,500 from the Board of Health Revolving Account; take \$2,100 from the Board of Assessor's FY2020 Revaluation Account; take \$2,000 from the South & West Town Hall Parking Area Account; take \$4,000 from the Bandstand Maintenance & Repairs Account and raise and appropriate the sum of \$92,755 for a total amount of \$102,355 to pay the Fiscal Year 2023 principal and interest due on the construction note for the Petersham Center School building construction.

Unanimously passed

Article 22: The Town voted to take the sum of \$15,793 from Free Cash and the sum of \$6,668 from the Board of Assessors' Overlay Excess Account for a total sum of \$22,461 to pay the Fiscal Year 2023 principal and interest due on the construction note for the Ralph C. Mahar Regional School District school building construction.

Unanimously passed

Article 23: The Town voted to take the sum of \$41,878 from the Board of Assessors' Overlay Excess Account to pay the Fiscal Year 2023 principal and interest due on the note for asbestos and hazardous materials removal at the Nichewaug Inn & Academy building as previously approved by vote of Special Town Meeting of December 12, 2016.

Unanimously passed

Article 24: The Town voted to take the sum of \$39,600 from the Board of Assessors' Overlay Excess Account to pay the Fiscal Year 2023 principal and interest due on the note for debt incurred for purchase of the 2020 Quick Attack Pumper Truck for the Fire Department; as previously approved by vote of the Annual Town Meeting of June 3, 2019.

Unanimously passed

Article 25: The Town voted to take the sum of \$29,276 from the Board of Assessors' Overlay Excess Account to pay the Fiscal Year 2023 principal and interest due on the note for debt incurred for project expenses for completion of the town-wide broadband network project as previously approved by vote of Special Town Meeting of December 12, 2016.

Unanimously passed

Article 26: The Town voted to raise & appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for the Board of Assessors to contract for services to execute Year Three of Five of the Full Measure and List of all real estate and personal property as required by State Law.

Unanimously passed

Article 27: 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.

Unanimously passed

Article 28: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 for deposit into the Reserve Fund for Fiscal Year 2023.

Unanimously passed

Article 29: The Town voted to raise & appropriate the sum of \$1,800 for six Petersham Brass Band concerts at \$300.00 per concert, to be held during the summer.

Unanimously passed

Article 30: The Town voted to appropriate the sum of \$30,000 to the Petersham Municipal Light Plant Broadband Enterprise Fund for Fiscal Year 2023 for town-wide broadband network operations; with said funds to be raised from Broadband Network Subscriber's Fees receipts.

Unanimously passed

Article 31: The Town took no action

Unanimously passed

Article 32: The Town voted to amend the Town's *Zoning By-laws* so as to change the name of the Board of Selectmen to the "Selectboard," by striking out, in every instance in which they appear in reference to that body, the words "Board of Selectmen" or "Selectmen" and inserting in place thereof the words "Selectboard"; and by striking out, in every instance in which they appear in reference to Board members individually, the word "Selectman" and "Selectmen" and inserting in place thereof the words "Selectboard Member" or "Selectboard Members"; and further to authorize the Town Clerk to make non-substantive, ministerial revisions to ensure that gender and numerical issues in related text is revised to properly reflect such change in title.

Unanimously passed

Article 33: The Town voted to amend the Town's *General By-laws* so as to change the name of the Dog Officer" to the "Animal Control Officer," by striking out, in every instance in which they appear in reference to that position, the words "Dog Officer" and inserting in place thereof the words "Animal Control Officer".

Unanimously passed

Article 34: The Town voted to amend the Town's *General By-laws Article XIII. Dog By-law*, to be amended to include a new Section 10, to immediately follow existing Section 9, and to read as provided below in bold, underlined print; or act in relation thereto:

**ARTICLE XIII. SECTION 10.**

**The General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Chapter 140,**

**Sections 136A–174E shall serve as the Town's general Animal Control Law.**

**If an Animal Control Officer determines there are violations to Chapter 140,**

**they may invoke pertinent Sections of General Laws Chapter 272 and**

**the General Laws pertaining to animal cruelty shall be necessitated.**

Unanimously passed

Article 35: The Town voted to amend the Town's General By-laws Article II. Town Meetings, Sections 1.d and 1. e Town Officers and Appointees and Election or Appointment of Same, so as to amend the Sections 1.d and 1.e to make the position of Constable an appointed position rather than an elected position, such position to be appointed by the Selectboard as per other appointments in this Section 1.e; the amended By-Law therefore to read as follows below in **bold, underlined print**; or act in relation thereto:

ARTICLE II SECTION II.1.e. Appointed Positions - Police Chief, Fire Chief, Director of Town Agriculture, Inspector of Animals, Director of Veterans' Services and Veterans' Agent, Sexton, Gas Inspector, Plumbing Inspector, Electrical Inspector, Town Accountant for three years, Dog



Officer, Director of Civil Defense, Town Counsel, Board of Appeals to consist of three members, one to be appointed each year for a term of three years, Personnel Board, Tree Warden, Building Inspector, Conservation Commission, Superintendent of Streets, Constable.

2 opposed - Motion passes

Article 36: The Town voted to amend the Town's *Zoning By-laws Section 18. Solar Electric Installations* to address only typographical errors therein; the By-Law therefore to read as follows below with typographic errors fixed as shown in bold, underlined print; or act in relation thereto:

Current By-law:

Section 18.1.a. This section applies to any large-scale ground-mounted solar electric installation (greater than 10 kW (kilowatts)) in the Town of Petersham. In the Solar Electric Overlay District such facilities are allowed As-of-Right. Outside of the Solar Electric Overlay District, such facilities are allowed by special permit. Smaller scale (10 kW or less) ground-mounted solar electric installations need only comply with subsection F.3.

**Proposed Amended By-law:**

Section 18.1.a. This section applies to any large-scale ground-mounted solar electric installation **(greater than 10 kW Rated Nameplate Capacity (kilowatts))** in the Town of Petersham. In the Solar Electric Overlay District such facilities are allowed As-of-Right. Outside of the Solar Electric Overlay District, such facilities are allowed by special permit. Smaller scale (10 kW or less) ground-mounted solar electric installations need only comply **with subsection 18.3.**

Current By-law:

Section 18.2. Rated Nameplate Capacity: maximum output of a solar electric generation system in Alternating Current power production of or Direct Current (DC).

**Proposed Amended By-law:**

Section 18.2. **Rated Nameplate Capacity: The maximum rated output of electric power production of a solar electric generation system in Alternating Current (AC).**

Current By-law:

Section 18.4b.4. Description of financial surety that satisfies Section F.11.c.

**Proposed Amended By-law:**

Section 18.4b.4. Description of financial surety that satisfies **Section 18.11c.**

Current By-law:

Section 18.11.a. Removal Requirements: Any installation which has reached the end of its useful life or has been abandoned consistent with Section F.11b. of this bylaw shall be removed.

**Proposed Amended By-law:**

Section 18.11.a. Removal Requirements: Any installation which has reached the end of its useful life or has been abandoned consistent with Section 18.11b. of this bylaw shall be removed.

Unanimously passed

Article 37: The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 to support the Petersham Friday Market and its 2022 program of up to 20 live music performances to be held on the town common.

2 opposed – Motion passes

Article 38: The Town voted to support the following resolution:

Resolution in Support of Changing the State Flag and Seal of Massachusetts

Whereas the history of the State of Massachusetts is replete with instances of conflict between the European Colonists and the Native Nations of the region, who first extended the hand of friendship to the Colonists on their shores in 1620, and helped them to survive starvation during the settlers' first winters on their land;

Whereas members of the Native Nation for whom the State of Massachusetts is named were ambushed and killed by Myles Standish, first commander of the Plymouth Colony, in April of 1623, barely two years after the Pilgrims arrived;

Whereas the Colonial broadsword held by a white hand above the head of the Native man on the Massachusetts State Flag and Seal is modeled after Myles Standish's own broadsword, borrowed for that purpose from the Pilgrim Hall in Plymouth by the illustrator Edmund Garrett in 1884;

Whereas the belt binding the Native's cloak on the Flag and Seal is modeled after a belt worn by Metacomet, known to the English as King Philip, who was among the Wampanoag leaders who resorted to a mutually destructive war in 1675–76 in defense of Native lands against Colonial encroachment;

Whereas the proportions of the body of the Native man in the Flag and Seal were taken from a Native skeleton unearthed in Winthrop, the bow modeled after a bow taken from a Native man shot and killed by a colonist in Sudbury in 1665, and the facial features taken from a photograph of an Ojibwe chief from Great Falls, Montana, considered by the illustrator to be a “fine specimen of an Indian,” though not from Massachusetts;

Whereas the history of relations between Massachusetts since Colonial times and the Native Nations who continue to live within its borders includes the forced internment of thousands of so-called “praying Indians” on Deer Island, in Boston Harbor, where they died by the hundreds of exposure in 1675, the enslavement in Boston, Bermuda, and the Caribbean Islands, the offering of 40 pounds sterling as bounty for the scalps of Native men, women and children in Massachusetts beginning in 1686, increased to 100 pounds sterling for the scalps of Native adult males by 1722, half that amount for Native women and children;

Whereas Native Nations within the boundaries of Massachusetts were legally considered wards of the state until the nonviolent action of the so-called Mashpee Rebellion of 1833 led to the granting of Native self-rule by the Massachusetts legislature in 1834, as if the sovereign right

of Native self-government was the Massachusetts legislature's to confer;

Whereas Native Americans were legally prohibited from even stepping foot into Boston from 1675 until 2004, when that law was finally repealed;

Whereas the 400th anniversary of the landing of the Colonists at Plymouth Plantation, which gave rise to the long chain of genocidal wars and deliberate policies of cultural destruction against Native Nations of this continent, occurred in the year 2020, affording every citizen of the Commonwealth a chance to reflect upon this history and come to an appreciation of the need for better relations between the descendants of the Colonial immigrants and the Native Nations of the Commonwealth;


Whereas the land area now known as the Town of Petersham shares a rich Native history with modern tribal Nations like the Nipmuc, who inhabited this area for thousands of years before the first colonial settlers arrived, in 1733;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Town of Petersham hereby adopts this resolution in support of the work of the Special Commission Relative to the Seal and Motto of the Commonwealth, established by a Resolve of the General Court in 2020 and appointed by the Governor to recommend changes to the current flag and seal of Massachusetts, and in support of a new seal and motto for the Commonwealth that may better reflect our aspirations for harmonious and respectful relations between all people who now call Massachusetts home.

The town clerk shall forward a copy of this resolution to Sen. Marc Pacheco and Rep. Antonio Cabral, co-chairs of the Joint Committee on State Administration, who serve as members of the Special Commission Relative to the Seal and Motto of the Commonwealth, and to Sen. Anne Gobi and Rep. Susannah Whipps, with the request that they continue their support for the work of the aforementioned Special Commission.

