

Report from the Sudbury Vocational Education Options
Committee

January 27, 2015

Evaluation and recommendations on vocational educational
options for Sudbury's students

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History

In 2014, the Minuteman School Committee asked the Town of Sudbury, as well as the other fifteen Minuteman District towns, to vote on an article to approve an amendment that would create a new Regional Agreement. The article was “Indefinitely postponed” on the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen, who felt the Town had insufficient knowledge and information to consider the article.

Subsequently, the Board of Selectmen created the **Vocational Education Options Committee (VEOC)** to consider the proposed new agreement and the town’s vocational and technical education options broadly and to advise the Board on how to proceed. Members were chosen and elected to represent a broad cross-section of the community. See appendices 1 and 2 for the Mission Statement and information about the members of the Committee.

The Committee met regularly during the fall of 2014. Agendas and Minutes of all meetings are available to interested readers on the Town’s website. This report and the various appendices present the findings of the VEOC together with background information, gathered in one place, to enable the reader to conveniently study the issues involved.

Background (from the Mission Statement)

Sudbury has been a member of the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical High School District since its founding in 1971. The Minuteman District School Committee is engaged in a multi-year process to determine how best to address a number of building shortcomings, including the possible construction of a new school building. As part of that process, that committee has recommended significant amendments to the Minuteman Regional Agreement to facilitate financing this capital project, to modify the governance provisions to give more voting weight to member towns with large numbers of students, to increase the relative share of the capital charges assessed to member towns with small numbers of students, and to make it easier for individual member towns to terminate their membership. Minimally, Sudbury must decide whether to approve these amendments. Additionally, Sudbury has the opportunity to evaluate a wide range of vocational options to obtain the most academically appropriate and fiscally responsible programs for our students as we decide how to proceed.

The VEOC began by addressing the first question in the Mission Statement:

Whether to approve proposed changes to the Minuteman Regional Agreement.

This was addressed by the Committee as a whole, while three subcommittees were formed to address further questions in the Mission Statement. A copy of the proposed amended agreement, and a summary of the changes, are in Appendices 3 and 4.

The proposed changes address numerous problems that have been experienced at Minuteman over the last forty years:

- A. The District has sixteen member towns and consequently sixteen members on the School Committee. Each member has an equal vote, although the towns vary widely in population and enrollment. In 2013, for example, Arlington sent 165 students and Dover sent one. Other towns with high enrollments were Lexington and Needham; other low enrollment towns included Boxborough and Weston. Sudbury has been right in the middle. Towns with a higher enrollment, who pay a much larger share of the costs, are understandably frustrated that their voices carries no more weight than those of smaller towns.
- B. In order for a town to withdraw from the district, all fifteen other towns must vote to approve this, a challenge that seems insurmountable.
- C. The building is old, and the Minuteman Committee has concluded that a new 628-student building should be built.
- D. The district has had serious administrative problems, and these have been accompanied with problems within the school committee.

In addition there is a "Tuition Student" issue. Out of a total grade 9-12 enrollment for SY 2014 of 745, fully 331 (44%) are tuition students from non-member towns; the tuition-rate is low and set by the Commonwealth. (These enrollment numbers are from the FY16 Minuteman Budget Book; they are calculated somewhat differently from those presented by DESE.) The idea is that a tuition student should just pay the "marginal" costs created. However, when the percentage of tuition students is this high, it results in creating two classes of students, with the member students subsidizing the tuition students. Currently the tuition students do not contribute to fixed costs, such as the cost of building a new building. This is seen as a serious fault, making it unfeasible to plan a new building until it is resolved.

The overall result of the changes is to give more power to the larger districts, at the expense of the smaller districts. This is especially true regarding the method for paying for a new building. The new formula includes a "base" charge, which is equal for each district. This base charge will be the same for Dover as for Arlington, a clear penalty for the smaller participants.

We have been told that at least two or three smaller communities have decided that this is a penalty they do not want to pay. They have approved the new agreement and announced their intention to withdraw and will probably continue to send their students on a tuition basis, as long as there is capacity.

After extensive deliberation, **the VEOC recommends to the Sudbury Board of Selectmen that they support the new agreement.** The new agreement will allow Minuteman to proceed with plans for a new facility, and retain, for Sudbury, the option to withdraw from the region at any time, if future developments make that advisable.

There are several developments Sudbury will want to monitor:

1. Efforts to address the “Tuition” problem.

There is promising progress on this issue. The Commissioner of Education has proposed changes to the method of determining tuition. More encouraging is the development by the Minuteman Committee of an “Inter Municipal Agreement” (IMA). (See Appendix 5).

Minuteman plans to require each non-member town to sign such an agreement as a condition of sending tuition students. This will create a more level field, in which tuition students will contribute towards the cost of a new building in a manner much more like the rate paid by members.

2. Enrollment Trends

Sudbury’s enrollment seems to be increasing; this year it is 25, last year it was 22. The average over 15 years was 14. If our enrollment projects lower, the Town may decide to leave the district and participate by sending our students on a tuition basis.

Overall enrollment at Minuteman may change. The intermunicipal agreement might cause some towns to send fewer students. An attractive new building might cause towns to send more students. Nonmember towns could join the district, but they have stated their preference for building comprehensive high schools in their own towns.

3. The new building.

Plans are still extremely flexible. It is possible, although very unlikely, that the district will change plans, design a larger or smaller school, or even choose to merely modify the current building.

Next year the Town may be presented with a request to approve the new building, and vote to approve an assessment for that purpose. Sudbury can approve, and continue its membership, or decline, and notify Minuteman of its decision to withdraw.

-II-

The second question presented in the Mission Statement was:

Which available vocational school(s) will best meet Sudbury’s academic and budgetary needs?

The VEOC created three subcommittees to gather information and make recommendations in these areas: A site-visit committee, a Financial Committee, and an Educational Committee.

A. Site Visit Committee (See Appendix 6 for final report).

The site-visit committee visited Minuteman and three nearby Vocational-Technical-Schools; Keefe Tech in Framingham, Nashoba in Westford, and Assabet in Marlboro.

Minuteman and the three other schools are all fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and College, and also fully approved by the Department of Education. The Committee was welcomed at each school, and it was able to observe and inquire at great length. The staffs at Assabet and Nashoba made it clear they would welcome a request by Sudbury to send our students; Keefe, while also very cordial, was not actively seeking out of district placements. The Committee did not analyze Keefe further.

B. Education Committee (See Appendix 7 for final report, See Appendix 8 for Minuteman survey, see Appendix 9 for Chapter 74 report)

At the first committee meeting on October 9, 2014, the Vocational Education Options Committee established basic evaluation criteria to compare vocational education options that may be available to the people of Sudbury. Broad categories of these data include: school characteristics, teacher demographics, student demographics, academic offerings, high demand vocational programs, test scores, post-secondary experiences, extracurricular offerings, available technology, and partnerships. The education subcommittee compiled data for each category for Minuteman Regional, Assabet Valley Regional Technical, and Nashoba Valley Regional Technical; it did not collect data for Keefe Regional Technical because the Site Visit subcommittee determined it would not be a strong option for Sudbury students.

The Education Subcommittee gathered information from independent third party resources, like the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) website or external review reports, and from school websites. After reviewing the data from the three schools in each of the major categories, the education subcommittee determined that all three options potentially available to Sudbury are strong academic and vocational training programs. It should be noted that there are differences when looking at individual categories, such as Minuteman currently offering very few Advanced Placement options compared to the other two schools, but it has the highest average SAT scores. However, when looking at the overall data profiles for each school, the education subcommittee determined that each school positively benefits the students that attend or have attended these schools and that the slight differences in the data gathered are too small to advocate strongly for one school over another.

Nevertheless, since we had been charged with identifying an alternative, while individual members of the VEOC favored one or another, **the consensus was that if the town was to choose a single school as an alternative to Minuteman, it would be Assabet.**

Assabet

Assabet has the first advantage of being nearby, less than five miles from Sudbury Center. It is larger than Minuteman (about 1,000 at Assabet versus about 745 at Minuteman in SY 2014). The Committee members who visited were pleasantly impressed by the administrators and faculty they met, and by the classes and shops they visited.

Assabet, built in the 1970s, is in the midst of a multi-million dollar renovation, its first since the 1990's. Minuteman, by comparison was also built in the 1970's, but has had only minor renovations. Assabet has just appointed a new Superintendent, who is presently serving as Principal at Minuteman.

There are 7 towns in the district: Marlborough, Hudson, Maynard, Berlin, Westborough, Northborough, and Southborough. Other towns sending students regularly as tuition students are Boylston, West Boylston, Clinton, Shrewsbury, and Grafton.

C. Financial Committee (see Appendix 10 for final report)

The finance committee was faced with the difficult task of analyzing and present data about a very fluid situation. Rather than make estimates about the future (enrollments, levels of state support, costs of construction, tuition students, the Committee decided to report only on known information. Its report shows clearly that the present costs at Assabet are significantly lower than the costs at Minuteman. On this basis, it is projected that in FY 2015 if Sudbury were a member of the Assabet School District rather than Minuteman, there would be a saving of about \$250,000. The comparable savings if Sudbury sent students “out of district” to both Minuteman and Assabet would be approximately \$203,000.

Additionally, the finance subcommittee submitted an estimate showing the effects of a projected capital project at Minuteman on comparisons with the other districts. (see Appendix 11 for estimate)

After reviewing all the data collected and presented, the Committee feels confident in answering the second question in the Mission Statement:

**Which available vocational school(s) will best meet Sudbury’s academic and budgetary needs?
Our answer is Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School.**

-III-

The third and final question included in the Mission Statement was:

Whether Sudbury should participate in the vocational school(s) as a member or on some other basis?

We are unable to answer this question definitively, but can offer useful information.

If Sudbury remains in the Minuteman District

We are already participating as members, which has several advantages. There is the opportunity to participate in the planning and leadership of the district and offering input into policy and other major decisions. There is also an implied advantage for our students, in that in certain cases they may get priority for participation in popular programs where entrance is limited. At the present time, there is a financial advantage in attending on a tuition basis.

When Sudbury is faced with the decision as to whether to remain in the District or withdraw, much better information should be available about the two alternatives. The Town would want to get formal notification that its students would be accepted on a tuition basis (at Minuteman or elsewhere) before withdrawing from the District.

If Sudbury withdraws from the Minuteman District

We do not know if Assabet (or any other District) would invite us to become members. It would probably involve amending the District's Regional Agreement and also involve payment of a significant sum in advance (in order to share in the ownership of the District's buildings and other assets). We believe it would probably make sense to participate in a new district on a tuition basis for one or more years to confirm that it's a good fit for our students. We did not investigate the process for joining a new district, which may be protracted. We did get confirmation that Assabet or Nashoba have capacity to accept our students.

A note about Special Needs:

It should be noted that all the schools visited, and probably Vocational-Technical Schools in general, do an outstanding job with special needs students. The schools generally succeed in getting their students to the proficient level in MCAS tests, and pass them into further education and suitable employment. We did not observe any special classes; all students are integrated into the general curriculum. In our few interviews with parents, they expressed extreme gratitude and satisfaction with the education provided their special needs children.

Schools that can accomplish this, while still maintaining challenging courses for other students, deserve special thanks and appreciation.

Appendices

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- 4.** Proposed amended Minuteman Regional Agreement
- 5.** Summary of the proposed changes to the Minuteman Regional Agreement
- 6.** Report from the Site Visit Subcommittee
- 7.** Report from the Education Subcommittee
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- 9.** Chapter 74 report
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 - a.** Comparing Assabet Valley to Minuteman current nonmember costs
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Appendix 1

The Board of Selectmen created the Vocational Education Options Committee on July 22, 2014 to generate, evaluate and report on best options for the Town of Sudbury in selecting a vocational school for our students.