4 opposed

The Annual Town Meeting was adjourned at 9:47 pm

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Diana L. Cooley

**Town of Petersham  
Annual Payroll  
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022**

**General Government**

**Selectmen**

Nancy Allen	Selectman	3,484.00	
Annette Ermini	Selectmen	1,656.69	
Henry Woolsey	Selectman	502.70	
Rebecca Legare	Selectman	2,927.96	
Sherry Berube	BOS Administrator	26,081.70	
Derrick Vannoy	BOS Admin. Assistant	8,008.36	\$ 42,661.41

**Assessors**

Ellen Anderson	Assessor	3,485.00	
Jean Robinson	Assessor	3,017.00	
Jamie Hatch	Assessor	2,841.00	
Andrea Gale	Asst. Assessor	32,798.48	\$ 42,141.48

**Tax Collector**

Renee Wingertsman	Salary	14,816.00	
	Fees	8,923.34	\$ 23,739.34

**Town Clerk**

Diana Cooley		17,320.00	
Renee Wingertsman	Secretary	1,072.00	\$ 18,392.00

**Town Treasurer**

Dana Robinson		19,743.00	\$ 19,743.00
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**Town Accountant**

Jean Joel		22,078.00	
Paula Bartkus	Assistant	3,429.38	\$ 25,507.38

**Building Inspector**

Renee Wingertsman	Secretary	0.00	
		3,492.59	\$ 3,492.59

**Board of Health**

Stephen Loring	Health Board	320.74	
Fifi Scoufopoulos	Health Board	434.00	
Rebecca Jackson	Health Board	162.53	
Michael Seitz	Transfer Station	3,968.09	
Paul Williams	Transfer Station	4,089.98	
Renee Wingertsman	BOH Secretary	8,467.13	\$ 17,442.47

**Town Hall & Office Custodian**

Michael Seitz	Custodian	1,066.59	\$ 1,066.59
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**Cemetery Commission**

Barbara Hanno	Secretary	601.17	\$ 313.79
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**Tree Warden**

Greg Waid		287.90	
David Lockesmith		4,010.40	\$ 4,298.30

**Animal Inspector**

Marc Page		2,720.00	\$ 2,720.00
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**Animal Control Officer**

Debra Jones- Bachrach		3,239.00	\$ 3,239.00
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**Plumbing & Gas Inspector**

Daniel Jolly		3,640.00	\$ 3,640.00
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**Electrical Inspector**

Gary Terroy		7,020.00	
Glenn Tattan	Asst. Electrical Inspector	125.00	\$ 7,145.00

**Town of Petersham  
Annual Payroll  
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022**

**Elections & Registration**

Linda Everett	100.00	
Irene Graeff	60.00	
Kurtis Graeff	240.00	
Sarah Graeff	240.00	
Michelle Harty	620.00	
Tally Lent	170.00	
Neil Legare	80.00	
Alfred Berry	200.00	\$ 1,710.00

Registrar of Voters

**Emergency Management Director**

Lynne Shaw	1,360.00	\$ 1,360.00
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**Police Department**

R. Dana Cooley Jr.	Chief	66,901.16
	Detail Pay	20,934.00
Peter Buck	Chief	70,359.44
	Detail Pay	867.00
Stankey Andriski II		3,843.33
Jesse Berard		7,988.95
Russell Davidson		16.58
Marc Duguay		13,459.13
Michael Gobeille		9,828.67
Steven Gould		10,893.96
Kara Hartung		15,408.77
Randy Horne	Salary	61,423.00
	Detail Pay	66,782.50
Jason Lichtengerger		12,156.65
Thomas Martin		7,487.85

\$ 368,350.99

**Fire Department**

Dana Robinson	Chief	10,075.50
	Inspection Fees	2,500.00
Robert Legare	Assistant Chief	6,567.57
Shawn Legare	Captain	5,725.60
Matthew Berthiaume		1,943.95
Shawn Clukey		2,480.30
Jacob Cooley	Captain	969.65
James Duncan		946.05
Landon Guilmette		1,389.00
Jamie Hatch		1,306.45
James Hopkins		517.70
Rebecca Jackson		577.71
Atakan Kadi		1,213.80
Bryan Killay		87.55
Greggory Kimball		1,933.75
Josiah Legare		53.55
Rebecca Legare		4,168.15
Sarah Rowell		102.00
Amanda Scott		940.50
Jason Scott		1,524.90

\$ 45,023.68

**Town of Petersham  
Annual Payroll  
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022**

**Highway Department**

Gregory Waid	Superintendent	71,191.61	
Leslie Cooley		65,546.32	
Brian Bassett		60,667.88	
Brian Fillion		2,302.89	
Neil Legare		644.81	
Astro Minty		3,034.78	\$ 203,388.29

**School Department**

Aaron O'Conner	Principal	89,100.00
Eric Glazier	Principal	8,349.90
Alissa Roy	Grade 1	65,760.01
Wendi LeBlanc	Grade 2	90,410.01
Elizabeth Parsons	Grade 3	43,936.13
Melissa Clark	Grade 4	79,927.15
Carol Mercier	Grade 4	15,117.23
Beth Cass	Special Education Teacher	62,568.47
Barbie Downing	Long-term Substitute - Grade 5	43,000.92
Nicole Ruggles	Grade 6	90,744.90
Celeste Zieniuk	Short-term Teacher	4,655.04
Angelo Garofalo	Long-term Substitute	10,625.94
John McNeil	Long-term Substitute	865.89
Tracy Smith	ELL Teacher	27,179.18
Christina Boyer- Thompson	Kindergarten	71,840.71
Elizabeth Garrett	Music/Aide	16,319.09
Angela Haynes	Music/Aide	14,192.53
Kay Leonard	Art	11,970.38
Robert Whitelaw	Phys. Ed.	16,839.25
John Waters	Phys. Ed.	100.00
Christine Warburton	School Nurse	78,311.40
Christine Littlewood	Sub Nurse	9,215.80
Nicole Costello	Guidance Counselor	34,271.66
Malory Blanchette	Aide	689.19
Aliza Breault	Aide	16,736.87
Megan Clark	Aide	23,604.65
Sara Lake	Aide	6,894.51
Courtney Norrgard	Aide	4,101.01
Kimberlyn Rushford-Waugh	Aide	13,852.62
Kristen Orlando	Aide	24,045.58
Gail Russ	Aide	22,056.07
Brittany Stymiest	Aide	13,405.00
Mary Whitelaw	Aide	1,800.00
Ann Degnan	Secretary	22,458.81
Kathleen Jankauskas	Secretary	12,186.74
Rachel Taylor	Secretary	4,237.08
Kristine Wallace	Cook	28,405.47
Nancy Ruggles	Cafeteria Assistant	1,822.50
Sharon Skinner	Cafeteria Assistant	12,092.70
James M. Burke III	Dir. Of Buildings & Grounds	51,204.20
Justin Liversidge	Custodian	41,490.90
Mary Carfagna	Substitute	2,878.75
Jennifer Degnan	Substitute	658.17
Rebecca Degon	Substitute	380.00
David Eadie	Substitute	1,374.98

**Town of Petersham  
Annual Payroll  
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022**

Natasha Hanna	Substitute	100.00	
Taniel Hood	Substitute	377.26	
Jennifer Howes	Substitute	2,937.25	
Tracy LeBlanc	Substitute	4,235.81	
Jennifer Lemarier	Substitute	5,834.55	
David Maher	Substitute	244.26	
Jill O'Connor	Substitute	836.92	
Meghan Peddle	Substitute	300.00	
Margaret Petracone	Substitute	392.62	
Kerrie-Ann Sampson	Substitute	11,281.73	
Barbara Young	Substitute	7,700.64	\$ 1,225,918.43

**Town of Petersham  
Annual Payroll  
Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022**

**1099 Vendors**

Phillip Leger	Health Agent	7,825.00	
Barnes Landscaping	Care of Cemeteries & Common	32,857.50	
Barrett Anderson	Cultural Services	600.00	
Salvatore Ardagna, Jr.	Street Sweeping	2,800.00	
Tamra Conde	Grave Stone Repairs	2,975.00	
Jeffrey Nail	Tree Work	4,500.00	
Judie O'Donnell	Public Health Nurse	1,600.00	
Kaitlin Walsh-Switzer	Cultural Services	1,024.73	
Richard King	Cultural Services	5,000.00	
Susan Downing	Psychologist	16,577.42	\$ 75,759.65
			<hr/>
			\$ 2,137,053.39
			<hr/>
Total Payroll All Departments			

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dana C. Robinson  
Town Treasurer



**Town of Petersham  
Trust Funds  
June 30, 2022**

Fund	Princ. Bal.	Earnings Bal.	Princ.	Earnings	Cash	Princ. Bal.	Earnings Bal.	Ending Cash
	7/1/2021	7/1/2021	Contrib.	Net	Disb.	6/30/2022	6/30/2022	Value
<b>Cemetery Funds</b>								
Consolidated Cemetery I & II	\$ 84,051.71	\$ 4,502.50	\$ -	\$ 867.70	\$ -	\$ 84,051.71	\$ 5,370.20	\$ 89,421.91
E.M. Cook Cemetery Fund	1,026.25	56.59	-	10.60	-	1,026.25	67.19	1,093.44
L.L. Pond Cemetery Fund 1 & II	2,333.33	128.64	-	24.12	-	2,333.33	152.76	2,486.09
Belle Rickey Cemetery Fund	188.97	14.80	-	1.99	-	188.97	16.79	205.76
Annie Daniels Flower Fund	1,069.54	83.80	-	11.32	-	1,069.54	95.12	1,164.66
John Mudge Flower Fund	2,131.32	291.22	-	23.75	-	2,131.32	314.97	2,446.29
J & C Williams Flower Fund	544.61	42.68	-	5.75	-	544.61	48.43	593.04
William Smith Cemetery Fund	9,000.00	496.28	-	93.05	-	9,000.00	589.33	9,589.33
SubTotal	\$ 100,345.73	\$ 5,616.51	\$ -	\$ 1,038.28	\$ -	\$ 100,345.73	\$ 6,654.79	\$ 107,000.52
<b>School Funds</b>								
McCarthy School fund	\$ 3,310.91	\$ 950.93	\$ -	\$ 41.76	\$ -	\$ 3,310.91	\$ 992.69	\$ 4,303.60
Hildreth School fund	4,476.72	524.20	-	48.99	-	4,476.72	573.19	5,049.91
Josephine Dickman School Fund	2,926.79	381.72	-	32.43	-	2,926.79	414.15	3,340.94
Discovery Center School	459.22	337.00	-	7.79	-	459.22	344.79	804.01
Subtotal	\$ 11,173.64	\$ 2,193.85	\$ -	\$ 130.97	\$ -	\$ 11,173.64	\$ 2,324.82	\$ 13,498.46
<b>Library Funds</b>								
Mann Library Fund I & II	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,719.01	\$ -	\$ 65.84	\$ -	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 1,784.85	\$ 6,784.85
GW Cook Library Fund	1,026.25	353.20	-	13.52	-	1,026.25	366.72	1,392.97
Spooner Library Fund I, II & III	4,659.00	110.97	-	46.74	-	4,659.00	157.71	4,816.71
Wheeler Library fund	3,000.00	1,031.43	-	39.48	-	3,000.00	1,070.91	4,070.91
Subtotal	\$ 13,685.25	\$ 3,214.61	\$ -	\$ 165.58	\$ -	\$ 13,685.25	\$ 3,380.19	\$ 17,065.44
<b>Conservation Funds</b>								
Babbit Fund	\$ 56,195.79	\$ 1,942.81	\$ -	\$ 569.69	\$ -	\$ 56,195.79	\$ 2,512.50	\$ 58,708.29
Evelyn Murphy Conservation Fund	10,000.00	1,525.34	-	112.94	-	10,000.00	1,638.28	11,638.28
Subtotal	\$ 66,195.79	\$ 3,468.15	\$ -	\$ 682.63	\$ -	\$ 66,195.79	\$ 4,150.78	\$ 70,346.57

**Town of Petersham  
Trust Funds  
June 30, 2022**

<u>Charity Funds</u>										
Elizabeth Newton Charity Fund	\$ 3,441.65	\$ 10,845.34	\$ 140.00	\$ -	\$ 3,441.65	\$ 10,985.34	\$ 14,426.99			
E Newton Deserving Poor Fund	13,672.26	38,648.37	512.70	-	13,672.26	39,161.07	52,833.33			
Subtotal	\$ 17,113.91	49,493.71	652.70	-	17,113.91	50,146.41	67,260.32			

<u>Other Funds</u>										
Flint Memorial Fund	\$ 22,967.99	\$ 13,625.30	\$ 358.56	\$ -	\$ 22,967.99	\$ 13,983.86	\$ 36,951.85			
Disaster Fund	6,949.70	73,101.43	784.39	-	6,949.70	73,885.82	80,835.52			
Stabilization Fund	308,624.18	32,096.37	3,338.64	-	308,624.18	35,435.01	344,059.19			
Energy Commission fund	0.39	3.50	0.04	-	0.39	3.54	3.93			
Petersham Village Imp. Soc	115.66	122.31	2.32	-	115.66	124.63	240.29			
Davenport Property Maintenance	\$ 4,477.64	\$ 99.07	\$ 44.87	\$ -	\$ 4,477.64	\$ 143.94	\$ 4,621.58			
Subtotal	\$ 343,135.56	\$ 119,047.98	\$ 4,528.82	\$ -	\$ 343,135.56	\$ 123,576.80	\$ 466,712.36			

<b>Grand Total Trust Funds</b>	<b>\$ 551,649.88</b>	<b>\$ 183,034.81</b>	<b>\$ 7,198.98</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 551,649.88</b>	<b>\$ 190,233.79</b>	<b>\$ 741,883.67</b>			
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Respectfully Submitted  
Dana C. Robinson  
Town Treasurer



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES,  
NORTHEAST QUABBIN DISTRICT (NQD)  
2022  
ANNUAL REPORT**

**To the Board of Selectmen and Citizens of Athol, Phillipston, Petersham, Royalston and Orange:**

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts began providing for its veterans and their families in need, 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 FY 2015 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 April 5, 2022, the Director Appointment was renewed to June 30, 2023. March 2021 DVS granted approval for the district to continue operating through June 30, 2023.

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 NQD serves veterans and dependents having a formal residence in Athol, Orange, Petersham, Phillipston and Royalston.