Vocational Education Options Committee

Voted to establish July 22, 2014 by the Sudbury Board of Selectmen

Mission Statement

The Board of Selectmen is creating the Vocational Education Options Committee to generate, evaluate and report on best options for the Town of Sudbury in selecting a vocational school for our students. The Committee's mission is to advise the Board and the Sudbury Community on alternatives for providing vocational/technical options for Sudbury students that are both academically and financially appropriate. As part of this, the Board requests that this Committee develop a report with three recommendations: 1) whether to approve proposed changes to the Minuteman Regional Agreement; 2) which available vocational school(s) will best meet Sudbury's academic and budgetary needs; and 3) whether Sudbury should participate in the vocational school(s) as a member or on some other basis.

Background: Sudbury has been a member of the Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical High School District since its founding in 1971. The Minuteman District School Committee is engaged in a multi-year process to determine how best to address a number of building shortcomings, including construction of a new school building. As part of that process, that committee has recommended significant amendments to the Minuteman Regional Agreement to facilitate financing this capital project, to modify the governance provisions to give more voting weight to member towns with large numbers of students, to increase the relative share of the capital charges assessed to member towns with small numbers of students, and to make it easier for individual member towns to terminate their membership. Minimally, Sudbury must decide whether to approve these amendments. Additionally, Sudbury has the opportunity to evaluate a wide range of vocational options to obtain the most academically appropriate and fiscally responsible programs for our students as we decide how to proceed.

Membership

The Vocational Education Options Committee will be appointed by the Board of Selectmen and shall be comprised of:

- Two Sudbury Selectmen
- Two members of the Sudbury Finance Committee
- One member of the Sudbury Public Schools or a designee of the SPS Committee
- One member of the Lincoln Sudbury Regional School Committee or a designee of the L-S School Committee
- The Sudbury member of the Minuteman School Committee
- Principal of Curtis Middle School or a designee with knowledge of educational preferences and needs of Sudbury middle school students
- Superintendent/Principal of Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School or a designee with knowledge of educational preferences and needs of Sudbury high school students
- Up to three at large members

Appendix 2

Vocational Education Options Committee Members

Name	Title	Position	Address	Subcommittees	End Date
John K. Baranowsky	Engineer	Associate	103 Belcher Dr	Edu, Tour	5/31/2015
Risa Burns	Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School	Associate	46 Cider Mill Rd	Edu, Tour	5/31/2015
Patricia Brown	Board of Selectmen	Member	34 Whispering Pine Road	Fin, Tour	5/31/2015
Robert C. Haarde	Board of Selectmen	Member	37 Belcher Dr	Edu	5/31/2015
Ivar Henningson	Guidance Counselor, Curtis Middle School	Member	22 Pratt's Mill Rd		5/31/2015
Elena M. Kleifges	Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School Committee	Member	14 Spruce Ln	Tour	5/31/2015
William E. Kneeland, Jr.	Sudbury Finance Committee	Member	43 Pennymeadow Road	Fin	5/31/2015
Stephen Lambert	Principal, Curtis Middle School	Member	22 Pratt's Mill Rd		5/31/2015
David Levington	Former Superintendent, Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School	Member	155 Nobscot Road	Edu, Tour	5/31/2015
Paul F. Lynch	Former representative, Minuteman School Committee	Member	20 Dorothy Rd	Edu, Tour	5/31/2015
David R. Manjarrez	Representative, Minuteman School Committee	Member	47 Firecut Ln	Fin, Tour	5/31/2015
Scott B. Nassa	Sudbury Public School Committee	Member	36 Clark Ln	Tour	5/31/2015
Allison Scheff	Executive Director STEM, Mass Dept of Higher Education	Member	33 Harness Ln	Edu	5/31/2015
Bella Wong	Superintendent, Lincoln-Sudbury Regional High School	Member	390 Lincoln Road		5/31/2015

REGIONAL AGREEMENT

This Agreement is entered into pursuant to Chapter 71 of the General Laws of Massachusetts, as amended, among the towns of Acton, Arlington, Belmont, Boxborough, Carlisle, Concord, Lexington, Lincoln, Stow, Sudbury, Wayland, Weston, Bolton, Dover, Lancaster, and Needham, hereinafter sometimes referred to as member towns. In consideration of the mutual promises herein contained, it is hereby agreed as follows:

SECTION I: THE REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

(A) Composition

The Regional School Committee, hereinafter sometimes referred to as "the Committee," shall consist of one member from each member city or town (the term "city" and the term "town" will hereinafter be referred to jointly as "community"). The members of the Committee shall be appointed as hereinafter provided. All members will serve until their respective successors are appointed and qualified.

(B) Staggering of Terms

The terms of office shall begin on July 1 and shall be for three years. In order to have approximately one third of the terms of office expire at the end of each year, the initial term of office of a Committee member representing a newly admitted community may be for shorter than three years, said determination to be made by vote of the Committee (or by lot, if there is more than one community being newly admitted at the same time).

(C) Appointing Authority

Members who have been appointed to the School Committee by their respective Town Moderators prior to the July 1 date on which this amended language becomes effective shall serve out the remaining one, two or three years of their term. Beginning on the July 1 when this amended language becomes effective, each member shall thereafter be appointed by vote of the Board of Selectmen of that town (or by the Mayor in the case of a city), except that in the case of a town, the town may by bylaw or charter provide for appointment of that community's member by the Moderator. The language of the preceding sentence will also apply to any community newly admitted to the District whose membership in the District commences on or after the July 1 effective date of this amended language.

(D) Subsequent Terms of Office

Just prior to the conclusion of the initial terms spoken of in the subsection (B) above, the Appointing Authority of the member community will appoint a member of the Regional School Committee to serve a three year term beginning on July 1.

(E) Vacancies

Should a vacancy occur on the Regional School Committee for any reason, the unexpired term will be filled within sixty (60) days by the Appointing Authority of the community having the vacancy.

(F) Organization

At the first meeting of the Regional School Committee held after July 1, the Committee shall organize and choose a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman from among its membership and will

choose a Secretary, who may or may not be from among its membership.

(G) Power and Duties

The Committee shall have all the powers and duties conferred and imposed upon school committees by law and conferred and imposed upon it by this Agreement, and such other additional powers and duties as are specified in Section 16 to 16I, inclusive, of Chapter 71 of the General Laws and any amendments or additions thereto now or hereafter enacted, or as may be specified in any other applicable general or special law.

(H) Weighted Voting

Each member of the Regional School Committee will exercise a weighted vote, rounded to the nearest hundredth of a percent, which will be calculated and established as of July 1 of each year as follows. The first half of the weighted vote for all of the member communities will be the same. (For example, if hypothetically there were 16 member communities, then the first half of each member's weighted vote will be 1/16 of 50%, which would be 3.125%). The second half of each member community's weighted vote will be computed as follows. Based on the official October 1 student enrollment figures as determined by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education ("DESE"), or its successor agency, a four year "rolling average" of the school's enrollment from member communities, using the most recent year's October 1 enrollment figures and those from the three preceding years, will be established. Using the same methodology, each member community's average percentage of student enrollment from all of the member communities for that period, rounded to the nearest hundredth of a percent, will be established and will be used as the second half of that member community's weighted vote to become effective on the following July 1. (For example, if over the four year period a member community supplied an average of 8.67% of the school's enrollment from all of the member communities, then, beginning on the following July 1 and extending for the next year, the second half of that member community's weighted vote would be 8.67% of 50%, which would be 4.335%). The two halves will then be added together, and rounded to the nearest hundredth of a percent, to establish that community's total weighted vote. (For example, using the hypotheticals expressed above in this paragraph, the hypothetical community's total weighted vote as of the July 1 in question would be 3.125% plus 4.335%, which would add to 7.46%). Assuming that a quorum as defined in subsection (I) below is present, and except for a vote to approve the annual budget, to incur debt, or to approve an amendment to this Agreement, a combined total of weighted votes amounting to over 50% of the weighted votes present shall constitute majority approval.

In order to approve the District's annual budget, a combined total of weighted votes equal to or exceeding 66.67% of the weighted vote of the entire Committee (i.e., not merely two thirds of the weighted vote of those present) shall be required.

In order to incur debt, a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all of the members of the Regional School Committee, without regard for the weight of the vote, shall be required. In order to approve an amendment to this Agreement, a three-fourths (3/4) vote of all of the members of the Regional School Committee, without regard for the weight of the votes, shall be required.

(I) Quorum

A majority of the total number of members of the Regional School Committee (regardless of the weighted votes) shall constitute a quorum. A quorum is necessary for the transaction of business, but an assemblage less than a quorum may adjourn a meeting.

SECTION II TYPE OF REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

The regional district school shall be a technical and vocational high school consisting of grades nine through twelve, inclusive. The Committee is also hereby authorized to establish and maintain such kinds of education, acting as trustees therefore, as may be provided by communities under the provisions of Chapter 74 of the General Laws and acts amendatory thereof, in addition thereto or dependent thereon, including courses beyond the secondary school level in accordance with the provisions of Section 37A of said Chapter 74.

SECTION III LOCATION OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT SCHOOL

The regional district school shall be located within the geographical limits of the District.

SECTION IV APPORTIONMENT AND PAYMENT OF COSTS

(A) Classification of Costs

For the purpose of apportioning assessments levied by the District against the member communities, costs shall be divided into two categories: capital costs and operating costs.

(B) Capital Costs

Capital costs shall include all expenses in the nature of capital outlay such as the cost of acquiring land, the cost of constructing, reconstructing, or adding to a school building or buildings, the cost of remodeling or making extraordinary repairs to a school building or buildings, the cost of constructing sewerage systems and sewerage treatment and disposal facilities or the cost of the purchase or use of such systems with a municipality, and any other item of capital outlay for which a regional school district may be authorized to borrow, or which could be categorized as a capital expense in conformance with applicable law and regulation, including without limitation the cost of original equipment and furnishings for such school buildings or additions, plans, architects' and consultants' fees, grading and other costs incidental to placing school buildings and additions, sewerage systems and sewerage treatment and disposal facilities, and any premises related to the foregoing in operating condition. Capital costs shall also include payment of principal of and interest on bonds, notes and other obligations issued by the District to finance capital costs.

(C) Operating Costs

Operating costs shall include all costs not included in capital costs as defined in subsection IV (B), but including interest on temporary notes issued by the District in anticipation of revenue.

(D) Apportionment of Capital Costs

1. The following method will be used for apportioning capital costs incurred prior to July 1, 2014:

After first deducting any other sources of revenue that are appropriately applied against capital costs, capital costs shall be annually apportioned to the towns which were members of the District as of June 30, 2014 for the ensuing fiscal year in the following manner. Each

member town's share of capital costs for each fiscal year shall be determined by computing the ratio which the town's pupil enrollment in the regional district school on October 1 of the fiscal year next preceding the fiscal year for which the apportionment is determined bears to the total pupil enrollment from all the member towns on the said date, except that if there is an enrollment of fewer than five pupils from any member town in the regional district school on said date, such member town shall be deemed to have an enrollment of five pupils in the regional district school. For the purpose of this subsection, in computing this apportionment the persons enrolled in courses or programs referred to in subsection IV (F) shall not be included.

2. The following method will be used for apportioning capital costs incurred on or after July 1 2014:

After first deducting any other sources of revenue that are appropriately applied against capital costs, capital costs which are incurred on or after July 1, 2014 shall be apportioned to the member communities annually for the ensuing fiscal year in the following manner (for illustration purposes only, examples of these calculations appear in Appendix A.)

a. Fifty percent (50%) of the capital costs will be apportioned to each of the member communities by computing the ratio which that community's pupil enrollment in the regional district school, using a rolling average based on the four (4) most recent annual October 1 enrollment figures, bears to total pupil enrollment in the regional district school from member communities, using a rolling average based on the four (4) most recent annual October 1 enrollment figures, except that if there were an enrollment of fewer than five (5) pupils from any member community in the regional district school on any of the four (4) most recent October 1 dates, such member community will be deemed to have had an enrollment of five (5) pupils in the regional district school on said date.

b. An additional one percent (1%) of these costs will be apportioned to each of the member communities regardless of student enrollment.

c. The balance of these costs will be apportioned by applying DESE's combined effort yield (a measure of a community's ability to pay for education using property values and household incomes) to the percentage of each community's students (as defined by foundation enrollment) that are enrolled at Minuteman. The specific calculation is as follows:

- Each member community's pupil enrollment in the regional district school, using a rolling average based on the four (4) most recent annual October 1 enrollment figures, including the five (5) pupil minimum spoken of in 2,a above, will be identified.
- This average regional enrollment figure for each member community will be compared to that community's most recent October 1 "foundation enrollment" figure (determined by DESE), and the percentage of that community's most recent foundation enrollment figure which is comprised of that town's average regional enrollment figure will be computed.
- This percentage amount will be multiplied by the lesser of the "combined effort yield" or 100% of the "foundation budget" (using the most recent "final" numbers determined by DESE) for that community, resulting in a number to be called "combined effort yield at Minuteman".
- The numbers representing each community's "combined effort yield at Minuteman" will be totaled, and each community's percentage of that total (this percentage to be called "combined effort capital assessment share") will be computed.
- Each community's "combined effort capital assessment share" will be used to calculate the

apportionment of the capital costs under this paragraph. (An example of the calculations described in this paragraph is found in the chart headed "Calculation Factor - Ch. 70 Combined Effort Capital Allocation" appearing on page 2 of Appendix A.)

In the event that changes occur at the state level in either the terminology or the calculation formulas that lie behind the terms used in this paragraph, the Committee will use a calculation approach which replicates the apportionment outcomes that would result from this paragraph if the terms of this paragraph were applied as of the effective date of this Regional Agreement.

(E) Apportionment of Operating Costs

The District will utilize the statutory method in the apportionment of operating costs. Pursuant to this method, the District will deduct from operating costs the total of any revenue from Chapter 70 state aid, Chapter 71 Regional Transportation Reimbursement, and any other revenue as determined by the Regional School Committee. The balance of all operating costs, except those described in subsection IV,F below, shall be apportioned to each member community as follows. Each member community's share of operating costs will be the sum of the following: (a) the member's required local contribution to the District as determined by the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education (hereinafter "the Commissioner"); (b) the member's share of that portion of the District's net school spending, as defined by G.L. chapter 70, section 2, that exceeds the total of the required local contributions for all of the members; and (c) the member's share of costs for transportation and all other expenditures (exclusive of capital costs as defined in subsection IV,(B) above) that are not included in the District's net school spending. A member's share of (b) and (c) above will be calculated by computing the ratio which that member's pupil enrollment in the regional district school, using a rolling average based on the four (4) most recent annual October 1 enrollment figures, bears to the total pupil enrollment in the regional district school from member communities, using a rolling average based on the four (4) most recent annual October 1 enrollment figures.

(F) Special Operating Costs

The Committee shall determine the operating costs for each fiscal year for any courses or programs which are offered by the District to persons other than secondary students attending the regular day regional vocational school. Each member community's share of such special operating costs shall be apportioned by identifying each member community's enrollment and/or participation rate in said courses or programs as compared to the overall enrollment and/or participation rate in said courses or programs. Normally said share shall be paid by the members as a special assessment in the fiscal year following the year of the course or program offering, although exceptions may be made whereby the payment will be made during the fiscal year of the course or program offering.

(G) Times of Payment of Apportioned Costs

Each member shall pay to the District in each fiscal year its proportionate share, certified as provided in subsection V(B), of the capital and operating costs. The annual share of each member community shall be paid in such amounts and at such times that at least the following percentages of such annual share shall be paid on or before the dates indicated, respectively:

September 1	25%
December 1	60%
March 1	75%
May 1	100%

(H) Apportionment of Costs to New Members

1. The share of operating costs which will be paid by a new member community will be determined consistent with subsection IV(E) except that, for purposes of calculating that community's four (4) year rolling average of pupil enrollment, the number of "out of district" students from that community which were enrolled in the regional district school during each of the applicable four (4) years will be regarded as that community's "pupil enrollment" during those years for purposes of this calculation.

2. The Regional School Committee, prior to the admittance of a new member community, will have the option of negotiating a phase in of the amount of capital costs which will be assessed to that new member community during the first three years of membership in the District. Beginning no later than the fourth year of membership and thereafter, however, the new member community will be assessed the full capital cost apportionment that will result from an application of subsection IV(D).

(I) Incurring of Debt

Other than short-term borrowing for cash-flow purposes, the incurring of debt for purposes expressed in G.L. Chapter 71, section 16(d), will require at least a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all of the members of the Regional School Committee, without regard for the weight of the votes. If such a margin exists, the Committee must seek authorization for incurring debt by following the approach set out in G.L. Chapter 71, section 16, subsection (d). If one or more member communities vote disapproval of the debt, the Committee, by a majority of the weighted vote, may then seek authorization for the debt via Chapter 71, section 16, subsection (n). If and when subsection (n) is utilized, and if the incurring of debt is approved via subsection (n), the following option will be open to a member community if a majority of the registered voters voting on the question from that community voted to disapprove the incurring of debt in the subsection (n) election. Said community may seek to withdraw from the District consistent with the procedure in Section IX, and, if the notice of withdrawal is sent consistent with Section IX within sixty (60) days of the subsection (n) election, that community will not be responsible for a share of the debt service attributable to this new debt even if that community's withdrawal from the District is not approved by a majority of the member communities as required by Section IX, or even if the withdrawal of said community is disapproved by the Commissioner. Communities whose resident voters disapprove the incurring of the debt in the subsection (n) election but which do not give a notice of withdrawal consistent with Section IX will remain members of the District and will share in the debt service for the new debt consistent with the apportionment process in this Section IV.

SECTION V BUDGET

(A) Tentative Operating and Maintenance Budget

The Committee shall annually prepare a tentative operating and maintenance budget for the ensuing fiscal year, attaching thereto provision for any installment of principal or interest to become due in such fiscal year on any bonds or other evidence of indebtedness of the District and any other capital costs to be apportioned to the member communities. The said Committee shall mail a copy to the chairman of the Board of Selectmen and the Finance or Advisory Committee, if any, of each member town at least fifteen days prior to the date on which the final operating and maintenance budget is adopted by the Committee, said copy to be itemized in a fashion consistent with DESE's chart of accounts.

(B) Final Operating and Maintenance Budget

After conducting a public hearing consistent with G.L. Chapter 71, section 38M, the Committee shall adopt an annual operating and maintenance budget for the ensuing fiscal year not later than forty-five days prior to the earliest date on which the business session of the annual town meeting of any member town is to be held, but in no event later than March 31, provided that said budget need not be adopted earlier than February 1. Said adoption of the budget will require a combined total of weighted votes equal to or exceeding 66.7% of the weighted vote of the entire Regional School Committee (i.e., not merely two-thirds of the weighted vote of those present at the meeting). Said annual operating and maintenance budget shall include debt and interest charges and any other current capital costs as separate items, and the said Committee shall apportion the amounts necessary to be raised in order to meet the said budget in accordance with the provisions of Section IV. The amounts so apportioned to each member community shall be certified by the district treasurer to the treasurer of such member community within thirty days from the dates on which the annual operating and maintenance budget is adopted by the Committee, and each such community shall, at the next annual town meeting or meeting of the city council, appropriate the amounts so certified. The annual Regional School District budget shall require approval by the local appropriating authorities of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the member communities consistent with G.L. Chapter 71, section 16B.

SECTION VI TRANSPORTATION

School transportation shall be provided by the regional school district and the cost thereof shall be apportioned to the member communities as an operating cost.

SECTION VII AMENDMENTS

(A) Limitation

This Agreement may be amended from time to time in the manner hereinafter provided, but no such amendment shall be made which shall substantially impair the rights of the holders of any bonds or notes or other evidences of indebtedness of the District then outstanding, or the right of the District to procure the means for payment thereof, provided that nothing in the section shall prevent the admission of new communities to the District and the reapportionment accordingly of capital costs of the District represented by bonds or notes of the District then outstanding and of interest thereon.

(B) Procedure

Any proposal for amendment, except a proposal for amendment providing for the withdrawal of a member community (which shall be acted upon as provided in Section IX), may be initiated by a vote of at least three-fourths (3/4) of all of the members of the Regional School Committee, without regard for the weight of the votes, so long as the proposed amendment was discussed as an agenda item at no less than one prior Committee meeting. Alternatively, a proposal for amendment may be initiated by a petition signed by at least 10 per cent of the registered voters of any one of the member communities. In the latter case, said petition shall contain at the end thereof a certification by the Municipal Clerk of such member community as to the number of registered voters in said community according to the most recent voting list and the number of signatures on the petition which appear to be the names of registered voters of

said community and said petition shall be presented to the secretary of the Committee. In either case, the Secretary of the Committee shall mail or deliver a notice in writing to the Board of Selectmen, or City Council, of each of the member communities that a proposal to amend this Agreement has been made and shall enclose a copy of such proposal (without the signatures in the case of a proposal by petition). The Selectmen of each member town shall include in the warrant for the next annual or a special town meeting called for the purpose an article stating the proposal or the substance thereof, and the City Council in each member city shall vote on said proposed amendment within two months of its submittal by the Committee. Such amendment shall take effect upon its acceptance by all of the member communities, acceptance by each community to be by a majority vote at a town meeting in the case of a town, or by majority vote of the City Council in the case of a city, and after approval by the Commissioner.

(C) Approval by Commissioner

All amendments to this Agreement are subject to the approval of the Commissioner.

SECTION VIII ADMISSION OF NEW COMMUNITIES

By an amendment of this Agreement adopted under and in accordance with Section VII above, any other community or communities may be admitted to the regional school district. The effective date for the admission of each such new member shall be the July 1 following the adoption by the District of such an amendment, the acceptance by all of the existing members, and the approval by the Commissioner. All of the above approvals must be completed by December 31 for the new member to be admitted on the following July 1. Such admission also shall be subject to compliance with such provisions of law as may be applicable and such terms as may be set forth in such amendment.

SECTION IX WITHDRAWAL

(A) Procedure

Consistent with 603 CMR 41.03(2) the withdrawal of a member community can occur only as of July 1 of a given fiscal year. A notice of desire to withdraw must be initiated by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the legislative body of the member community, which must occur no less than three (3) years prior to the desired July 1 withdrawal date. The Municipal Clerk of the community seeking to withdraw must notify the Regional School Committee in writing within seven (7) days of the vote of the legislative body that the two-thirds (2/3) vote has occurred, and the receipt of the notice of withdrawal will be acknowledged in the minutes at a Regional School Committee meeting. Within seven (7) days of its receipt, the District's Clerk will notify in writing the Municipal Clerks of all of the member communities that a notice of withdrawal has been received. Once this notice of withdrawal is given, it may not be rescinded without the unanimous consent of the members of the Regional School Committee. The withdrawal of a community will be allowed only if it is approved by a majority of the other member communities. A failure of the legislative body of a member community to vote disapproval of a requested withdrawal within sixty (60) days of the notice of withdrawal being submitted to the Regional School Committee will constitute approval. During this three (3) year notice period, the departing member will continue to be responsible for the following:

1. Payment of its share of operating costs apportioned by way of subsection IV(E).

2. Payment of its share of capital costs apportioned by way of subsection IV(D), except that no apportionment for a withdrawing member will be made for a share of debt that was disapproved by the voters of said withdrawing member in a G.L. Chapter 71, subsection 16(n) election and after said disapproval a notice of withdrawal was sent by said member consistent with the terms of subsection IV(I). Similarly, no apportionment for a withdrawing member will be made for a share of any debt incurred after the member has given a notice of withdrawal.

3. The withdrawing community shall continue to have a right to appoint and be represented by its member on the School Committee will full voting authority until the date of final withdrawal, on which date the withdrawing community member's term shall end.