**VETERANS PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OFFERED AND OR ASSISTED BY THE NORTHEAST QUABBIN 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 FY22 Veterans' Benefits paid, by community, to its eligible veterans and/or dependents. Benefits paid are normally reimbursed at 75% by the Commonwealth. There are exceptions, where some benefits are eligible for 100% reimbursement.

**FY22CHAPTER 115 VETERANS' BENEFITS DATA**

Town	Benefits Paid	State Reimbursements	% Reimbursed
Athol	\$131,378.52	\$98,533.89	75%
Orange	\$80,708.44	\$60,531.33	75%
Petersham	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%
Phillipston	\$0.00	\$0.00	0%
Royalston	\$8,249.16	6,186.87	75%

3. Burials in one of two Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemeteries, Winchendon and Agawam.
4. 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.
5. Homeless prevention, Transitional Housing and outreach services.
6. Wartime Bonuses, Annuities etc.
7. And more...

Veteran Compensation		Veteran Pension		Dependent Compensation		Death Pension		All Awards		MnthlyAvr g
# of Vets	\$ Amt	# of Vets	\$ Amt	# of Benef	\$ Amt	# of Benef	\$ Amt	\$ Amt	\$ Amt	
466	\$831,922.42	17	\$10,861.00	29	\$44,406.54	2	\$1,060.00	514	\$888,249.96	\$7,232.04

**2022 ALL OTHER VETERANS' BENEFITS DATA FOR THE NORTHEAST QUABBIN DISTRICT**

**(SOURCE OF DATA FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERAN SERVICES)**

**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, income based pensions, dependent compensation (DIC), etc.
  - a. VA Compensation & Benefits (VBA) paid nearly **\$877,000**(DVS)dollars in annual compensation to veterans, dependents and surviving spouses living in the NortheastQuabbin District of Athol, Orange, Petersham, Phillipston and Royalston.
  - b. VA Central-Western-Massachusetts Healthcare System – Headquartered at Northampton VA Medical Center, Leeds has five Community Based Outpatient Clinics delivering medical and mental health treatment to over 120,000 veterans.
2. Department of Defense (DOD): Military records; medical records; medals, decorations and awards not previously issued; applications to correct Military Records.
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. MassHire Franklin Hampshire
- f. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- g. U.S. Department of Justice
- h. Other Massachusetts & U.S. Departments, Non-Profit Organizations and state agencies.

I continued to see an increase in the numbers of veterans applying for service-connected disabilities, both new and increases. Operating under COVID guidelines since April 2020, has seen some challenges. These challenges continue to be met and overcome with the excellent support of the NQD town offices. With the resurgence of COVID and its variants, the office remains open to the public by appointment only. The office fielded 1256 phone calls, in-person appointments and home visits in the last year. The Board and I managed to successfully take care of all supportive needs presented by veterans' and their families.

Veterans with service-connected disabilities are eligible for VA Healthcare. All other veterans may be eligible for VA Healthcare based on defined criteria. Wartime and peacetime veterans may qualify for VA Healthcare.

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

Respectfully submitted,

*Sarah C. Custer*

Sarah C. Custer

Director, NorthEastQuabbin District  
Veterans' Services

## ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Reporting Period: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

The Board of Appeals members were Don O'Neil (Chair), Brian MacEwen (Clerk), and Maryanne Reynolds. Longtime member Don Eaton had become an associate member and subsequently retired.

The Board heard and decided the application filed by Sunpin Energy Services, LLC, and Ralph P. Lapinkas, Jr., for special permit to install a large scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic system on New Athol Road. Two members voted in favor; one member voted against. A unanimous vote being needed to obtain the requested permit, the application was denied. On December 17, 2021, the applicants filed a lawsuit against the Board in the Massachusetts Land Court, Docket No. 21 MISC 000626. Town Counsel David J. Doneski appeared to represent the Board and defend the decision. The case was pending at the end of the reporting period (and remains pending as of this date).

The Board heard and decided the application filed by Stephen Kieras for administrative appeal from decision of Zoning Enforcement Officer or in the alternative for special permit to construct an accessory structure (barn) on an existing non-conforming, single-family residential lot without legal frontage on a public or private way, known as 15 North Main Street. The Board unanimously reversed the building permit denial, decided that a special permit was not necessary to permit the proposed accessory structure, and directed that a building permit be issued for the proposed accessory barn structure.

Respectfully submitted this April 1, 2023,

Maryanne Reynolds, Chair



# Petersham Center School

Spirit of Inquiry

### Student Information:

The graduating 6th grade class of 2022 had 15 students. Our student population as of 10/01/22 is 127 students from K through grade 6. The class breakdown is as follows:

Kindergarten--10 Petersham/7 School Choice	Grade 4--14 Petersham/12 School Choice
Grade 1--9 Petersham/8 School Choice	Grade 5--1 Petersham/ 11 School Choice
Grade 2--8 Petersham/10 School Choice	Grade 6--6 Petersham/ 10 School Choice
Grade 3--14 Petersham/6 School Choice	

### Curriculum Update:

Dr. Elizabeth Zielinski, *Superintendent*  
Aaron O'Connor, *Principal*

All of our students continue to use a variety of tools to access MA approved academic curriculum and standards. Wonders is still currently the main ELA (English Language Arts) curriculum being used at PCS. This program provides students with a variety of learning opportunities that cover all aspects of reading from comprehension strategies to foundational skills and fluency. Starting in the 2022/2023 school year it was decided by a committee of teachers and administration to not renew our previous math program, Eureka. Instead a new program was chosen, iReady. Included within this program was an adaptive, individualized portion that is proving crucial in helping to eliminate learning gaps that have formed during COVID-19 pandemic. We have also continued to expand our use of Discovery Science curriculum and purchased student licenses down to grade 2 and teacher licenses for grades K and 1. To add to this we have also been using a variety of new Social Studies programs like Studies Weekly and TCI.

### Current Technology:



We have been able to increase the amount of technology that our students have access to. PCS continues to have a 1-1 chromebook program for students in all grades. At the close of FY-22, the school was able to purchase new 75" interactive touchscreen panels for each classroom.

These Cleartouch boards replaced the non-functioning Smartboards and have many more features and available options for both student and teacher interactions. Beginning in fiscal year 23' we have begun a Chromebook turnover plan that will provide new Chromebooks each year to one grade level keeping our students up to date with access to the latest technologies.

#### **School Community:**

I'd like to publicly thank our many, many, dedicated parents and townspeople who gave their generous support to the Petersham Center School throughout 2022. Through the hardwork and dedication of numerous individuals we were able to successfully complete the long awaited playground project. With more than a dozen volunteers over two days of the build the new playground came together perfectly. We also had assistance from the Petersham DPW who helped in removing the old equipment and unneeded materials. We have also been able to reignite the passion for our school's PTG (parent teacher group). We have already had multiple successful fundraisers and events that will go a long way towards a PTG funded trip funded for all of our students.

#### **COVID Update:**

At this point in the school year we have still not seen any large spikes of positive cases on COVID-19. We do still see constant cases being reported, but at a much lower number than in years past. We currently follow all DESE and CDC guidelines in terms of protocols and safety procedures. Level numbers allowed us to have our first in-person Open House in many years. It was a big success with a large percentage of our students and families attending.

#### **Building Improvement:**

With appreciation to our Selectboard, Finance Committee members, and others in their support of the school. We continue to explore ways to replace the security cameras with





# Petersham Center School

Spirit of Inquiry

modern web based cameras that may be accessed outside the building by school administrators and local emergency management personnel. We also will be looking to upgrade door locks to further secure entrance into our building. The new walk-in freezer was replaced prior to the 22/23

school year and has been a big help in lunch planning. We have also continued to make improvements to our HVAC system already seeing a savings in overall oil consumption this heating season.

#### **Social Media:**

We have an active Facebook Page that can be found by searching for Petersham Center School, Petersham Massachusetts. Photos of classroom activities and field trips are posted on the Facebook page along with important notices and fliers: Information about school closure due to weather can also be found on our page. We recently reintroduced the Parent Newsletter which is e-mailed home to all student families as well as shared on the Facebook page. If anyone from the community would like information submitted in the family newsletter, please contact me in advance. [www.petershamcenterschool.org](http://www.petershamcenterschool.org).

Dr. Elizabeth Zielinski, Superintendent  
Aaron O'Connor, Principal

#### **Thank you:**

I'd like to thank the students, parents, teachers, staff, and community members for their continued support in making my second year as PCS Principal go as smoothly as possible. I continue to look forward to the amazing years to come and the continued growth in our school.

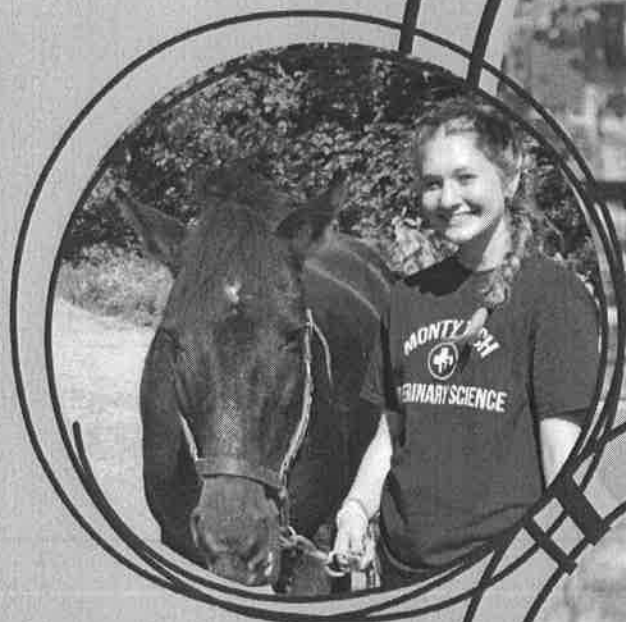
Respectfully Submitted,

*Aaron O'Connor*

Principal



MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL VOCATIONAL  
TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

1050 Westminster Street  
Fitchburg, MA 01420

[www.montytech.net](http://www.montytech.net)



# Letter *from* Leadership



The 2021-2022 school year was my eighth year serving as School Principal at Monty Tech, and I am honored that it concluded with my appointment to a new role – that of Superintendent-Director. Having been part of this remarkable educational community, developing a deep understanding of initiatives – both large and small – that are an integral part of our educational programs, and working with and learning from our outstanding faculty, staff and administrative team, has allowed for a successful transition into this new position. I could not be more grateful for the encouraging and kind remarks I continue to receive from students and parents, faculty and staff, and the regional business community, whose support means so much to the Monty Tech family.

With the effects of the pandemic still being felt, students and staff were encouraged to maintain health and safety standards learned in the previous year, but to also return to a new “normal.” Daily in-person instruction, off-campus construction projects, and Skills competitions returned. While the pandemic certainly brought questions, fears, and insecurities to the surface for many, it also provided instructional staff with opportunities to collaborate and develop new skills in infusing technology into daily lessons. Monty Tech instructors worked tirelessly, with a new appreciation for instructional technology, to embed some of “what worked” into their daily, class instruction. Collecting assignments via Google Classrooms, conducting quick learning assessments via apps like Quizizz or Kahoot, and assigning group learning projects using Google Slides and Docs, teachers resulted in a heightened level of student engagement.

The regional workforce also seemed to find its footing in FY22, welcoming approximately 200 students into local shops and businesses to work and learn alongside industry professionals, through the school’s long-standing co-op program. Another remarkable example of school-to-business collaboration was demonstrated when eight businesses submitted letters of support to Commonwealth Corporation on the school’s behalf. Attesting to their belief in Monty Tech training programs, agreeing to interview program completers, and even highlighting Monty Tech graduates currently on staff, these letters were instrumental in the acquisition of a \$600,000 grant award, which would provide no-cost training for young adults throughout our area. Monty Tech understands the value of a vocation, and through the Career Technical Initiative, we have been able to extend training opportunities beyond the school day, helping a wide range of adults train for those high wage, high skills jobs that remained unfilled when the pandemic subsided.

As the value of a vocational education becomes more evident, we have seen applications to attend Monty Tech on the rise. While we understand that frustration that can come with not being admitted to a school of your choosing, we are challenging ourselves to work with local school leaders to establish practices and programs that will ensure as many students as possible are admitted from each sending community, and that all students who are interested in the school have an opportunity to visit and tour our campus. Undoubtedly, a highlight of the 2021-2022 school year was seeing all eighth grade students from Fitchburg Public Schools join our tour day event. I look forward to further discussions and collaborations with area school leaders, so that we may establish innovative training programs that will serve those who want a vocational experience, but have not yet attended Monty Tech.