(B) Continuing Obligations After Withdrawal

A departing member shall have no right or claim to the assets of the District, and a departing member shall continue to be responsible, after withdrawal, for the following:

1. Payment of its share of capital costs incurred prior to withdrawal apportioned by way of subsection IV(D), provided that for purposes of this apportionment the withdrawn community's enrollment shall be deemed to be its enrollment determined pursuant to subsection IV(D) immediately prior to the date of its notice of intent to withdraw, except that:

a. no apportionment for a withdrawing member will be made for a share of debt that was disapproved by the voters of said withdrawing member in a G.L. Chapter 71, subsection 16(n) election and after which disapproval a notice of withdrawal was sent by said member consistent with the terms of subsection IV(I); and,

b. no apportionment for a withdrawing member will be made for a share of debt that was incurred by the District following receipt of the withdrawing member's notice of intent to withdraw, such notice having not been rescinded.

(C) Commissioner's Approval

Consistent with 603 CMR 41.03(2) the withdrawal of any member requires the approval of the Commissioner of Education, and all requisite approvals must be obtained no later than the December 31 preceding the July 1 effective date of withdrawal.

(D) Amendment to Agreement

The withdrawal of a member which occurs consistent with the above will, upon its completion, constitute an amendment to the Regional Agreement, regardless of the fact that said amendment was not processed via the procedure contained in Article VII.

SECTION X TUITION STUDENTS

The Committee may accept for enrollment in the regional district school pupils from communities other than member communities on a tuition basis. Income received by the District from tuition pupils and not previously deducted from operating costs shall be deducted from the total operating costs in the next annual budget to be prepared after the receipt thereof, prior to apportionment under Section IV to the member communities, provided that income identified as a contribution to capital costs shall be applied to the capital budget.

SECTION XI FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year for the district shall run from July 1 to June 30.

SECTION XII SUBMISSION FOR APPROVAL

This Agreement shall be submitted for approval pursuant to the applicable provisions of Chapter 71 of the General Laws.

778239v1



Proposed Amendments to the Minuteman Regional Vocational School District Agreement

Twelve member towns formed the Minuteman Technical and Vocational Regional School District by Agreement adopted in 1970. Four additional towns joined the District shortly thereafter and the Agreement was last amended in 1980. The revisions now proposed for adoption under this article would make the following changes:

1. Uses a 4-year rolling average where student enrollment is a factor in determining assessment of annual operating and capital costs to member communities in place of the current single-year figure.
2. Introduces weighted voting for most School Committee actions with 50% of vote strength shared equally among members and 50% based on the 4-year rolling average enrollment. Incurring of new debt would require at least a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of all of the members of the Regional School Committee and future amendments to the Agreement would require three-fourths (3/4) majority of all members of the Regional School Committee, each without regard for the weight of the votes, before the matter could be referred for consideration by the member communities.
3. Authorizes the School Committee to negotiate terms for capital assessments to a new member community such that the new member would pay its full share no later than year four. Admission would be subject to acceptance by ALL of the existing member communities and the Massachusetts Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education. Language in the amended agreement has also been revised to contemplate the potential admission of a city to the District.
4. Establishes a revised procedure and conditions for withdrawal by a member community from the District. Where withdrawal under the current Agreement requires affirmative town meeting action by all other member communities, withdrawal under the revised Agreement could take place unless rejected by a majority of member communities. In either case, the withdrawal and associated terms must be approved by the Commissioner before it may occur. (See also item 7, below)
5. Revises the formula by which annual capital costs are assessed such that each member community would pay a base contribution of 1% of the annual total. 50 % would be assessed based on the 4-year average enrollment share. The balance would be assessed by taking into account certain of the factors used by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in calculating State aid to education. The formula for assessment of any previously issued debt, which is calculated more strictly on single-year enrollment share, would be unaffected.
6. Provides that any income identified as a contribution to capital costs (ie such as charges to any new members or potential “facility fees” that might be paid on behalf of tuition students from non-member communities) would be applied to the capital budget and reduce assessments to member communities.
7. Requires the School Committee to first seek authorization for incurring debt following the current method that involves town meeting votes. In this case, a negative vote by any one member community results in disapproval for all. IF this happens, the amended Agreement would then permit (but would not require) the School Committee to initiate a second attempt via District-wide election, as allowed under MGL 71 section 16(n), in which results of the aggregate vote would determine the outcome. If a majority of voters in a particular member community voted to disapprove the issuance of debt in such an election, that community would have the option of moving for withdrawal from the District without obligation for a share of the new debt thus incurred. (See also item 4, above.)
8. Raises the threshold for initiating future amendments to the Agreement to require a vote of three-fourths (3/4) of all members of the Regional School Committee members, without regard for the weight of the vote. The current requirement for subsequent approval by the legislative body of every member community is unchanged.

Adoption of the amended Regional Agreement will proceed under the terms of the current Agreement and thus requires an affirmative town meeting vote in each of its 16 member communities, as well as final approval by the Commissioner.

Summary prepared by Carrie Flood, School Committee Secretary and Chair of the Regional Agreement Amendment Subcommittee and updated to reflect final votes taken by the School Committee on 3/11/14.



Point - By - Point Comparison

Subject	Current Agreement	Proposed Agreement
Annual Assessment	Based on most recent year's enrollment share.	Based on 4-year rolling average enrollment share.
Capital Costs	Based on most recent year's enrollment share.	Each member community pays base 1% of yearly total. 50% is based on 4-year rolling average enrollment share and remainder considers certain factors used in calculating Chapter 70 state aid to education along with enrollment.
School Committee Votes	Each member town has one vote for all questions.	Weighted votes with 50% of vote strength shared equally among members and 50% based on the 4-year rolling average enrollment. Incurring debt is specifically excepted and would require approval by 2/3 of all school committee members regardless of enrollment share or actual attendance at meeting.
Admission of New Members	New member would carry full share of capital costs from day one. Current language does not account for admission of a city.	School Committee could negotiate gradual 4-year "buy-in", subject to approval by all of the existing member communities. Language contemplates membership by city.
Withdrawal of Members	Requires approval by all other member communities and the exiting member remains liable for a share of all debt approved while a member, even if its own residents voted against authorizing that debt.	Could occur unless disapproved by a majority of other members. Qualified students could still be accepted on a space-available, tuition basis. IF withdrawal is properly pursued following a District-wide election that authorizes new debt, the subject community would not be liable for a share of the debt that its own voters disapproved in that election.
Contribution to Capital Costs	Current agreement is silent on this point.	Must be applied to reduce capital assessments to members.
Authorization for New Debt	As this is not specified in the current agreement, either of two routes may be followed at the School Committee's option under applicable state law. The method involving town meeting votes, whereby a single community has the power to block borrowing, has historically been used by the District.	Specifies that the current method must be pursued first, however, if rejected by one or more communities, the School Committee would then be permitted (but would not be required) to initiate a second attempt with a District-wide election. In this case, the aggregate vote would determine the outcome.
Amendments	May be initiated by majority vote of the School Committee (or by petition as allowed by law) and requires approval by all member communities.	May be initiated by a 3/4 vote of the School Committee (or by petition as allowed by law). The current requirement for approval by all member communities is unchanged.

Commissioner's approval applies when required by law.

“Type A” Agreement – To be used with a Non-Member community

Agreement Under G.L. Chapter 76, Section 12

Whereas the (town or city) of (name) (hereinafter “Municipality”) is currently not a member of the Minuteman Regional Vocational School District (hereinafter “Minuteman”), but whereas the school committee of said Municipality (hereinafter the “Non-Member School Committee”) desires to enable eligible students who reside in said community to attend Minuteman during the 20____ to 20____ school year (and through to the completion of the School’s four year program consistent with paragraph 5 below), and whereas, as a matter of School Committee policy, Minuteman will accept no students from non-member municipalities unless the school committee of said municipality commits to an Agreement of this sort under G.L. Chapter 76, section 12, and unless, as specified in paragraph 6 below, the student has been accepted via Minuteman’s normal “Admissions Policy,” the Non-Member School Committee and Minuteman agree as follows:

1. This Agreement is intended to constitute an agreement between two school committees as authorized by G.L. Chapter 76, section 12.

2. The Non-Member School Committee agrees that in addition to the per student tuition payment established consistent with G.L. Chapter 74, section 7C, and regulations attendant thereto, the Non-Member School Committee or the Municipality will also pay to Minuteman during the year in question a per student “facility fee”. Said per student facility fee will be calculated by identifying the District’s debt service payment for the year in question (i.e., net of any State reimbursement) and dividing said payment by the District’s most recent October 1 enrollment figure. This facility fee will be paid in installments at the same time and in the same proportions as the tuition payments that the Municipality will pay to Minuteman. Should the student withdraw from Minuteman before the completion of the school year, the facility fee will be prorated to the same extent that the tuition payment is prorated.

3. In the event that either the Massachusetts Legislature through statute or the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education through regulation establishes a mandatory capital facility fee for non-member communities, the facility fee spoken of in paragraph 2 will be adjusted accordingly in light of the language of said statute or regulation.

4. Minuteman will, at appropriate times, provide the Non-Member School Committee and/or the Municipality with the names and identifying information of the Municipality’s resident students who are enrolled in Minuteman.

5. Unless and until terminated consistent with paragraph 7 by one or both parties prior to April 1 of a given year, this Agreement will renew for an additional year at a time without limit. Regardless of whether this Agreement is terminated or renewed, any student who is enrolled in Minuteman pursuant to and during the life of this Agreement, and who continues to be in good standing at Minuteman, will be allowed to complete the four year program under the terms and conditions of this Agreement, contingent on the Non-Member School Committee and/or Municipality paying the annual student tuition and facility fee.

6. This Agreement in no way guarantees the admission of a particular student, and it in no way modifies or affects Minuteman’s normal “Admissions Policy”, which is incorporated herein by reference.

7. This Agreement may be terminated as of June 30 of a given year upon a vote to terminate taken by the Non-Member School Committee or by the Minuteman Regional School Committee, followed by a written notice of said vote delivered no later than April 1 of the given year to the Superintendent of Schools of the Minuteman Regional School District, if the termination decision is made by the Non-Member School Committee, or to the Superintendent of Schools in the Municipality, if the termination decision is being made by Minuteman. It should be understood that one of the reasons on the basis of which Minuteman may terminate this Agreement is to preserve student spaces for member communities or to reserve spaces for former Member communities which have committed to reserve a certain number of student spaces.

8. This Agreement will be effective upon the later date of execution noted below.

On behalf of the
Non-Member School Committee

On behalf of Minuteman

Name printed

Dr. Edward Bouquillon
Superintendent

Signature

Date

Date

“Type C” Agreement – To be used with a Non-Member community which had formerly been a member and which desires to reserve a certain number of student spaces.

Agreement Under G.L. Chapter 76, Section 12

Whereas the (town or city) of (name) (hereinafter “Municipality”) formerly had been a member of the Minuteman Regional Vocational School District (hereinafter “Minuteman”) but has now withdrawn from the District, but whereas the school committee of said Municipality (hereinafter the “Non-Member School Committee”) desires to enable at least a certain minimum number of eligible students who reside in said community to attend Minuteman during the school years covered by this Agreement (and through to the completion of the School’s four year program consistent with paragraph 6 below), and whereas, as a matter of School Committee policy, Minuteman will accept no students from non-member municipalities unless the school committee of said municipality commits to an Agreement of this sort under G.L. Chapter 76, section 12, and unless, as specified in paragraph 7 below, the student has been accepted via Minuteman’s normal “Admissions Policy,” the Non-Member School Committee and Minuteman agree as follows:

1. This Agreement is intended to constitute an agreement between two school committees as authorized by G.L. Chapter 76, section 12.

2. The Non-Member School Committee agrees that in addition to the per student tuition payment established consistent with G.L. Chapter 74, section 7C, and regulations attendant thereto, the Non-Member School Committee or the Municipality will also pay to Minuteman during the year in question a per student “facility fee”. Said per student facility fee will be calculated by identifying the District’s debt service payment for the year in question (i.e., net of any State reimbursement) and dividing said payment by the District’s most recent October 1 enrollment figure. This facility fee will be paid in installments at the same time and in the same proportions as the tuition payments that the Municipality will pay to Minuteman.

3. Subject to the understanding that any student attending Minuteman must have been accepted via Minuteman’s normal “Admissions Policy,” during the ____ year period extending from _____ to _____, the Non-Member School Committee covered by this Agreement will be guaranteed no fewer than _____ student spaces per year at Minuteman. Should not all of these student spaces be filled by students from that Municipality in a given year, the Non-Member School Committee must still pay the per student facility fee (as expressed in paragraph 2) for each of these spaces, although the Non-Member School Committee will not be liable to pay a tuition cost for the unused spaces. Should more than the guaranteed number of students from this Municipality attend Minuteman in any given year, the Non-Member School Committee will pay both a facility fee and a tuition cost for each additional student.

4. In the event that either the Massachusetts Legislature through statute or the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education through regulation establishes a mandatory capital facility fee for non-member communities, the facility fee spoken of in paragraph 2 will be adjusted accordingly in light of the language of said statute or regulation.

5. Minuteman will, at appropriate times, provide the Non-Member School Committee and/or the Municipality with the names and identifying information of the Municipality’s resident students who are enrolled in Minuteman.

6. Unless a new Agreement is executed prior to April 1 of the last year of this Agreement, this Agreement and the guarantee of a certain number of student spaces will end at the conclusion of this Agreement. Regardless of whether this Agreement is terminated or renewed, any student who is enrolled in Minuteman pursuant to and during the life of this Agreement, and who continues to be in good standing at Minuteman, will be allowed to complete the four year program under the terms and conditions of this Agreement, contingent on the Non-Member School Committee and/or Municipality paying the annual student tuition and facility fee.

7. This Agreement in no way guarantees the admission of a particular student, and it in no way modifies or affects Minuteman’s normal “Admissions Policy,” which is incorporated herein by reference.

8. This Agreement may not be terminated by the Non-Member School Committee during its term, but it may be terminated effective June 30 of a given year during its term by the Minuteman Regional School Committee if the Minuteman Regional School Committee determines that it must preserve student spaces for member communities. If such a termination decision is made, a written notice of said vote must be delivered no later than April 1 of the given year to the Superintendent of Schools in the Municipality.

9. This Agreement will be effective upon the later date of execution noted below.

On behalf of the
Non-Member School Committee

On behalf of Minuteman

Name printed

Dr. Edward Bouquillon
Superintendent

Signature

Date

Date

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION OPTIONS COMMITTEE
School Tours Subcommittee

During the October 2014, members of a subgroup of the Vocational Education Options Committee have visited one or more of the following four schools:

1. Nashoba Valley Technical High School (Westford)
2. Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School (Marlborough)
3. Joseph P. Keefe Regional Technical School (Framingham)
(also called the South Middlesex Regional Vocational School)
4. Minuteman Regional Vocational Technical School (Lexington)

During the tours of these facilities led by administration and staff members we were considering:

- 1) Which vocational and academic services valuable to the students from Sudbury considering a vocational education do these schools provide?
- 2) How would we rank these schools with respect to one another as an option for Sudbury students?
- 3) Various contributory factors included:
 - a) Commitment to standards by the management team
 - b) The range of offerings, both academic and vocational
 - c) A sustainable business model for capital and operating costs
 - d) A focus on students
 - e) The services that the school will provide within those factors it can control
 - f) What circumstances affect the school that it can not control
 - g) Can the school accommodate Sudbury's students?

The following discussion highlighted characteristics of the schools (in no particular order):

- Nashoba has a “small school environment” which we found attractive. The superintendent is approaching retirement, and will probably promote her replacement from within. The school is roughly the same distance from Sudbury as Minuteman Regional. The presence of the engineering academy was attractive. The performing arts program, not just acting but backstage and broadcast production skills, was specific to Nashoba. The superintendent and administration is very

- politically active at the state level. Nashoba recently completed a major renovation and will use an MSBA grant to replace its roof soon.
- Assabet leadership will transition soon; a new principal and superintendent have been identified. The size of this school contributes to its exceptionally broad range of offerings and the range of equipment available to its students. Assabet also has an impressive engineering academy. It is closer to Sudbury than either Minuteman or Nashoba, reducing travel time and costs. There is a strong health and nursing program. Assabet is currently engaged in a \$60 million renovation program under its current regional agreement.
 - Keefe's vocational program is more traditional than that of the other schools we visited. Further, we sensed that the school was not actively seeking placements from out-of-town systems. Keefe has no language program, and no Advanced Placement (AP) courses.
 - Minuteman offers an impressive array of programs, but the physical plant is not attractive. Plans for a new or updated facility await approval by the district. The nature and size of the new facility, as well as its funding, are still in flux. Minuteman charges a fee for Special Education (SPED) students to both member and non-member towns; this may be changing but details are not available yet.

Generally, all the schools—both administrators and teachers—showed a strong sense of pride in their institutions, which they were enthusiastic to show us and very generous with their time and their follow-up. The kids we spoke with were also articulate supporters of their schools and pleased with their experiences. The subcommittee was very impressed with the opportunities offered in the vocational programs, the dual vocational/academic education permitting students to develop both hands-on and intellectual skills. Many of us were surprised that over 50% of students in all of these vocational schools went on to two or four year colleges; indeed, some programs (e.g. biotech) require and expect a college degree for career placement. All the schools showed creditable MCAS performance, and all except Minuteman were planning on administering PARCC as well. The generally higher per-pupil education costs associated with providing the equipment used for metal-working, carpentry, robotics, laboratory work, and other programs were offset in part by various relationships with local industries and employers. All of the schools have the capacity to admit vocational students from Sudbury. Generally, the preferred path would be to send our students as tuition (non-member) students for a few years to allow

us to test how the relationship with the new school would work, and then to proceed to join the district when our experience and future needs warrant it.

David Levington obtained statements from parents and former graduates of the vocational program at Minuteman, indicating a very high degree of satisfaction with their experience. It is difficult to determine how much of this satisfaction is due to the specific programs at Minuteman and how much is attributable to the vocational experience itself.

Questions addressed:

- 1) Are there vocational options outside the Minuteman Regional School District that would serve the needs of Sudbury students?
Yes, basically any of the schools we visited present an attractive vocational and academic offering.
- 2) How would we rank the alternatives to Minuteman based upon our site visits?
 - a) Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School
 - b) Nashoba Valley Technical High School
 - c) Joseph P. Keefe Regional Technical School

The subcommittee ranked Assabet ahead of Nashoba primarily on the basis of the size and concomitant breadth of offerings and its proximity to Sudbury (affecting both time and cost of transporting students). Nashoba was a very compelling second choice, while Keefe presents an excellent alternative that does not generate the enthusiasm of the top two choices.

Members attended the site visits marked “X”.

Member	Assabet	Nashoba	Keefe	Minuteman
John Baranowsky	-	-	-	X
Pat Brown	X	X	X	X
Risa Burns	X	X	-	-
Ivar Henningson	X	-	-	-
Elena Kleifges	X	X	X	X
Stephen Lambert	X	-	-	-
Dave Levington	X	-	-	X
Paul Lynch	X	X	-	X
Dave Manjarrez	X	X	X	X
Scott Nassa	X	X	X	-

Items recommending Assabet include:

Language offerings (considering Mandarin)

Global Certification

Availability of Advanced Placement courses

The Engineering Academy

High level of female students (55 male/45 female)

Health program, including nursing

Level 2 school (one student away from level1)

State of the art engineering facilities

Engages in competitions (including SkillsUSA)

Low instructor turnover, particularly technical instructors

Many and varied elective offerings

Breadth of programs

Positive learning environment

Offers both auto-body and auto-repair programs

Close to Sudbury

College psychology course offered through Quinsigamond College

Vocational Education Options Committee: Comparison Data of Three Vocational Education School Districts

	Minuteman (Lexington)	Assabet (Marlboro)	Nashoba (Westford)
Logistics			
Distance from Sudbury Center to School	11.6 Miles (21 minutes)	10.0 miles	14.4 miles
Tenure of Principal	Principal since 2011 (has since left to go to Assabet)	10	Asst Principal 11 years
Tenure of Superintendent	Joined in 2007; has contract through 2017	0	19 years
Student: Teacher Ratio	9 to 1	10.6	13.1 to 1
Year plant was last renovated/built	1970s	2013	2013 - 2014
Website is current and up-to-date	Mostly	yes	yes
Accountability Level (1-5)	2	2	one
Academic Offerings			
English	4 yrs	4 yrs	4 years
Mathematics	4yrs	4yrs	4 years
Foreign Language	Spanish, French, Latin	Spanish	Spanish - 4 years
Science	4 Yrs	4 Yrs	4 years
Hands On Learning Opportunities in Academic Classrooms	1 year exploration; 3 years CTE	yes	yes
Social Studies	4 years		4 years
Number of AP classes in English	Honors only; 7 took AP exam	Literature and English Compisition	1
Number of AP classes in Math	Honors only; 3 took AB and 1 took BC	Calculus AB	1
Number of AP classes in Foreign Languages	None; 2 took German		
Number of AP classes in Science	Honors only; 1 took APES	Biology and Physics	1 - Biology
Number of AP classes in History	Honors only	US History, Government	2
Number of AP classes in Social Sciences	None		
Offers AP Computer Science (Y/N)	N		Programming and Web Development Cluster
Industry Aligned Curriculum		yes	yes

Vocational Education Options Committee: Comparison Data of Three Vocational Education School Districts

	Minuteman (Lexington)	Assabet (Marlboro)	Nashoba (Westford)
Offers Internship Opportunities	Y-has a placement office		yes
Local Actual Academic Attainment-Perkins Report	2012	2013?	
Academic Attainment – Language Arts	81.25%	85.00%	92% proficient or higher
Academic Attainment - Mathematics	67.19%	68.00%	77 % proficient or higher
Technical Skill Attainment 2S1	72.51%	71.00%	77% proficient or higher
Completion 3S1	96.35%	%	
Graduation Rates 4S1	91.11%	90.80%	96% (2013)
Placement 5S1	98.82%	%	
Nontraditional by Gender Participation	16.18%	avail	
Nontraditional by Gender Completion	18.02%	avail	
Select Vocational Programs			
Advanced Manufacturing (Y/N)	N but planning to in 1 - 2 years time	yes	machine tool technology
Green Energy/Clean Energy	N	N	
Hybrid Automotive	N	N	no
Traditional Automotive	Y	yes, 470604 all schools offer, 470603 only AV & Nsb	yes
Accounting/Finance	N		banking, marketing, retail cluster
Engineering	N		engineering academy
Bioengineering/bio technology	Y		
Nursing and Allied Health	Y (Health Assisting)	yes	dental and health assisting
Robotics	Y		engineering technology

Vocational Education Options Committee: Comparison Data of Three Vocational Education School Districts

	Minuteman (Lexington)	Assabet (Marlboro)	Nashoba (Westford)
Computer Science/Computer Programming	N		Programming and Web Development Cluster
Electrical Wiring/Electrician	Y		electrical technology
Other High Need Areas	Telecommunications, Programming		TV and media broadcasting, theatre arts
Discipline and Attendance			
% of students with fewer than 10 absences per year	44.00%	50.00%	76%
% of students with at least 1 suspension	20.50%	10.10%	22.2
Financial Implications			
In district Cost for Sudbury	\$ 30, 209	TBD	
Cost for out of district students	\$19,063		
Student and Faculty Information			
Enrollment	715	1026	711
Sudbury Grade 9	8	0	0
Sudbury Grade 12	3	0	0
In District Student Body	415		
Out of District Student Body	300		
Faculty vacancies-academic	0		1-2 math teacher
Faculty vacancies-vocational	1		0
Student retention rates	93.50%	96.80%	
4 year graduation rate (DESE Report card)	81.1% adjusted rate is 92.2%	90.80%	96%
Common planning time for teachers			
Industry recertification of vocational instructors			
Percentage of faculty deemed "high quality"	99.20%	98%	
Percentage of faculty teaching within field	95.00%	95.90%	
Enrichment			