I remain humbled and honored to lead such an outstanding organization, and thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,

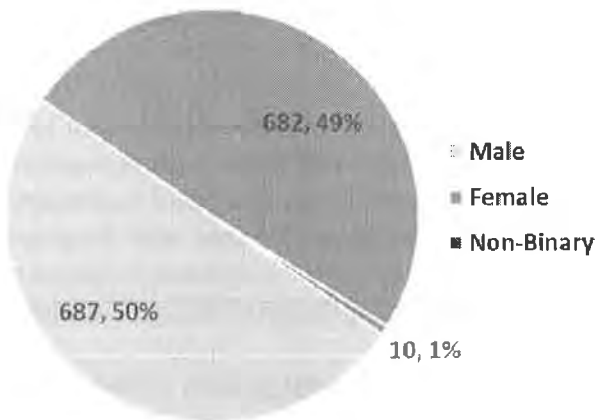
*Thomas H. Brune*

# Our School Community

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

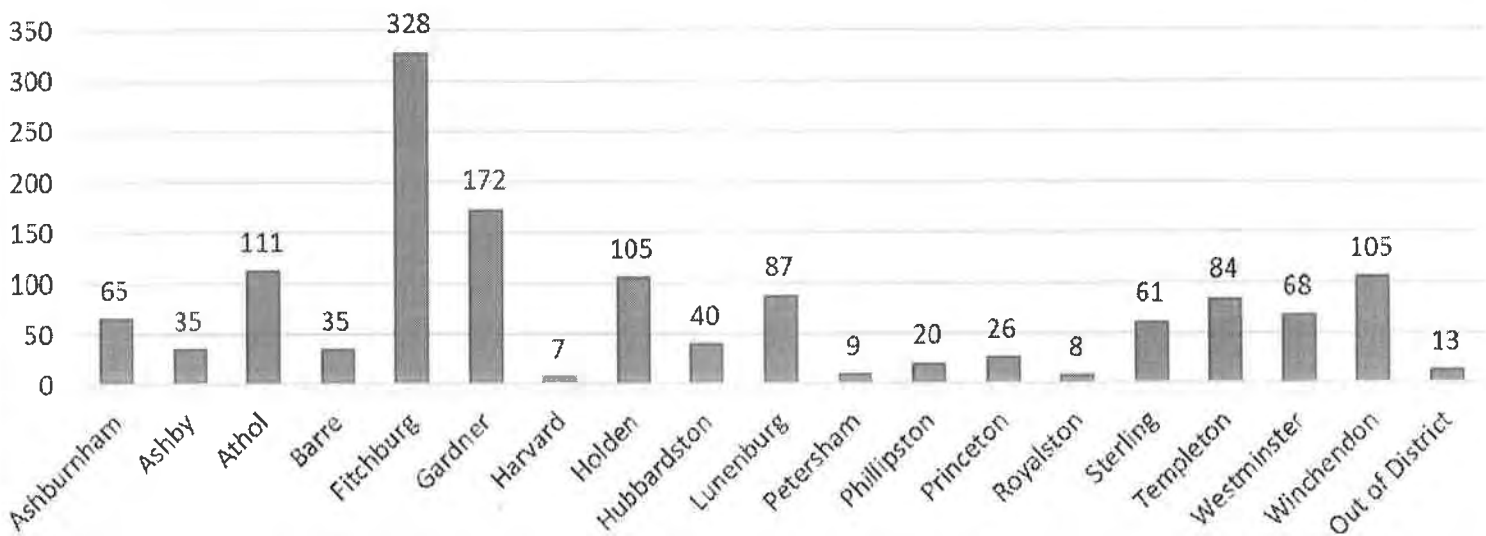
Petersham  
 Phillipston  
 Princeton  
 Royalston  
 Sterling  
 Templeton  
 Westminster  
 Winchendon



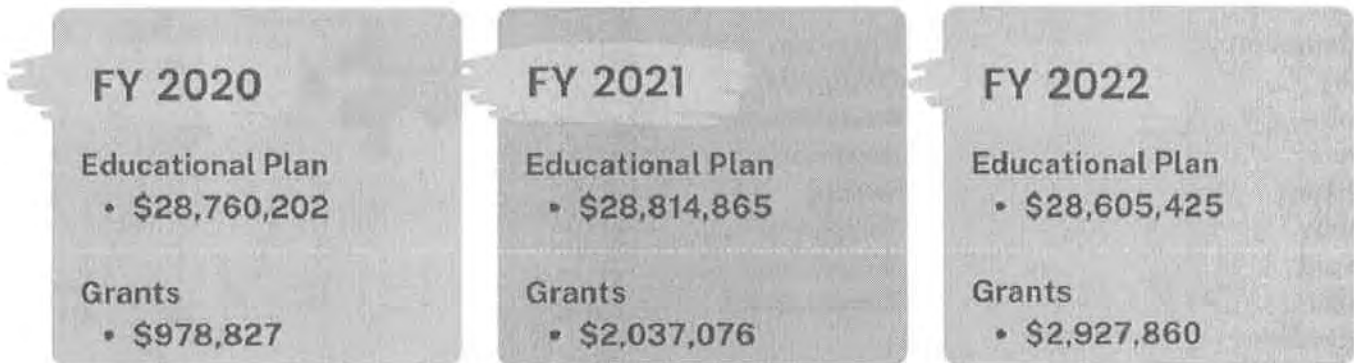
On June 1, 2022, student enrollment at Monty Tech included 1,379 students in grades nine through twelve, representing each of the district's eighteen sending communities. This total was slightly lower than traditional school years. However, as with most school districts, the impact of COVID did have an adverse effect on overall enrollment. 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.

**2021-2022 Enrollment by Town**



# Financial Report



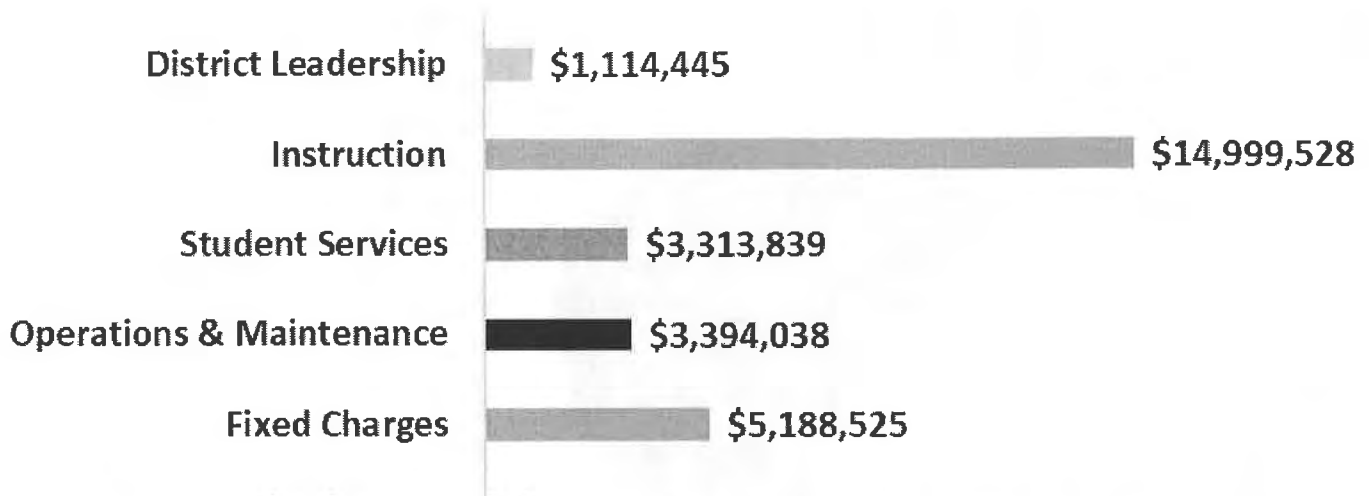
In an effort to develop a cost-effective budget for the fiscal year 2021-2022, a great deal of effort was put forth by the School Committee, administration, and staff. The final fiscal year 2021-2022 Educational Plan totaled \$28,605,425 which represents a 0.73% decrease over the 2020-2021 Educational Plan. The District's FY22 budget only exceeds the minimum spending required by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 70 by \$203,320 or 0.78%.

To supplement the local budget, school officials pursue grant funding to provide valuable educational and social services to the diverse student population. For fiscal year 2022, state and federal grant sources provided the school with \$2,927,860. Programs funded by these grants include: Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief Funds, Improving Teacher Quality, Special Education Services and Program Improvement, Title I Support, Perkins Occupational Education, Vocational Capital Equipment Initiatives, Life Sciences, Student Support and Academic Enrichment and Marine Corp Junior Reserve Officer Training.

The District is participating in an annual financial audit, conducted by the accounting firm of Melanson, Heath and Co. from Greenfield, Massachusetts. School officials anticipate a good report.

Expenses for the 2021-2022 school year include:

## FY 22 Expenses by Category



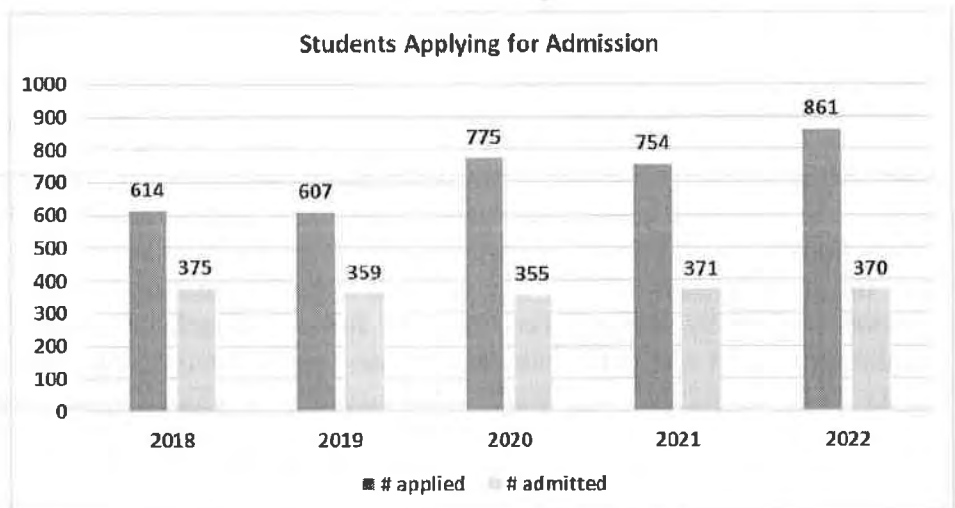
# Attending Monty Tech

As vocational schools across the Commonwealth grow in popularity, and the value of vocational training becomes more evident, we have seen a steady increase in the number of students applying for admission to Monty Tech.

With seats available limited only by our building capacity, and a deep understanding of the increasing demand, school leaders continue to work with

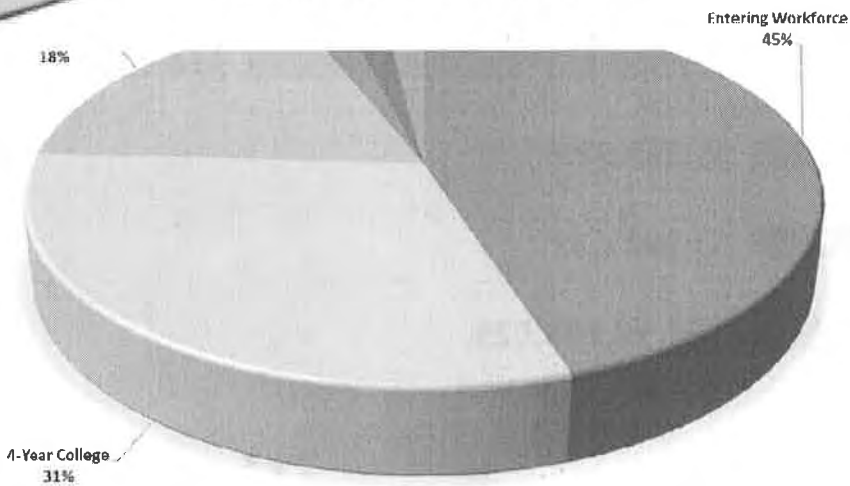
area school and business leaders to develop and expand programs to address this concern. Whether these new programs are offered in the evening through the School of Continuing Education, or even during the traditional school day, our goal is to expand access so that students who hope to enter the workforce may do so with a set of valuable skills and industry-recognized credentials that will make them more employable, and better equipped to grow and learn in the occupation of their choosing.