Vocational Education Options Committee: Comparison Data of Three Vocational Education School Districts

	Minuteman (Lexington)	Assabet (Marlboro)	Nashoba (Westford)
Number of Varsity Sports Teams (Men)	baseball, basketball, tennis, cross country, golf, swimming, hockey, soccer, wrestling, football, lacrosse, track		football, basketball, baseball, volleyball,
Number of Varsity Sports Teams (Women)	basketball, cheerleading, cross country, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, track		softball
Number of JV Teams (Men)	baseball, basketball, tennis, cross country, golf, swimming, hockey, soccer, wrestling, football, lacrosse, track		baseball, basketball, volleyball, football
Number of JV Teams (Women)	basketball, cheerleading, cross country, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, track		softball
Number of vocational clubs	4		5+
Number of academic clubs	12		2
Partners and Community Outreach			
Number of industry partners			
Number of industry partners on advisory board			
Number of university partners	NEU (ACE program)		4 + articulation agreements
Post Graduation Plans			
Career/Workforce	23%	20%	
Military	8%	5%	
2 year college	21%	14%	

Vocational Education Options Committee: Comparison Data of Three Vocational Education School Districts

	Minuteman (Lexington)	Assabet (Marlboro)	Nashoba (Westford)
4 year college	39%	41%	
Apprentice Program Opportunities			
Recruitment			
Actively recruits in-district students	Yes from 2 districts		
Actively recruits out-of-district students			
Innovation			
Describe innovative strategies to keep school sustainable			
MCAS			
% of students obtaining advanced on Math	31%	29%	44%
% of students obtaining proficient on Math	38%	38%	33%
% of students obtaining Needs Improvement on Math	14%	13%	7%
% of students obtaining advanced on ELA	23%	15%	28%
% of students obtaining proficient on ELA	62%	71%	64%
% of students obtaining Needs Improvement on ELA	25%	25%	16%
% of students obtaining advanced on Science/Tech and Engineering	19%	21%	23%
% of students obtaining proficient on Science/Tech and Engineering	46%	50%	19%
% of students obtaining Needs Improvement on Science/Tech and Engineering	25%	25%	20%
Technology			
Number of chrome books or computers per student	389 new computers; 59 donated	1/1.2	
Campus has wi-fi	Yes but was not deemed robust as of 2011	100%	

Vocational Education Options Committee: Comparison Data of Three Vocational Education School Districts

	Minuteman (Lexington)	Assabet (Marlboro)	Nashoba (Westford)
Workshops have modern equipment and machinery		Yes	yes
Teachers keep class websites	Did not find any on Minuteman site		yes
SAT Scores			
Number of Tests Taken	91	127	55
Reading	486	446	397
Writing	457	434	387
Math	476	450	418

Other notes:

Has a job placement office; students can do co-ops their last quarter of junior year and all of senior year
 Art & Poetry Magazine, Chorus, Distributive Education Clubs of America, Future Farmers of America (FFA), Math Team, National Honor Society, SkillsUSA, Student Government, Chess Club, Class Yearbook, Drama Club, Engineering Club, Gay Straight Alliance (G.S.A), Music Club, Peer Mediators, Student Ambassadors

L-S SAT Scores
Number of Students: 357
Reading: 591
Writing: 593
Math: 617

virtual high school

ENDE	CLASS	PROGRAM	NEXT STEP AFTER GRADUATION	COMMENTS
M	2011	Electrical	USMC (currently CPL)	Very very supportive of Minuteman Guidance Dep't was supportive
M	1988	Culinary	AA degree, then BS, works in field	very happy there
F	2012	Culinar	Fitchburg	Tough first year, back and forth to LS, graduated LS long distance to see school friends
M	2000	Environmental Science	Umass Amherst, BS; works in field in Mo	very pleased, excellent, nationally ranked programs earned a certificate, offered good job in Jr year
M	2001	Electrical	works as an electrician	good
M	2000	Robotics	College, now working in HVAC	very good for him, credit MM for motivating him strong believer in Minuteman
M	2003	Health	job, still there, 15 years	I loved Minuteman
M	2010	Engineering Technology	Umass Lowell	It was very good for me
M	2002	Auto, Plumbing	Works in Construction	very good, excellent reading program worked out very well, excellent teachers
F	008-201	Culinary	passed MCAS, works in field	IEP
M	2010	PreEngineering	Wentworth	Excellent, LS no help, more specialized attention have to choose a program too early
M	2011	Pre-engineering	WPI	they don't have pre-engineering any more, they phased it out, it was good if I had known they were going to phase it out I wouldn't have sent him
M	PG	Environmental	got a license got work	OK, LS grad
F	PG	Data Processing		satisfactory
M	PG	Biotech	not enough skills to get a good job in NE	working in another field, no biotech production jobs around good staff, good equipment
F	PG	Hospitality	1 yr PG, then to College for hospitality	worked out well
M	PG	Computers	Military	very satisfied, son needed structure, Parochial HS, then MM, then military
				he got a lot out of it Principal was supportive really individualized attention Knows three other alums who live/work in town personal problem with a tuition student who was eventually expelled liked the structure (none at LS) teacher got him a high paying summer job at Hanscom (wastewater) felt tuition students were held to different standards I served on parents advisory committee robotics one of the best schools in the state he got the Abigail Adams Award they taught him how to write won national competition couldn't be happier, well prepared

Chapter 74 Approved Program Matrix

State Title	CIP Title	CIP Code	AVRV	Keefe	MM	Nshba
Agricultural & Natural Resources						
Environmental Science & Technology	Environmental Engineering Technology Environmental Technology	150507			Y	
Horticulture	Applied Horticulture/Horticulture Operations, General	10601		Y	Y	

Arts & Communication Services Occupational

Design & Visual Communications	Design & Visual Communications	500401	Y	Y	Y	Y
Graphic Communications	Graphic Communications	100301		Y		
Radio & Television Broadcasting	Radio & Television	90701				Y

Business & Consumer Services Occupational

Cosmetologist	Cosmetologist/Cosmetologist, General	120401	Y	Y	Y, PS	Y
Business Technology	Business/Office Automation/Technology/Data Entry	520407	Y	Y		
Marketing	Consumer Merchandising/Retail Management	190203			Y	Y

Construction Occupational

Carpentry	Carpentry/Carpenter	460201	Y	Y	Y	Y
Electricity	Electrician	460302	Y	Y	Y	Y
HVAC - Heating Ventilation & Air Conditioning	HVAC - Heating Ventilation & Air Conditioning	470201	Y		Y	
Painting & Design Technologies	Painting/Painter and Wall Coverer	460408	Y			
Plumbing	Plumbing Technology/Plumber	460503	Y	Y	Y	Y

Education Occupational

Early Childhood Education & Teaching	Early Education & Care	131210		Y	Y	Y
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Health Services Occupational

Dental Assisting	Dental Assisting/Assistant	510601				Y
Health Assisting	Health Services/Allied Health/Health Sciences, General	510000	Y	Y	Y	Y
Practical Nursing LPN	Practical Nursing LPN	511613	Y			

Hospitality & Tourism Occupational

Culinary Arts	Cooking & Related Culinary Arts, General	120500	Y	Y	Y	Y
Hospitality Management	Hospitality Administration/Management, General	520901			Y	Y

Chapter 74 Approved Program Matrix

State Title	CIP Title	CIP Code	AVRV	Keefe	MM	Nshba
Information Technology Services Occupational						
Programming & Web Development	Computer Programming/Programmer, General	110201	Y		Y	Y
Information Support Services & Networking	Information Sciences/Studies	10401		Y		

Legal & Protective Services

Criminal Justice	Criminal Justice/Police Service	430107				
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Manufacturing, Engineering & Technological Occupation

Biotechnology	Biomedical Technology/Technician	150401	Y		Y	
Drafting	Drafting & Design Technology	151301	Y		Out	
Electronics	Electrical, Electronic and Communications Engineering Technology, G	150303				Y
Engineering Technology	Engineering Technology, General	150000			Y	Y
Machine Tool Technology	Machine Tool Technology/Machinist	480501	Y			Y
Metal Fabricating & Joining Technologies	Precision Metal Working Other	480599	Y	Y	Y	
Robotics & Automation Technology	Electromechanical Technology/Electromechanical Engineering	150403			Y	
Telecommunications - Fiberoptics	Telecommunications Technology/Technician	150305			Y	

Transportation Occupation Cluster

Automotive Collision, Repair & Refinishing	Automobile/Automotive Mechanics Technology/TechnicianMechanic	470603	Y			Y
Automotive Technology	Automobile/Collision & Repair Technology/Technician	470604	Y	Y	Y, PS	Y

Exploratory

Exploratory	Exploratory	990100	Y	Y	Y	Y
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ASSABET VALLEY TECH

01/08/2015

LINE BY LINE GLOSSARY MEMBERSHIP	MEMBERSHIP COSTS BASED ON ASSESSMENTS *					LINE BY LINE GLOSSARY TUITIONS	TUITION COSTS				
HEADERS	FY2015 PER STUDENT AVERAGE	ASSABET	MINUTEMAN	\$ DIFFERENCE - MINUTEMAN MORE /(MINUTEMAN LESS)	% DIFFERENCE - MINUTEMAN MORE /(MINUTEMAN LESS)	HEADERS	FY2015 PER STUDENT AVERAGE AN	ASSABET	MINUTEMAN	\$ DIFFERENCE MINUTEMAN MORE /(MINUTEMAN LESS)	% DIFFERENCE MINUTEMAN MORE /(MINUTEMAN LESS)
ASSESSMENT BASED FTE STUDENTS from DESE and the schools' own records and reports.	TOTAL MEMBER FTE'S ONLY	730	431	299	-40.96%	SUDBURY ENROLMENT OF 25 STUDENT FOR CONSISTENCY WITH MEMBERSHIP ASSESSMENT ENROLLMENT	SUDBURY TUITION STUDENT ENROLLMENT	25	25	0	0%
SUDBURY'S 25 FY15 ASSESSMENT BASED FTE STUDENTS. 25 Sudbury students is used in both membership and tuition enrollment to an equal comparison.	SUDBURY MEMBER STUDENT ENROLLMENT	25	25	0	0%	DESE FY2015 TUITION RATE OR EACH SCHOOL FROM THE DESE WEB SITE.	PER STUDENT DESE TUITION RATE	\$16,587.00	\$18,467.00	\$1,880.00	11.33%
From each school's online Fy2015 Budget Book	TOTAL MEMBER ASSESSMENT	\$8,619,563	\$9,645,000	\$1,025,437	11.90%	ESTIMATED BASED ON BUDGETED TOTAL TRANSPORTATION COSTS DIVIDED BY MEMBER ENROLLMENT.	TRANSPORTATION PER STUDENT	\$1,303.93	\$2,784.22	\$1,480.29	113.52%
Assabet's estimated assessment is \$8.6 mill divided by 730 member students times 25 Sudbury students	SUDBURY'S FY2015 TOTAL ASSESSMENT FOR EACH SCHOOL (INCLUDING MEMBER TRANSPORTATION) FOR 25 STUDENTS	\$295,191	\$541,644	\$246,453	83.49%	ESTIMATED CAPITAL FEE CHARGED BY EACH SCHOOL BASED ON NEW CAPITAL DEBT	MINUTEMAN ONLY PER TUITION STUDENT CAPITAL FEE BASED ON \$3.3 MILLION / 431				N/A
<i>Capital debt that has been reported by Assabet and Minuteman</i>						ASSABET DOES NOT CHARGE FOR TUITION STUDENT SPED SERVICES. MINUTEMAN IS AND WILL CHARGE \$5,00 FOR EACH TUITION STUDENT ON AN IEP. APPROXIMATELY HALF OF SUDBURY'S MINUTEMAN STUDENTS ARE N AN IEP.	CURRENT SPED CHARGE PER TUITION STUDENT (\$5,000 per student, or \$2,500 per student on average since we have approximately 50% of our students on an IEP)	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	N/A
<i>Online bond calculator used to derive annual debt service for both schools</i>						THIS CHANGES EVERY YEAR AND IS BASED ON THE SCHOOL'S CHAPTER 70 AID CALCULATIONS. AT THIS POINT IN TIME, THEY ARE CONSIDERED A WASH OR EQUAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2.900 PER STUDENT.	RETAINED CHAPTER 70 AID	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
Assabet's total debt service divided by current member FTE's plus Sudbury's 25 students. Sudbury's share of Minuteman's debt service is the total debt divided by 431 students time our 25 students.						THE TOTAL OF TUITION, SPED FEES, TRANSPORTATION, AND ESTIMATED CAPITAL FEE.	TOTAL PER STUDENT TUITION CHARGE	\$17,915.93	\$23,776.22	\$5,860.29	32.71%

Total cost is the simple addition of lines 6 and 9.	TOTAL COSTS ASSABET VALLEY, MINUTEMAN, \$ DIFFERENCE, AND % DIFFERENCE LINE 6 PLUS LINE 9 ONLY)	295,191	541,644	246,453	83.49%	TOTAL TUITION CHARGES FOR BOTH SCHOOLS BASED ON A 25 STUDENT ENROLLMENT	25 STUDENT TOTAL TUITION CHARGE	\$447,898.36	\$594,405.57	\$146,507.21	32.71%
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* Minuteman and Assabet Valley state and federal grants total approximately \$900,000 annually. Grants are spent proportionately equal and transparently on resident and non-resident students. In the case of Minuteman, the per student grant amount on average is \$900,000 divided by 748 or \$1,200. ASSABET VALLEY average student grant amount is the same \$900,000, but divided by a total enrolment of 1,030, the average grant amount is \$875.