While Monty Tech continues to ensure that students are job ready immediately after graduation, not all students who graduate from Monty Tech choose to enter the workforce upon completion. In fact, several of the school's vocational training programs prepare students for advanced education and training in high-wage, high-skill careers in engineering, allied health, business, education and computer sciences that demand a bachelor's and even master's degree. As such, it is imperative that the school also prepare those students for college level coursework.





# Academics



Students who attend Monty Tech must successfully complete all of the same academic requirements that students in comprehensive high schools complete, but at Monty Tech, students are only in academic classes every other week. Many students may find adjusting to this week on – week off schedule challenging, but it is this same schedule that provides Monty Tech students with time to explore and learn in a chosen vocational program at a deeper level. Whether running the school’s on-site, full-service restaurant, operating the School Store, building a home for Habitat for Humanity, or performing community services across our sending communities, Monty Tech students are developing technical skills, while also learning critical time management and study skills. We are

confident that whether our graduates choose to pursue college or career pathways, they are prepared for what lies ahead.

During the Spring of 2022, 10th grade students took the Next Generation MCAS examination in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Biology. In addition, select 9th graders also sat for the Next Generation MCAS Biology exam. Students performed well across all subject areas, with a passing rate of 100% in English Language Arts, 97% in Mathematics, and 97% in Biology.

While Monty Tech is certainly known for its strong vocational training programs, its academic programs continue to evolve to prepare graduates for diverse and challenging college and career pathways, and are widely known to effectively prepare students at all levels to reach their goals. A focus in recent years has been the incorporation of new and updated materials and coursework to expand STEM opportunities for students. In FY22, Monty Tech applied for a Massachusetts Life Science Center grant, developed in collaboration with our post-secondary partners at Fitchburg State University. Using the \$110,000 award, Monty Tech instructors will work collaboratively to align course expectations with FSU’s Anatomy & Physiology class, laying a foundation for a first-ever articulation agreement with FSU.

Instructors look forward to participating in curriculum development activities at the University, and will attend related, immersive professional development programs to build capacity and collect/share valuable expertise from colleagues. Additionally, when the proposed agreement (Dual Enrollment or Articulation) is finalized, students who successfully complete the course will earn 4 college credits, saving them time and as much as \$1,900 as they consider pursuing STEM college pathways.

Monty Tech students also benefitted from the establishment of another new science course in FY22, Microbiology. Instructors developed the new curriculum and travelled to Texas to participate in the National Science Teaching Association Annual Conference, while school officials renovated a science lab to replicate a biomedical facility. All new course materials, equipment and technology was purchased and the addition of a valuable STEM opportunity has been a welcome addition to an already rigorous science program.

In May of 2022, 120 students participated in AP Exams. Those 120 students took 162 AP Exams collectively. An impressive 82 of the 120 students were eligible to receive college credit for qualifying



scores of 3+. That is a 68.33% pass rate, which is higher than the global average and a significant increase from the previous school year.

Additionally, to support the expansion of AP course offerings, three instructors completed the training to teach AP Seminar during the summer of 2022. AP Seminar is now offered as a co-taught elective course for juniors. As an extension of AP Seminar, instructors will be trained to teach AP Research during the summer of 2023. Together, AP Seminar and AP Capstone will allow MT students to qualify for the AP Capstone designation upon graduation. Students who earn the AP Capstone designation are highly qualified for college success, and thus, more likely to gain admission into competitive colleges and universities.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Total AP Students</b>	95	113	106	142	120
<b>Number of Exams</b>	134	148	146	189	162
<b>AP Students with Scores 3+</b>	46	69	75	61	82
<b>% of Total AP Students with Scores 3+</b>	48.42%	61.06%	70.75%	42.96%	68.33%

# Vocational Training

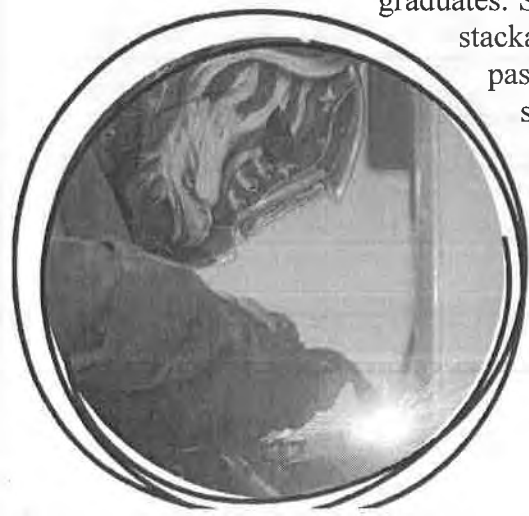


While students and staff at Monty Tech have always known the value of a vocational education, it may have taken a pandemic and the return to in-person learning in 2022 to be reminded of the significance and benefit of hands-on learning.

Students and staff across the twenty-one different vocational-technical education programs gladly returned to the important work of building homes, reconstructing damaged properties, repairing service vehicles, making walkways more accessible, and performing countless community services. The school restaurant reopened, and cosmetology students once again demonstrated their talents on live clientele. The 2021-2022 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.

**Advanced Manufacturing:** Advanced Manufacturing aligns the revised frameworks with local workforce needs, job titles and qualifications, and assists in a better job placement for qualified students and program graduates. Six Junior students completed the NC3 PMI 6 Certification, and now have 6 stackable credentials in Precision Measuring Instruments. All 16 sophomores passed MACWIC level 1, while all Freshman students successfully completed safety training, earning an OSHA 10-hour general industry certification. Students and instructors completed many projects for the community which includes the New England Mountain Bike Association, and the Town of Barre. Six Seniors and five Juniors earned co-op placements, working and learning in area machine shops. (Total student enrollment: 51)

**Auto Body Collision Repair Technology:** Monty Tech Auto Body students earned valuable industry credentials in the 2021-2022 School year. Students earned the OSHA 10-hour general industry card, EPA 6H





spray certification, I-Car Pro Level One in Refinishing, and I-Car Pro Level One in Non-Structural Repair. Three Seniors and three Juniors earned co-op placements, and were reported to be valuable contributors in local repairs shops in the area. Two Seniors won medals at SkillsUSA, a bronze medal and a gold medal for refinishing, with the gold medal winner advancing to the state competition. Students enjoyed a variety of community service projects, to include repairing and painting a SUV for the Gardner Police Department, and painting a sign bracket for the Town of Petersham Cemetery. (Total student enrollment: 62)

Automotive Technology: Sixteen Automotive Technology students earned their NC3/Snap On 525F Digital Multimeter certification. These industry-recognized credentials will enhance the students' level of competency within the automotive industry for years to come. Four students qualified for the SkillsUSA district competition, where they earned 1st, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 7th place distinctions. Eight Seniors & four Junior students earned co-op placements, while those who remained at the campus continued to perform a variety of repairs that included transmission replacements, intake manifolds, brake work, and various other technical repairs, demonstrating technical skills that are required for any service technician in our area. (Total student enrollment: 65)

Business Technology: Throughout the 2021-2022 school year, students in Monty Tech's Business Technology program benefitted from a collaboration with Workers Credit Union and participation in the institution's financial literacy program. The opportunity to participate in these workshops has been met with great enthusiasm from students, who completed nine modules and earned a financial literacy certificate. Instructors continue to work closely with post-secondary colleagues to refine and develop new articulation agreements. A recently renewed agreement with Mount Wachusett Community College provides qualified students with 21 college credits at no cost to the student. A total of seven students placed at the SkillsUSA district level competitions, earning distinctions in the Computer Office Applications and Customer Service competitions. Additionally, six Seniors and three Juniors earned co-op placements during the 2021-2022 school year, working and learning in a variety of businesses across the region. (Total student enrollment: 52)

Cabinetmaking: Monty Tech Cabinetmaking students are called upon for a number of projects small and large, across the campus and beyond. During the 2021-2022 school year, students completed projects that included: a kitchen remodel for the Summer Street Fitchburg Fire Department, building four red oak bookcases for the children's section of the Phillip's Free Public Library, constructing baseball racks for the Sterling Little League program, and using the program's state-of-the-art CNC machine to cut ten custom signs for the Petersham Cemetery. Students also worked to design, manufacture and assemble 450 gifts for the return to the Superintendent's dinner. Items such as cutting boards, cherry benches, sets of corn hole boards, candle displays and custom lazy Susans were handcrafted by talented students, and sold to raise funds for the student scholarship program. Ten Seniors & eight Juniors earned co-op placements, representing the program so well. Sophomores completed OSHA Construction 10 hour course, while Freshmen completed the OSHA Careersafe 10 hour online course. (Total student enrollment: 63)

CAD/Drafting & Design: In 2021-2022, four Monty Tech CAD/Drafting & Design Senior students and two Juniors earned coveted co-op placements. CAD students at all levels earned a number of valuable industry-recognized certifications including AutoCAD, Inventor, Revit, and Solidworks, while Freshmen students completed the 10 hour OSHA CareerSafe Online course. The shop completed a variety of customer requests, including signs, banners, and posters for school personnel and local non-profit organizations. Two Junior students participated in SkillsUSA, and competed in the area of Laser



Engraving. They performed quite well, earning a gold medal for their detailed work. (Total student enrollment: 63)

Cosmetology: The Monty Tech Cosmetology program is a rigorous, state-approved program, that provides students with countless opportunities to refine their cosmetology skills on clientele who understand and appreciate the learning environment. During the 2021-2022, clients were allowed to come back to the Salon. The Senior class completed eighteen trade specific certifications taught by distinguished artists from across the globe through BehindtheChair.com. Program instructors continue to work with post-secondary colleagues, to develop new and maintain existing articulation agreements that will grant qualified students with college credits, should they choose to pursue additional education when they leave Monty Tech. Seventeen of the program's Seniors earned their cosmetology licenses, and two Seniors enjoyed working in local salons through the school's co-op program, which proved to be extremely beneficial to their training and skill development. (Total student enrollment: 85)



Culinary Arts: Monty Tech Culinary Arts students and instructors operate a full-service restaurant and bakery, serving approximately 100 patrons daily. 2021-2022 proved to be a busy year for Culinary Arts students, who were called upon to bake cookies for the highly anticipated sale of Holiday Cookie Kits. Students baked and packaged more than 2,500 cookies and 600 bags of colored icing to support this fundraising endeavor. All proceeds benefited the Monty Tech student scholarship fund. Instructors continue to instill the importance of community service, working with students to cater a special event for the Ryan Patrick Jones Foundation, held at nearby Westminster Senior Center. The program also donated leftover baked goods to Our Father's House in Fitchburg throughout the school year. While building technical skill proficiency and customer service skills, students also had an opportunity to earn ServSafe Certifications and OSHA 10 hour Culinary certifications. (Total student enrollment: 67)

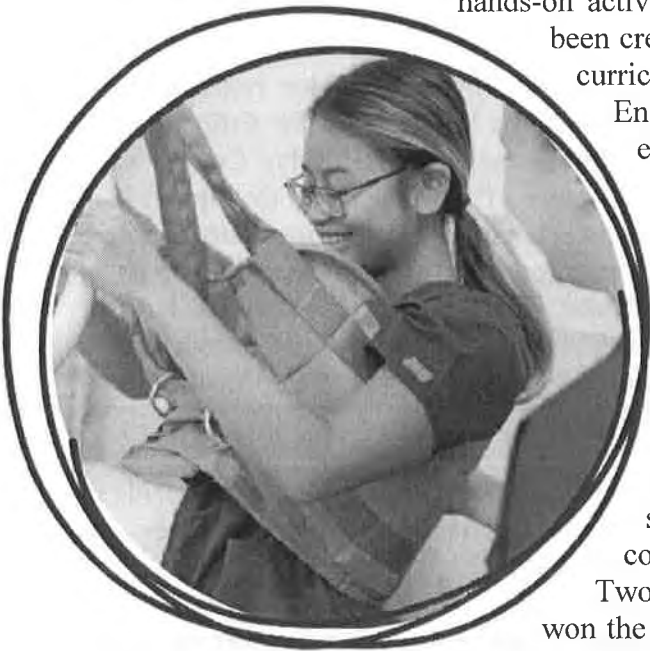
Dental Assisting: Monty Tech Dental Assisting instructors continue to emphasize the need for students to earn valuable industry-recognized credentials, as a means to demonstrate technical skill and proficiency. As a result, all students work and prepare for Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) certification exams. In 2021-2022, 93% of students passed the DANB Infection Control exam, and 100% passed the DANB Radiology exam. These outstanding pass rates are a true testament to the high quality instruction in the Monty Tech Dental Assisting program, and something the school continues to be so proud of. A total of nine Seniors earned co-op placements, while the remaining Juniors and Seniors earned experience through affiliation/externship opportunities in area dental clinics and offices. All Seniors & Sophomores received the American Red Cross for Basic Life Support CPR/AED certification. Through the Community Health Connections Caring for Kids Program, Monty Tech students qualified to receive free dental cleaning, radiographs, and sealants, and Dental Assisting students were invited to assist in selected procedures. This chairside experience, working with area practitioners, continues to be a highlight for students enrolled in the rigorous program. (Total student enrollment: 57)