** THE LEGISLATURES' NON-RESIDENT TRANSPORTATION AID WAS LOST DUE TO THE LEGISLATURE'S BUDGET UNDERESTIMATION OF EXPECTED REVENUES. AS SUCH, ALL DISTRICTS SHOULD ANTICIPATE A REDUCTION IN CHAPTER 71 TRANSPORTATION AID AS WELL.

THESE ARE CALCULATIONS USING NUMBERS FROM A CURRENT PERSPECTIVE AS AVAILABLE IN EXISTING PUBLIC RECORDS. THE CALCULATIONS ARE NOT EFFECTED OR INFLUENCED BY PROPOSED DESE REGULATIONS, PROFFERED MINUTEMAN CAPITAL FEES, DEVELOPING INTER MUNICIPAL AGREEMENTS, OR SCHOOL COMMITTEE PROPOSED SCHOOL SIZES.

TOTAL ENROLLMENT NUMBERS ARE FROM THE SCHOOLS THEMSELVES. SUDBURY'S TOTAL ASSESSMENT IS FROM THE MINUTEMAN FY2015 ASSESSMENTS SHEET. ASSABET VALLEY'S PER STUDENT ASSESSMENT IS FROM ITS FY2015 PUBLIC RECORD BUDGET. THE 25 SUDBURY STUDENT COUNT USED WAS OBTAINED FROM AND CONSISTENT WITH THE MINUTEMAN FY2015 ASSESSMENT SHEET. THIS SAME STUDENT COUNT WAS USED IN THE ASSABET VALLEY ASSESSMENT CALCULATIONS. TUITION ENROLLMENT BASED ON SUDBURY'S CURRENT AND ACTUAL FY2015 ENROLLMENT OF 25 STUDENTS. FY2015 TUITION RATES ARE FROM THE DESE WEB SITE.

TOTAL ENROLLMENTS (MEMBER + NON-MEMBER)	1030	748		-27.38%
TOTAL ANNUAL BUDGET	\$18,400,000	\$19,654,065	\$1,254,065	6.82%
AVERAGE PER STUDENT OPERATIONAL BUDGET EXPENDS (FOR ALL STUDENTS)	\$17,864.08	\$26,275.49	\$8,411	47.09%
STUDENT TEACHER RATIO	10.6:1	9.0:1	1.6	
SUDBURY'S estimated Assabet Valley Assessment and Minuteman's ACTUAL Assessment FY2015 ASSESSMENT	#REF!	\$21,665.76	#REF!	#REF!

NASHOBA VALLEY TECH

<u>LINE BY LINE GLOSSARY MEMBERSHIP</u>	MEMBERSHIP COSTS BASED ON ASSESSMENTS *					<u>LINE BY LINE GLOSSARY TUITIONS</u>	TUITION COSTS				
HEADERS	FY2015 PER STUDENT AVERAGE	NASHOBA	MINUTEMAN	\$ DIFFERENCE - MINUTEMAN MORE / (MINUTEMAN LESS)	% DIFFERENCE - MINUTEMAN MORE / (MINUTEMAN LESS)	HEADERS	FY2015 PER STUDENT AVERAGE	NASHOBA	MINUTEMAN	\$ DIFFERENCE MINUTEMAN MORE / (MINUTEMAN LESS)	% DIFFERENCE MINUTEMAN MORE / (MINUTEMAN LESS)
ASSESSMENT BASED FTE STUDENTS from DESE and the schools' own records and reports.	TOTAL MEMBER FTE'S ONLY	738	431	307	-41.60%	SUDBURY ENROLMENT OF 25 STUDENT FOR CONSISTENCY WITH MEMBERSHIP ASSESSMENT ENROLLMENT	SUDBURY TUITION STUDENT ENROLLMENT	25	25	0	0%
SUDBURY'S 25 FY15 ASSESSMENT BASED FTE STUDENTS. 25 Sudbury students is used in both membership and tuition enrollment to an equal comparison.	SUDBURY MEMBER STUDENT ENROLLMENT	25	25	0	0%	DESE FY2015 TUITION RATE OR EACH SCHOOL FROM THE DESE WEB SITE.	PER STUDENT DESE TUITION RATE	\$15,663.00	\$18,467.00	\$2,804.00	17.90%
From each school's online Fy2015 Budget Book	TOTAL MEMBER ASSESSMENT	\$8,116,088	\$9,645,000	\$1,528,912	18.84%	ESTIMATED BASED ON BUDGETED TOTAL TRANSPORTATION COSTS DIVIDED BY MEMBER ENROLLMENT.	TRANSPORTATION PER STUDENT	\$813.01	\$2,784.22	\$1,971.21	242.46%
NASHOBA's estimated assessment is \$8.1 mill divided by 738 member students times 25 Sudbury students	SUDBURY'S FY2015 TOTAL ASSESSMENT FOR EACH SCHOOL (INCLUDING MEMBER TRANSPORTATION) FOR 25 STUDENTS	\$274,935	\$541,644	\$266,709	97.01%	ESTIMATED CAPITAL FEE CHARGED BY EACH SCHOOL BASED ON NEW CAPITAL DEBT	MINUTEMAN ONLY PER TUITION STUDENT CAPITAL FEE BASED ON \$3.3 MILLION / 431	\$275.23	\$8,288.81	\$8,013.58	N/A
Capital debt that has been reported by NASHOBA and Minuteman	NEW CAPITAL DEBT	\$30,500,000	\$60,000,000	\$29,500,000	96.72%	NASHOBA DOES NOT CHARGE FOR TUITION STUDENT SPED SERVICES. MINUTEMAN IS AND WILL CHARGE \$5.00 FOR EACH TUITION STUDENT ON AN IEP. APPROXIMATELY HALF OF SUDBURY'S MINUTEMAN STUDENTS ARE N AN IEP.	CURRENT SPED CHARGE PER TUITION STUDENT (\$5,000 per student, or \$2,500 per student on average since we have approximately 50% of our students on an IEP)	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	N/A
Online bond calculator used to derive annual debt service for both schools	ESTIMATED ANNUAL DEBT SERVICE 3.75% 30 YEAR BOND: NASHOBA VALLEY \$30.5 MILLION, MINUTEMAN \$60 MILLION;	\$210,000	\$3,365,257	\$3,155,257	1502.50%	THIS CHANGES EVERY YEAR AND IS BASED ON THE SCHOOL'S CHAPTER 70 AID CALCULATIONS. AT THIS POINT IN TIME, THEY ARE CONSIDERED A WASH OR EQUAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,900 PER STUDENT.	RETAINED CHAPTER 70 AID	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.00%
NASHOBA's total debt service divided by current member FTE's plus Sudbury's 25 students. Sudbury's share of Minuteman's debt service is the total debt divided by 431 students time our 25 students.	TOTAL STUDENT CAPITAL ASSESSMENT (NASHOBA CURRENT MEMBER ENROLLMENT 738 + 25 SUDBURY STUDENTS, MINUTEMAN BASED ON CURRENT MEMBER ENROLLMENT OF 431 + 25 SUDBURY STUDENTS)	\$2,276.42	\$195,200.52	\$192,924	8474.89%	THE TOTAL OF TUITION, SPED FEES, TRANSPORTATION, AND, ESTIMATED CAPITAL FEE.	TOTAL PER STUDENT TUITION CHARGE	\$16,776.24	\$32,065.03	\$15,288.80	91.13%
Total cost is the simple addition of lines 6 and 9.	TOTAL COSTS NASHOBA VALLEY, MINUTEMAN, \$ DIFFERENCE, AND % DIFFERENCE LINE 6 PLUS LINE 9 ONLY)	277,212	736,845	459,633	165.81%	TOTAL TUITION CHARGES FOR BOTH SCHOOLS BASED ON A 25 STUDENT ENROLLMENT	25 STUDENT TOTAL TUITION CHARGE	\$419,405.94	\$801,625.83	\$382,219.89	91.13%