Early Childhood Education: Students enrolled in the Monty Tech Early Childhood Education program benefit from an on-site daycare facility that allows them to work with trained professionals and young children throughout the day. Working with and caring for young children requires students to demonstrate caring and compassion, as well as a working knowledge of child development theory and practice. To that end, instructors have designed a curriculum that is infused with opportunities to earn meaningful credentials that include: Department of Early Education & Care Strong Start Training, American Red Cross First Aid and CPR training and certification, and the National Child Development Associate Teacher Certification. Nine Seniors and one Junior earned co-op placements, gaining valuable experience working

with young children in local child care centers, while two additional Seniors and twelve Juniors gained experience at local affiliation sites. (Total student enrollment: 48)

Electrical: Throughout 2021-2022, students and instructors in the Monty Tech Electrical program wired numerous machines, equipment, computers, and lights throughout the school. Twelve Seniors & eight Juniors earned co-op placements, which allowed them to gain important on-the-job skills and additional training in the industry. With guidance from program instructors, students wired the Habitat for Humanity house in Hubbardston, wired an air conditioning system for the Leominster State Police barracks, and also added emergency lighting wall units for the Mason's Lodge in Barre, MA. A testament to the quality instruction and popularity of the program, the Freshman class filled with 24 first choice students, and all successfully completed the 10-hour OSHA training and certification. (Total student enrollment: 93)

Engineering Technology: The Engineering Technology program at Monty Tech is a rigorous program, infused with a 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. The shop layout has changed to allow for more benchwork and hands-on activities, and a designated automation and 3-d printing lab area has been created. Students were recently introduced to the Amatrol software curriculum, which supports all areas of the Massachusetts Chapter 74 Engineering Technology Frameworks. Seven students were employed by area businesses, and all Freshmen completed the OSHA 10-hour general industry training and certification program. (Total student enrollment: 62)



The

Printing Industries of New England also recognized Monty Tech talent, awarding more than 40 students with awards and scholarship funds, making post-secondary aspirations a reality for several of our most talented students. (Total student enrollment: 84)



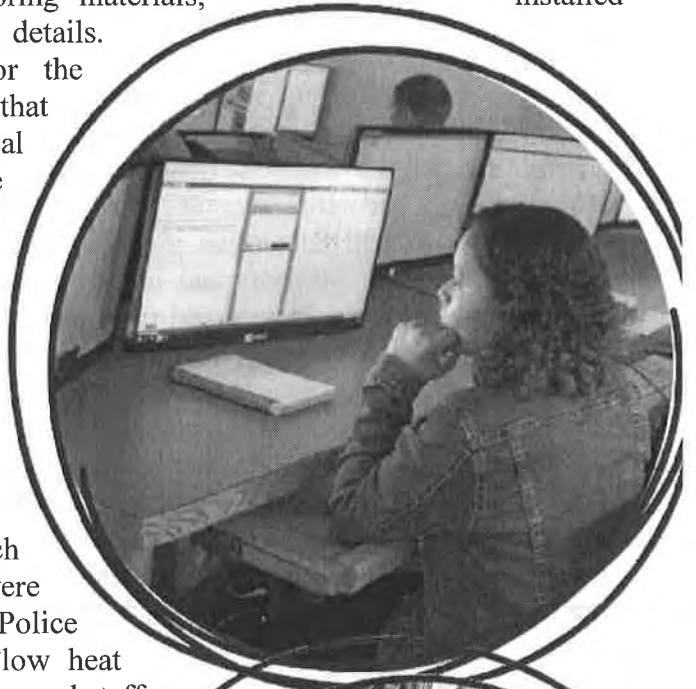
Graphic Communications: Throughout the 2021-2022 school year, students in the Graphic Communications program produced numerous projects for district cities and towns, and a variety of non-profit organizations within the district. Five Seniors and one Junior earned co-op placements, which allowed them to continue their on-the-job training in a real-world work setting. Graphics students consistently perform well at SkillsUSA competitions, and the 2021-2022 school year was no exception.

Two students traveled to the National SkillsUSA competition, having won the state gold medal in State Pin Design and Graphics Sublimation.

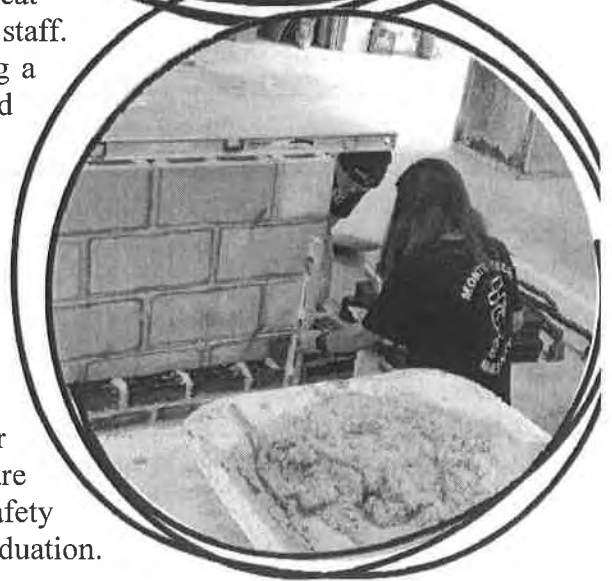
Health Occupations: The Health Occupations program continues to be one of the more competitive programs at Monty Tech, providing a rigorous education grounded in current medical knowledge and practice, balanced by hands-on learning opportunities in the on-site Sim Lab and through the use of state-of-the-art Anatomage technology. Phlebotomy lessons and hands-on applications were introduced to students in their Senior year of study, only adding to an already impressive array of skills and knowledge. Fifteen Seniors were partnered with area clinics, through the school's co-op program, where they continued to learn and flourish in their chosen field, while back on campus,

underclassmen focused on achieving important industry-recognized credentials. Twenty-four students passed their Clinical Medical Assistant exam, and became nationally certified medical assistants. Twenty-two students passed their Nurse Aide Exam, and another thirteen students passed the Home Health Aide certification exam. One talented student earned a gold medal in Basic Health at the SkillsUSA state competition, and qualified to participate in the national competition. (Total student enrollment: 108)

House Carpentry: The Monty Tech House Carpentry program completed a number of projects, large and small during this 2021-2022 school year. Sophomores completed a trail map kiosk for conservation land in Barre, and ten island flower boxes for the Fitchburg East Rotary Club. Juniors and Seniors worked with instructors to complete the annual building project – a single family residence for Habitat for Humanity in Athol, where students completed interior trim and flooring materials, installed the kitchen and bathroom cabinets and exterior porch details. Students and instructors also completed the work for the Hubbardston Habitat for Humanity single family residence that was started but not finished in the previous school year. Local charitable organizations often request donations from the House Carpentry department, and students gladly construct and finish countless Adirondack chairs to support the various fundraising efforts. Three Seniors and one Junior participated in the co-op program, and enjoyed their time working and learning from industry professionals. All Sophomores successfully completed training and received OSHA 10 hour Construction certifications. (Total student enrollment: 59)



HVAC & Property Maintenance: In 2021-2022, Monty Tech HVAC & Property Maintenance students and instructors were called upon to do some work at the Leominster State Police Barracks, where they installed a Variable Refrigerant Flow heat pump, making the facility much more comfortable for officers and staff. Additional requests for support were honored, to include building a new shed at Quabbin Regional High School in Barre, and remodeling a shed located at the Barre Transfer Station. Ten Seniors and one Junior earned co-op placements in area businesses, where they demonstrated the broad spectrum of skills they have acquired in this comprehensive training program. All Seniors received Mega Press Certificates, while all Juniors and Seniors successfully earned the EPA 608 Refrigerant Certification and Hot Works Certification. All Freshmen completed the OSHA 10 hour General Industry certification, while Sophomore students also completed the OSHA 10 hour Construction certification. These industry-recognized credentials are a testimony to the students' skills and understanding of safety practices, and may aid in their employment efforts upon graduation. (Total student enrollment: 57)



Information Technology: The Information Technology program continues to offer students opportunities to earn a wide range of industry-recognized certifications that affirm the technical skill proficiency needed for entry-level careers in networking and information technology. In 2021-2022, all Freshmen completed the OSHA 10-hour General Industry training. Sophomore students passed the Test-out PC Pro Certificate exam, the Cisco IT Essential course for computer repair and maintenance, and the Introduction to Networking

course. All Juniors completed the CIW Web Curriculum, and Seniors completed the Cisco Python Programming curriculum. Four seniors qualified for the AP Computer Science Principles exam; three sat for the examination, and one earned a score of 3, earning college credits for his performance. Juniors in the program participated and did quite well in the Cyberpatriot and CyberStart America cybersecurity competitions. One team achieved 1st place and advanced to the National semifinals. Two Seniors and two Juniors were on co-op placements during the year, applying their technical skills in area businesses. In total, approximately 100 hours of technical support were completed at the program's Help Desk, where students worked on hardware and software troubleshooting on desktops, laptops, printers, and mobile devices. (Total student enrollment: 41)

Masonry: The talents of Monty Tech Masonry students are on display throughout district communities, as numerous projects that were completed during the 2021-2022 school year, including constructing scaffolding at the Habitat for Humanity house in Hubbardston, and constructing a block and brick boundary wall with decorative iron panels at the Fay Club in Fitchburg. Students and instructors worked to improve the school's 50 year old campus, patching and repairing sidewalks and stairs to ensure a safe environment for students, staff and guests. Sophomores received their 10 hour OSHA Construction certification, and Freshmen completed the 10 hour General Industry certification. Four Seniors earned co-op placements, and continued to refine their skills working with industry experts. The school's co-op program is an important example of school-to-business partnerships that help build a stronger workforce in our region, and the Monty Tech Masonry instructors remain grateful for their industry supporters. (Total student enrollment: 47)



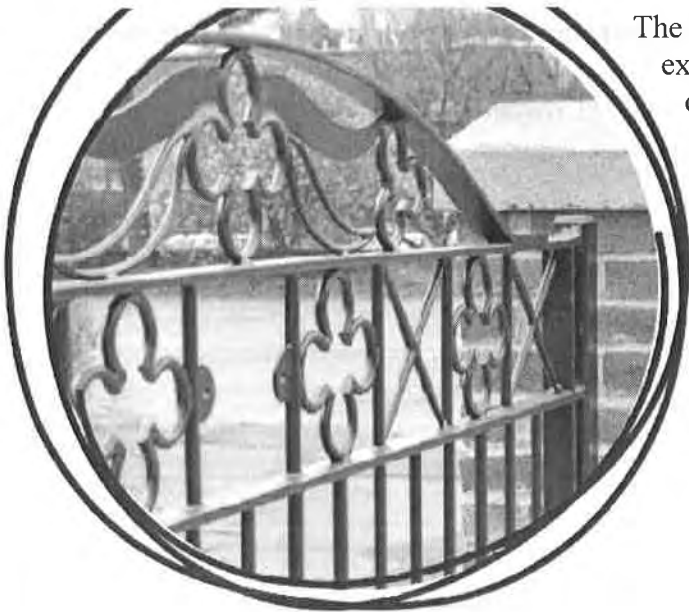
Plumbing: During the 2021-2022 school year, Students and instructors completed the single family house building project, working with Habitat for Humanity in Athol. Students and instructors also began rough plumbing for the Habitat for Humanity single family home in Hubbardston. Juniors successfully completed their HotWorks safety training and earned that important credential. Freshmen also completed the 10-hour OSHA General Industry safety training, while Sophomore students completed the 10-hour OSHA Construction safety training and certification. Nine Seniors and three Juniors earned co-op placements, which allowed them to continue to grow in the trade, working with plumbing professionals in the area. Sophomores and Seniors were trained in Viega PEX/copper press, earning another valuable certification. One Senior earned the Plumbing All Star Award given by the Plumbing, Heating, and Cooling Contractors Association of Massachusetts; he was also awarded a scholarship for his continuing education. Another talented Senior was awarded the Central Mass Plumbing & Gas Inspectors Association Scholarship to assist his continued education, as well. (Total student enrollment: 69)



Veterinary Science: The 2021-2022 school year marked important progress for the school's on-site Veterinary Clinic. The clinic was open 5 days/week, every week for the first time since opening in 2019. There was a 3-4 week waitlist for appointments and a 2-3 month waitlist for surgeries. A number of fourth year Tufts veterinary students completed an elective rotation at the school's clinic, providing additional support and opportunities for our students to engage with young adults pursuing a degree and career in the veterinary sciences. Twenty-two Seniors earned the Certified Veterinary Assistant certification, and all Juniors and Seniors achieved Fear Free Level 1 and Animal CPR Basic Life Support Certification. Seven Seniors and five Juniors were working and learning in area clinics, through the school's co-op program. Three Juniors earned gold medals at the SkillsUSA district competitions, and advanced to the state level to represent the school and program in the Open Job Skills and Extemporaneous Speaking competitions. All Freshmen completed the OSHA 10 hour Healthcare training and certification. At the year's end, students and staff recorded 700 patient visits, and 135 new clients seeking services – a strong testament to the value this clinic has brought to the community. (Total student enrollment: 85)

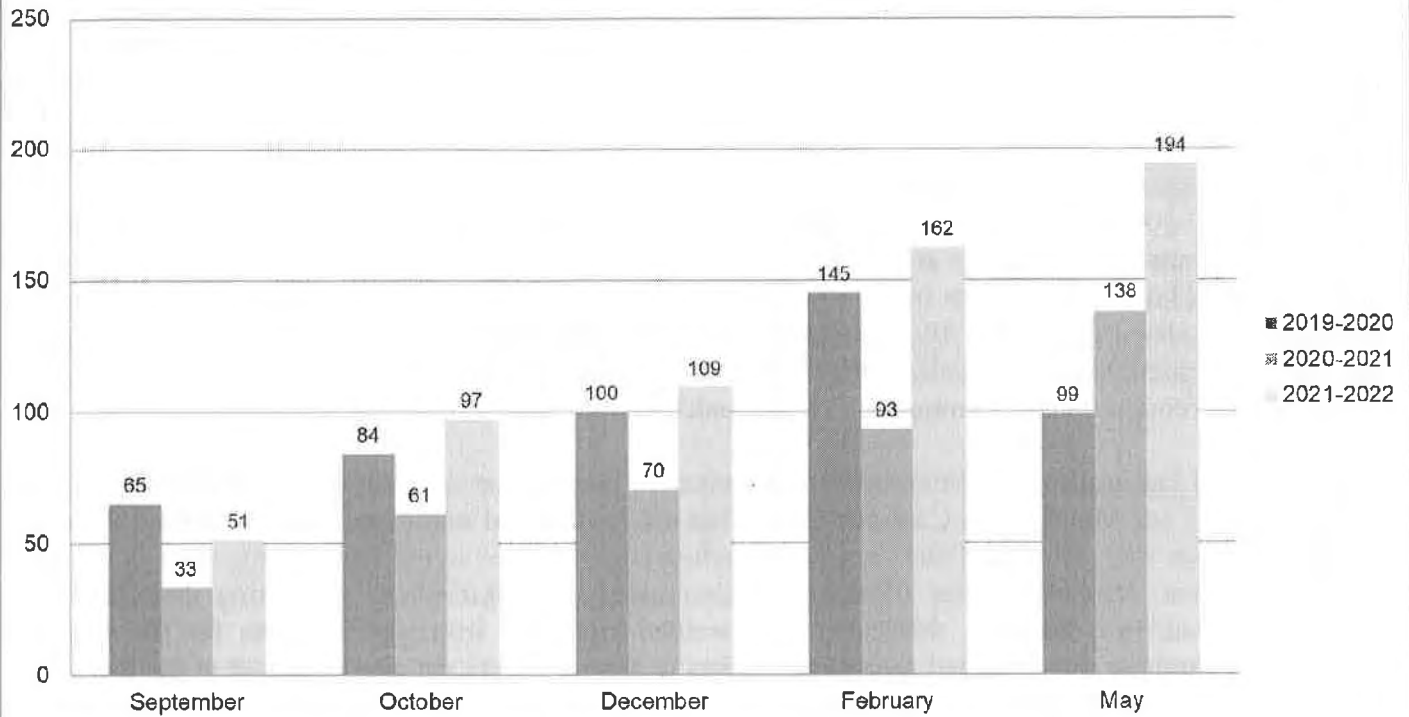
Welding/Metal Fabrication: The Welding/Metal Fabrication Department completed several individual projects for residents of our Monty Tech Community and has also performed numerous projects around the school. Multiple fire pits were fabricated and donated to various organizations in our community, such as the Monty Tech Foundation, Nashoba Valley Chamber of Commerce, and SkillsUSA, supporting their fundraising efforts. The students designed, fabricated, and welded eight rod iron sign brackets for the Petersham Cemetery Committee and modified seventeen railings to accommodate the retaining wall at the Fay Club in Fitchburg. The finished product is something students and staff remain quite proud of. Six Seniors and five Juniors participated in the school's co-op program, earning entry level jobs in area welding and fabrication shops. Freshmen completed the OSHA 10-hour General Industry certification program, while Juniors completed the Hot Works training and certification, and all students completed the OSHA 10-hour Construction certification. Six Seniors participated in the Notch Mechanical Constructor Pipe Welding Challenge and performed exceptionally well. Instructors proudly report that Seniors qualified for the AWS

# Cooperative Education



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

## Students Participating in the Cooperative Education Program



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 proficiency and employability skills, and making industry connections enhances post-graduate employment opportunities. The Co-op Program also allows students to earn while they learn, which has allowed many students to learn valuable life skills, financial literacy skills, and gain a deeper understanding of the importance of career advancement and self-advocacy.

Employer benefits include addressing workforce needs in an efficient manner. Co-op students provide a pool of trained talent, ready to assume temporary, part-time or even full-time opportunities, thus reducing employer training costs. Co-op work hours may also be tailored to suit the needs of partnering employers.

In 2021-2022, the school saw a return to the workplace, and significant increases in the number of students placed in this valuable training program. With approximately 100 area employers participating in Cooperative Education, providing valuable experience to almost 200 students by the end of the 2021-2022 school year, school officials remain grateful for their continued support, and look forward to future collaborations.

# Student Support Services

Given the exciting news that schools could return to 'normal' during the 2021-2022 school year, the Department of Student Support Services focused its efforts on students' social and emotional wellness. Defining a new normal and providing structured supports to students as they acclimated to the demands, pace and rigor of academics, vocational programming and extracurricular activities was a top priority. Staff reflected on student data, strengthened community partnerships, implemented new initiatives and expanded on the level of tiered supports offered to our student population. The department continued its important mission to break the stigma of mental health, knowing that everyone adjusts differently and handles stress in various ways. This unified approach, support, and collaboration helped our student body display resilience, grow individually, and meet success.

At Monty Tech, we understand that everyone will require help at some point; that as individuals we all have strengths and weaknesses, and as a result, we strive to implement thoughtful tiered services that promote a feeling of comfort for students when accessing this support. In addition to the department's current school-based counseling services, Monty Tech and LUK, Inc. collaborated throughout 2021-2022 with the Department of Public Health to provide services to at-risk students and their families. The district also partnered with LUK to create a direct pipeline for telehealth referrals and increased access to counseling supports. Programs such as the HOPE Squad; a peer to peer suicide prevention program, Project AMP; a program to address prevention of substance use among youth ages 13-17, and Students Taking A New Direction (STAND); a program to support students displaying at-risk behaviors have all been implemented.

The Department of Student Support Services has taken the necessary measures to ensure Social Emotional Learning (SEL) is in the forefront of conversations when supporting students as they acclimate to returning to school full time after lengthy periods of time away. Courses and activities designed to promote mindfulness, understanding, and social emotional wellness are part of the many course offerings. Yoga and Meditative Art, Visual Arts, Directed Studies with Social Emotional Learning lessons are all part of the efforts being implemented to ensure we address the needs of all students and support their individual growth and development in a post pandemic world.

During the 2021-2022 school year, Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District provided specialized services to approximately three hundred students – measuring progress of over two hundred students on Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and approximately one hundred students adhering to individualized Section 504 plans. While the Student Support Services Department encompasses special education, the department provides support and is available to all Monty Tech students.

The Student Support Services department includes a full-time nursing staff that continues to respond to COVID concerns, administers medications, performs state-mandated health screening exams, and provides, when necessary, health information to the special education team for a student's IEP meetings. 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, proper food and clothing, and military status deployments. The school is also fortunate to have on staff a full-time psychologist, who evaluates all students referred for an initial evaluation or who may require a three-year re-evaluation. In addition, we have a full-time speech language pathologist, available to assist students with disabilities, assess these students and consult with teachers. Finally, 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 services, as well as crisis intervention.



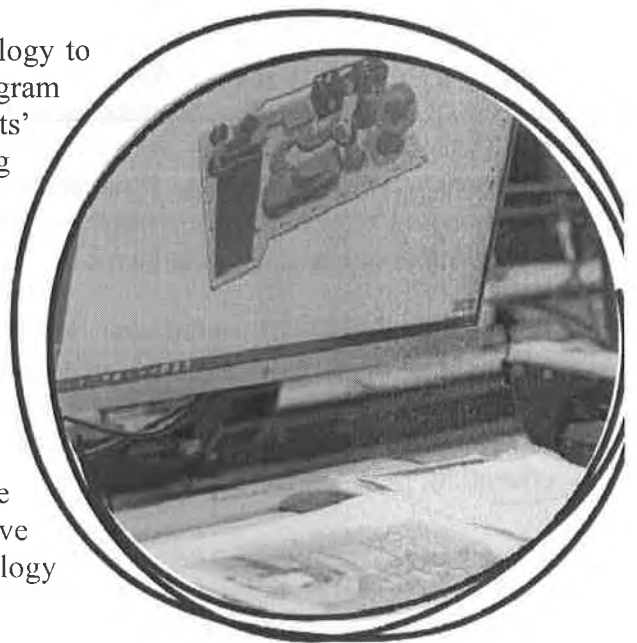
The school's Director of Student Support Services oversees the District's Special Education Program, which is reviewed annually in May, in accordance with regulatory requirements. The comprehensive review and evaluation are done in collaboration with the Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC), and the results are used to improve the special education procedures and programs in place at Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School. The district will be working with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) during the 2022-2023 to review all special education services, timelines, and programs.

# Technology @ Monty Tech

The 2021-2022 school year was a welcome return to normalcy at Monty Tech, relieving the Technology Department of the challenges presented by hybrid and remote instruction and learning that was necessary in previous years. That also meant the department could focus its attention on vetting, selecting and beginning the migration to a new Student Information System. Technology specialists led this complex effort, moving away from Aspen X2 and into Powerschool, which is expected to be a more user-friendly platform, serving students, parents and teachers more efficiently. In addition, the school implemented Performance Matters, a software program that will track and analyze student outcomes. By targeting student achievement and areas of concerns, teachers will be able to immediately address challenges students are facing and offer remediation.

Across the school, students were provided with updated technology to improve vocational training. The Business Technology program received new computers with updated software for their students' use. Students and instructors in the school's CAD/Drafting Technology program also received robust new computers and associated software, and the school's busy Graphic Communications department received long-awaited, high capacity copiers, so that their older machines could be redistributed for teacher use throughout the campus.

Finally, the school invested in a Dell EMC Virtual server solution. This advanced technology can handle the work of twenty-one physical servers, placing them into four much more efficient nodes. These new nodes can handle up to seventy-five servers, so there is room for expansion as the school's technology needs grow in future years.



Monty Tech students continue to benefit from a 1:1 Chromebook initiative, as the school is in its 6<sup>th</sup> year of providing every student with their own device. While the effects of the pandemic may have declined, lessons learned remain. Instructors who found that communicating with students through Google Classroom or Schoology continue to post lessons, collect assignments, and even offer assessments via this tool. Throughout the 2021-2022 school year, the Technology Department continued to support the additional use of this technology, spending countless hours during the school year upgrading the network and increasing the bandwidth coming into the school to sustain video and audio conferencing, and increased network traffic.

# Service Learning



The Monty Tech Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (MCJROTC) remains one of the school's most worthwhile and engaging programs available to its students. This outstanding leadership program, based on the foundations of instilling a value of citizenship, service to the United States, personal responsibility, and a sense of accomplishment, provides students with countless opportunities to serve as ambassadors in their communities, through the routine demonstration of student leadership development, volunteerism, perseverance, and dedication.

During the 2021 - 2022 school year, MCJROTC Cadets participated in more than 2000 hours of community service and volunteerism. Cadets assisted the Salvation Army by collecting more than \$25,000 in donations, which provided aid to countless families in need during the holiday season.

The Monty Tech MCJROTC cadets were actively involved in the Royalston Police Fair, providing assistance to local vendors, the police department and community residents with the setup and breakdown of this popular event. This annual event raised more than \$4,500 to support the Police Reform Act.

Our cadets also enjoyed service at the Wachusett Brewery-Rock & Roll 5K in Westminster, MA, where they helped raise funds for the NEADS Organization. NEADS trains service dogs for individuals with mental and physical disabilities, many of whom are veterans. To ensure this program was a success, cadets assisted with parking and traffic control for the runners, and assisted vendors with setup and tear down. Another community event that was a highlight for our students was the Annual Blacksmith Festival in Fitchburg MA. Monty Tech cadets assisted competitors and vendors, and while doing so, learned a great deal about community volunteerism and the craft of blacksmithing as a fine art.



Each year, we ask our school community to consider families who may not have a bountiful, healthy meal to look forward to during the holidays. In 2021, we were humbled by an outpouring of donations, which allowed our cadets to assemble more than 100 Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets to be distributed to deserving families in the Monty Tech Community.

While service to others and supporting community events are an essential part of our program, the Monty Tech cadets report a special feeling of pride when assisting with local color guards and participating in community parades. In 2021-2022, these special events were numerous, with as many as nine color guards local civic and veteran ceremonies, which are always a highlight for students and instructors alike.

As our students learn the importance of giving back today, it is also important that they learn our history. To that end, 150 cadets travelled to Boston to walk the freedom trail, visit Faneuil Hall and learn more about our American history. Finally, during the summer of 2022, 60 cadets participated in team building skills, leadership development and physical fitness at Prince William Forest in Triangle, VA. They learned about the history of the Marine Corps as well as American flight history by visiting the Marine Corps Museum, and the Dulles Air and Space Museum. Cadets also travelled to the Marine Corps Base Quantico, where they received a class on Marine Corps and Foreign weapons from the Marine Corps Weapons Training Battalion Staff. It wasn't all work, though. Our outstanding cadets enjoyed the experience of water rafting, zip lining

# Evening Programs

and a celebratory banquet to wrap the memorable week.

The Monty Tech School of Continuing Education had an exciting FY22, receiving more than \$600,000 in training grants. School leaders applied for and received a generous Career Technical Initiative Grant, which provided the funding needed to rollout new training programs, offered to qualified unemployed or underemployed participants at no charge.

New training programs in Welding and HVAC were developed and saw their first cohort enroll. Students completed 250 hours of training, both in person and virtual, and left with industry-recognized credentials that include Hot Work Certification, OSHA 10 Hour Certification, and an American Welding Society (AWS) Endorsement. Upon completion, students were assisted, in partnership with MassHire North Central Career Center, in job placement.

As we continue to monitor workforce needs and skills gaps, the School of Continuing Education works closely with the MassHire North Central Career Center to determine specific training programs that are most in-demand. Our overarching goal to support the North Central Massachusetts workforce readiness pipeline with an increase in career and licensure courses is evident in new programs that are developed, existing programs that are refined and in traditional journeyman/apprenticeship programs that remain a hallmark of our institution.

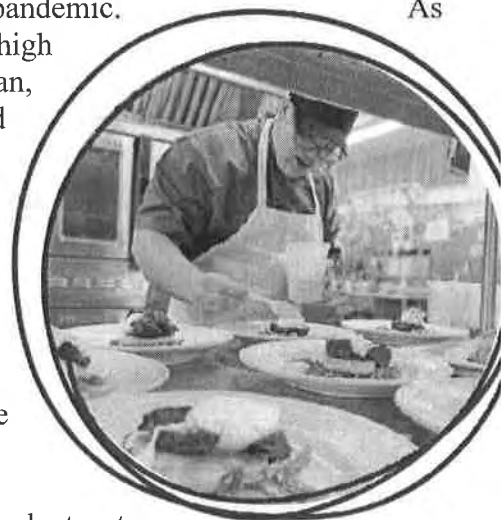
Many other career-track students were eager to return in-person instruction. The popular Cosmetology program was able to reopen their nighttime salon, providing services to clientele during the evening hours, while electrical and plumbing programs were able to resume, and students were back in the classroom, learning from experienced and licensed professionals.

A large medical professional shortage arose in the workforce, due to the pandemic. As a result, graduates from our evening medical programs continue to be in high demand. Valuable training programs like Certified Phlebotomy Technician, Certified Clinical Medical Assistant, Certified EKG Technician, Certified Nurse Aide and Certified Home Health Aide, are able to help close noted workforce shortages. With state recognized and nationally recognized credentials, Monty Tech students are prepared and ready to join the regional workforce.

Serving more than 1,000 community members annually, the Monty Tech School of Continuing Education strives to provide an accessible and supportive learning environment to an adult population seeking workforce training that will lead to high-wage, high-skill jobs.

The Monty Tech Practical Nursing Program is designed to prepare graduates to practice safely and ethically in a caring manner for patients who are experiencing common variations in health status in diverse health care settings.

On June 23, 2022 a graduating class of 16 students completed the Practical Nursing Program and entered the nursing profession. The class has thus far achieved a pass rate of 95% on the NCLEX-PN exam (National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses). Program graduates are currently employed in the health care profession throughout Massachusetts, working in various health care settings, such as long-term care, sub-acute care, mental health/substance abuse facilities, physicians' offices and correctional medicine.





The Monty Tech Practical Nursing Program continues to strengthen the “LPN to BSN (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) Bridge” relationship with Fitchburg State University (FSU). Former graduates have successfully transferred into seats in the LPN to BSN Bridge program at FSU and will continue their education to a Bachelor’s of Science 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. In the seven -year history of the Bridge Program, all of Monty Tech’s Practical Nursing graduates reaching graduation at FSU have passed their NCLEX-RN exam. These former graduates have gone on to work in hospital settings including Heywood Hospital, Beth Israel, and Baystate Medical Center, while others have pursued advanced degrees as Critical Care Nurse Practitioners, Nurse Educators, and Family Practice Nurse Practitioners.

In 2021-2022, Monty Tech Practical Nursing students were asked to complete patient scenarios in the Sim Labs in Terms 2 and 3. The Faculty Sim team has implemented National League of Nursing (NLN) patient scenarios and authored several others consistent with the National Council of State Board of Nursing Detailed Test Plan. Instructors have also utilized the Sim lab setting to instruct students in developing nursing skills that they may not be experiencing in the clinical setting.

By successfully developing and implementing a vast library of scenarios reflecting International Association for Clinical Simulation and Learning standards, we hope to prepare our students for any experience they may encounter as a newly licensed Practice Nurse. In Maternity Sim Lab Boot Camp, for example, students utilize the simulation models to imitate the birthing process, from obstetric office visits through labor and common postpartum complications. Well newborn care is also taught. Student feedback has been positive regarding these maternity scenarios, stating it better prepares them for an unexpected outcome during a delivery. This expanded content also better prepares students for Nursing Acceleration Challenge Exam success at Fitchburg State University.

Substance abuse and the mental health setting job opportunities have increased with more funding being provided to combat the opiate crisis. In addition to having specialty clinical rotations, students participate in simulation scenarios involving substance abuse and mental health clients, to help to prepare our graduates to work in a substance abuse clinical setting.

## Looking Ahead

The 2022-2023 school year may bring new leadership to Monty Tech, but the vision for improving programs and creative means to accomplish our collective goals will remain intact. In any given year, school districts may make improvements to facilities, upgrade instructional materials, or even implement new and meaningful programs, but at Monty Tech, such evolution is expected. It is imperative that each of our twenty-one vocational training programs stays current, and that our training facilities are safe and reflect current industry standards. Local budgets do not always allow for such improvements and innovation, and so school officials continue to seek funding streams and collaborative partnerships that allow the school to grow and expand to effectively serve students in grades 9-12 and beyond. A few of the more notable initiatives that we expect to have a positive impact on our school and students in the coming years include:

Farm-to-table instruction and increased access to healthy foods: With a first-ever grant award from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Monty Tech looks forward to the establishment of an on-site farm, housed in a shipping container. The “Freight Farm” is expected to address negative economic impacts caused by the recent COVID crisis, still felt by our students and their families today. With the capability of growing as many as 1,450 heads of lettuce every three weeks, this on-site farm will allow school officials to expand the school’s already generous meal program, saving the school as much as \$38,000 in produce costs annually. School officials look forward to using this incredible technology to infuse farm-to-table lessons into the Culinary Arts program, establish a Free Pantry at the School for any student in need, and grant free produce to students and families in need.



Grant funding to improve and expand training programs: Monty Tech has applied for and received eight Skills Capital Grants, totaling more than \$2.5M. School officials anticipate a FY23 application may be forthcoming, and as a result, have met to determine which program is in need of a shop renovation, updated equipment, and/or new technology that reflects current industry standards. The school’s Culinary Arts program, which operates a busy, full-service restaurant, preparing students for both “front of the house” and “back of the house” careers may be the next vocational program to benefit from Skills Capital grant funding, should an application be approved. School officials envision improvements to the expansive training kitchen and restaurant area, to accommodate new and updated training equipment and industry trends. In addition, because Monty Tech recently awarded a Round 5 Career Technical Initiative Grant, school officials look forward to expanding the already successful evening training programs to include Electrical, Culinary Arts, Welding, Property Maintenance, and CNC Operator programs in FY23.

New partnerships to increase access to vocational programs: Since 2019, Monty Tech school officials have been in conversations with area school leaders, to determine if there is an interest in developing programs that would expand access to vocational training opportunities for students who may be enrolled in sending school districts, but who are looking for training that will support their post-graduate goals. By modifying the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education’s “After Dark” guidelines, Monty Tech school officials are confident that a unique collaboration could provide just what these students seek. In FY23, school officials expect to resume conversations, outlining plans to bring new training programs to area students. Monty Tech will identify grant opportunities to fund the needed equipment, supplies and materials, while partnering districts will work to develop student schedules and outline a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that outlines their financial commitment to this endeavor. While Monty Tech officials look forward to this work in 2022-2023, the highly anticipated training programs are not expected to open until Fall 2024, giving Monty Tech students and instructors ample time to locate a facility, and renovate it to create a safe, state-of-the-art training facility that replicates those already in operation on our main campus.

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With a responsibility to serve more than 1,400 students in grade 9-12 daily, as many as 1,000 adult learners in our evening programs, and now an additional 80-100 students in grades 11-12 from area high schools, Monty Tech leaders understand that this work cannot be accomplished alone. Partnerships with area school and business leaders, promises to interview and hire our graduates, and opportunities for instructors to participate in meaningful professional development will continue to help us reach our common goal – to effectively train the next generation’s workforce in high-wage, high –skill jobs for a better future.

# Monty Tech Leadership

The district continues to benefit from a talented leadership team 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, the team has transformed the school into one of the most sought-after high schools in North Central Massachusetts.

*Thomas R. Browne, Superintendent-Director*  
*Dayana Carlson, Principal*  
*Tammy Crockett, Business Manager*  
*Kim Curry, Co-Operative Education Coordinator*  
*Christina Favreau, Director of Academic Programs*  
*Michael Gormley, Director of Facilities*  
*Donald Kitzmiller, Director of Technology*  
*Christine Leamy, Dean of Admissions*  
*Samantha McGuane, Data Analysis and Accountability Coordinator*  
*Ryan Rege, Director of Vocational Programs*  
*Kathryn Schmidt, Assistant Principal*  
*Katy Whitaker, Development Coordinator*  
*Victoria Zarozinski, Director of Student Support Services*

In addition, the Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School District Committee is comprised of twenty-two dedicated individuals, whose expertise proves invaluable in advising the district's operations, policies, and procedures. Our students continue to benefit from the broad scope of their experiences and varying perspectives, and we are thankful to the following members of the 2022-2023 School Committee for their outstanding service.

*Eric Commodore, Gardner*  
*Chair*

*John Columbus, Templeton*  
*Vice Chair*

*Julie Marynok*  
*Secretary*

*Jeffrey Gallant*  
*District Treasurer*

*Diane Swenson, Ashburnham*  
*Peter Capone, Ashby*  
*Jeffrey Raymond, Athol*  
*Whitney Marshall, Barre*  
*Robert Campbell, Fitchburg*  
*Michael Hurley, Fitchburg*  
*Dr. Ronald Tourigny, Fitchburg*  
*Melanie Weeks, Fitchburg*  
*James S. Boone, Gardner*  
*Jeanne Bartlett, Harvard*

*Donna Lafayette, Hubbardston*  
*Barbara Reynolds, Lunenburg*  
*Eric Olson, Phillipston*  
*John P. Mollica, Princeton*  
*Jessica Schanz, Royalston*  
*William Brassard, Sterling*  
*John Columbus, Templeton*  
*Ross Barber, Westminster*  
*Tamarah Estes, Winchendon*