SUDBURY @ ASSABET VALLEY TECH V MM

LINE BY LINE GLOSSARY MEMBERSHIP 01.11.2015_FINAL DAVE MANJARREZ	MEMBERSHIP COSTS BASED ON FY2015 ASSESSMENTS *						LINE BY LINE GLOSSARY TUITIONS	TUITION COSTS					
HEADERS	FY2015 PER STUDENT AVERAGE	ASSABET VALLEY	MINUTEMAN	\$ DIFFERENCE - MINUTEMAN MORE /(MINUTEMAN LESS)	% DIFFERENCE - MINUTEMAN MORE /(MINUTEMAN LESS)	COMMENTS	HEADERS	FY2015 PER STUDENT AVERAGE AN	ASSABET	MINUTEMAN	\$ DIFFERENCE MINUTEMAN MORE /(MINUTEMAN LESS)	% DIFFERENCE MINUTEMAN MORE /(MINUTEMAN LESS)	COMMENTS
FY2015 ENROLLMENT (ASSABET USES FY2013 DESE ENROLLMENT COUNTS REPORTED 10/01/2012 FOR ASSESSMENTS. THIS ALLOWS AV MEMBER TOWNS TO PLAN AHEAD SINCE AV ASSESSMENTS ARE CALCULATED PROPORTIONATELY FOR EACH TOWN BY ENROLLMENTS WHICH ARE KNOWN FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR.	TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT	1088	798	290	-26.65%	MINUTEMAN HAS 290 FEWER STUDENTS ENROLLED	See Column A LINE 4	TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT	1088	798			
ASSESSMENT BASED FTE STUDENTS COUNTS FROM EACH SCHOOL'S ONLINE FY2015 BUDGET BOOK.	TOTAL DESE ENROLLMENT MEMBER FTE'S ONLY (Oct. 1, 2012, for AV, OCTOBER 1, 2013 for MM)	715	431	284	-39.72%	MINUTEMAN HAS 284 FEWER MEMBER STUDENTS	SUDBURY'S ENROLLMENT OF 25 STUDENTS IS CONSISTENT WITH PRELIMINARY SCHOOL COMMITTEE OCT.1, 2014. MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT PROVIDED BY MINUTEMAN	SUDBURY'S TUITION STUDENT ENROLLMENT	25	25	0	0%	
SUDBURY'S 22 FY15 ASSESSMENT BASED FTE STUDENTS IS USED FOR FAIR COMPARISON	SUDBURY MEMBER STUDENT ENROLMENT	22	22	0	0%		DESE FY2015 TUITION RATE OR EACH SCHOOL FROM THE DESE WEB SITE.	PER STUDENT DESE TUITION RATE	\$16,587.00	\$18,467.00	\$1,880.00	11.33%	MINUTEMAN'S TUITION COST IS 1.1 TIMES HIGHER
Assessments for Assabet Valley taken from the school's online FY2015 Budget Book (attached p.11). Minuteman total assessments taken from FY2015 assessment sheet v.2 (attached)	TOTAL FY2015 ALL MEMBERS ASSESSMENTS	\$8,784,405	\$10,354,150	\$1,569,745	17.87%		ESTIMATED TRANSPORTATION COSTS PER STUDENT BASED ON BUDGETED C.71 AID PLUS ASSESSMENTS DIVIDED BY MEMBER ENROLLMENT ONLY FROM EACH SCHOOL'S FY15 BUDGET BOOK. REVENUE PLANS AND ASSESSMENTS.	TRANSPORTATION PER STUDENT	\$1,122.90	\$2,938.94	\$1,816.04	161.73%	MINUTEMAN'S TRANSPORTATION COSTS IS 2.6 TIMES HIGHER
ASSABET VALLEY's estimated FY2015 member assessment is \$8.7 million divided by 715 member students for an average per student enrollment. The average times 22 students would be SUDBURY's estimated ASSABET VALLEY assessment.	SUDBURY'S FY2015 TOTAL ESTIMATED ASSABET VALLEY ASSESSMENT FOLLOWED BY MINUTEMAN'S FY2015 ACTUAL SUDBURY ASSESSMENT (BOTH INCLUDE TRANSPORTATION) FOR 22 STUDENTS AND SPED CHARGES	\$270,289	\$543,451	\$273,162	101.06%	MINUTEMAN'S ASSESSMENT IS 2 TIMES HIGHER	ESTIMATED CAPITAL FEE CHARGED BY EACH SCHOOL BASED ON NEW CAPITAL DEBT DIVIDED BY TOTAL ENROLLMENT INCLUDING NON-RESIDENT TUITION STUDENTS	See column B, Line 10	\$1,585.20	\$3,514.26	\$1,929.06	121.69%	MINUTEMAN'S CAPITAL FEE COST IS OVER 2.2 TIMES HIGHER
Capital debt is actual for ASSABET VALLEY and ESTIMATED for a Minuteman \$100 million capital project less a 50% MSBA grant	NEW CAPITAL DEBT	\$30,500,000	\$50,000,000	\$19,500,000	63.93%	A MINUTEMAN CAPITAL INVESTMENT IS 2 1/4 TIMES LARGER	ASSABET VALLEY DOES NOT CHARGE TUITION STUDENTS FOR SPED/IEP SERVICES. MINUTEMAN IS CURRENTLY CHARGING AND WILL CONTINUE TO CHARGE \$5,000 FOR EACH TUITION STUDENT ON AN IEP. APPROXIMATELY HALF OF SUDBURY'S MINUTEMAN STUDENTS ARE ON AN IEP.	CURRENT MINUTEMAN SPED CHARGE PER TUITION STUDENT (\$5,000 per student, or \$2,500 per student on average since approximately 50% of all enrolled Minuteman member students are on an IEP)	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	100.00%	
Online bond calculator used to derive annual debt service for both schools. The figures here are that the interest rate will increase and Minuteman's \$100 million dollar project will vary.	ESTIMATED ANNUAL DEBT SERVICE 3.75% on a 30 YEAR BOND: ASSABET VALLEY \$30.5 MILLION IS FIXED, MINUTEMAN'S \$60 MILLION WILL VARY;	\$1,724,694	\$2,804,381	\$1,079,687	62.60%	MINUTEMAN DEBT SERVICE OVER HALF AGAIN LARGER	CHAPTER 71 RULES AND FORMULAS CHANGE EVERY YEAR AND ARE BASED ON THE SCHOOL'S CHAPTER 70 AID CALCULATIONS AND THE LEGISLATIVE BUDGET. \$2,400 is a conservative estimate for practical discussion.	SUDBURY'S ESTIMATED RETAINED CHAPTER 70 AID EXCEEDS AND ELIMINATES ANY TRANSPORTATION COSTS CONCERNS.	(\$2,300)	(\$2,300)	\$0.00	0.00%	CHAPTER 70 AID RETENTION DECREASES OVERALL COSTS

ASSABET VALLEY's total debt service divided by current member FTE's. SUDBURY's share of Minuteman's debt service is the total debt divided by total ASSABET VALLEY's member FTE students times SUDBURY's 22 students	SUDBURY'S TOTAL CAPITAL ASSESSMENT ESTIMATED FOR ASSABET VALLEY AND ESTIMATED FOR MINUTEMAN	\$53,067.52	\$143,147.06	\$90,080	169.75%	MINUTEMAN'S CAPITAL ASSESSMENT IS ALMOST 2 3/4 TIMES HIGHER	THE TOTAL OF TUITION, SPED FEES, TRANSPORTATION, AND ESTIMATED CAPITAL FEE.	TOTAL PER STUDENT TUITION CHARGES	\$17,020.09	\$25,145.20	\$8,125.11	47.74%	
Total cost is the simple addition of lines 8 and 11.	TOTAL MEMBERSHIP COSTS FOR ASSABET VALLEY AND MINUTEMAN, PLUS \$ DIFFERENCE, AND % DIFFERENCE	323,357	686,598	363,241	112.33%	MINUTEMAN COST OF MEMBERSHIP IS OVER 2 TIMES HIGHER	TOTAL TUITION CHARGES FOR BOTH SCHOOLS BASED ON A STUDENT ENROLLMENT OF 25	STUDENT TOTAL TUITION CHARGE FOR 25 STUDENTS	\$425,502.37	\$628,630.04	\$203,127.66	47.74%	MINUTEMAN'S TOTAL TUITION COSTS ARE OVER 1.5 TIMES HIGHER

* The argument that "GRANTS" are not included is misleading. Minuteman and Assabet Valley state and federal grants total approximately \$900,000 annually. But most important is that grants are spent proportionately equal and transparently on resident and non-resident students. In the case of Minuteman, the per student grant amount on average is \$900,000 divided by 748 or \$1,200. ASSABET VALLEY average student grant amount is the same \$900,000, but divided by a total enrollment of 1,030, the average grant amount is \$875 per student. ** THE LEGISLATURE'S NON-RESIDENT TRANSPORTATION AID WAS LOST DUE TO THE LEGISLATURE'S BUDGET UNDERESTIMATION OF EXPECTED REVENUES. AS SUCH, ALL DISTRICTS SHOULD ANTICIPATE A REDUCTION IN CHAPTER 71 TRANSPORTATION AID AS WELL.

THESE ARE CALCULATIONS USING NUMBERS FROM A CURRENT PERSPECTIVE AS AVAILABLE IN EXISTING PUBLIC RECORDS. THE CALCULATIONS ARE NOT EFFECTED OR INFLUENCED BY PROPOSED DESE REGULATIONS, DEVELOPING INTER MUNICIPAL AGREEMENTS, OR SCHOOL COMMITTEE PROPOSED SCHOOL SIZES. THESE NUMBERS ARE INFLUENCED BY THE INEVITABLE MINUTEMAN PROFFERED CAPITAL FEES THAT WILL BE CHARGES MEMBER AND NON-MEMBER TOWNS SENDING STUDENTS TO MINUTEMAN.

REFERENCES	ASSABET VALLEY
TOWN OF	SUDBURY
MM FY15 ASSESSED ENROLLMENT	22
MM FY2015 ASSESSMENTS	(ATTACHED)
MM ACTUAL FY16 ASSESSED ENROLLMENT	25
MM FY16 PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENTS	(ATTACHED)
BOND CALCULATOR	http://www.zenwealth.com/businessfinanceonline/BV/BondCalculator.html
DESE FY15 TUITION RATES	http://www.doe.mass.edu/cte/admissions/fy15-rates.html
ASSABET VALLEY FY15 BUDGET	http://www.assabettech.com/files/_1EKW_jU29668c7592d26e73745a49013852ec4/FY15_Budget.pdf
Assabet Valley assessments (attached p.11) from FY2015 Budget Book	(ATTACHED)
Assabet Valley FY15 ASSESSMENTS	\$8,784,405.0
AV TOTAL ENROLLMENT	1088
AV FTE ENROLLMENT	715
SUDBURY'S MINUTEMAN FY2015 ASSESSMENT	\$543,451

SUDBURY @ NASHOBA VALLEY TECH V MM

LINE BY LINE GLOSSARY MEMBERSHIP 01.11.2015.	MEMBERSHIP COSTS BASED ON FY2015 ASSESSMENTS *						LINE BY LINE GLOSSARY TUITIONS	TUITION COSTS					
HEADERS	FY2015 PER STUDENT AVERAGE	NASHOBA VALLEY	MINUTEMAN	\$ DIFFERENCE MINUTEMAN MORE /(MINUTEMAN LESS)	% DIFFERENCE MINUTEMAN MORE /(MINUTEMAN LESS)	COMMENTS	HEADERS	FY2015 PER STUDENT AVERAGE AN	NASHOBA VALLEY	MINUTEMAN	\$ DIFFERENCE MINUTEMAN MORE /(MINUTEMAN LESS)	% DIFFERENCE MINUTEMAN MORE /(MINUTEMAN LESS)	COMMENTS
FY2015 ENROLLMENT .	TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT	750	798	-48	6.40%	MINUTEMAN HAS 48 MORE STUDENTS ENROLLED	See Column A LINE 4	TOTAL STUDENT ENROLLMENT	750	798			
ASSESSMENT BASED FTE STUDENTS COUNTS FROM EACH SCHOOL'S ONLINE FY2015 BUDGET BOOK.	TOTAL DESE ENROLLMENT MEMBER FTE'S ONLY (Oct. 1, 2012, for AV, OCTOBER 1, 2013 for MM)	738	431	307	-41.60%	MINUTEMAN HAS 307 FEWER MEMBER STUDENTS	SUDBURY'S ENROLLMENT OF 25 STUDENTS IS CONSISTENT WITH PRELIMINARY SCHOOL COMMITTEE OCT.1, 2014, MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT PROVIDED BY MINUTEMAN	SUDBURY'S TUITION STUDENT ENROLLMENT	25	25	0	0%	
SUDBURY'S 22 FY15 ASSESSMENT BASED FTE STUDENTS IS USED FOR FAIR COMPARISON	SUDBURY MEMBER STUDENT ENROLMENT	22	22	0	0%		DESE FY2015 TUITION RATE OR EACH SCHOOL FROM THE DESE WEB SITE.	PER STUDENT DESE TUITION RATE	\$16,587	\$18,467	\$1,880	11.33%	MINUTEMAN'S TUITION COST IS 1.8 TIMES HIGHER
Assessments for Nashoba Valley taken from the school's online FY2015 Budget Book (attached p.8). Minuteman total assessments taken from FY2015 assessment sheet v.2 (attached)	TOTAL FY2015 ALL MEMBERS ASSESSMENTS	\$8,116,088	\$10,354,150	\$2,238,062	27.58%		ESTIMATED TRANSPORTATION COSTS PER STUDENT BASED ON BUDGETED C.71 AID PLUS ASSESSMENTS DIVIDED BY MEMBER ENROLLMENT ONLY FROM EACH SCHOOL'S FY15 BUDGET BOOK. REVENUE PLANS AND ASSESSMENTS.	TRANSPORTATION	\$948	\$2,939	\$1,991	209.89%	MINUTEMAN'S TRANSPORTATION COSTS IS 2 TIMES HIGHER
NASHOBA VALLEY's estimated FY2015 member assessment is \$8.7 million divided by 738 member students for an average per student enrollment. The average times 22 students would be SUDBURY's estimated NASHOBA VALLEY assessment.	SUDBURY'S FY2015 TOTAL ESTIMATED NASHOBA VALLEY ASSESSMENT FOLLOWED BY MINUTEMAN'S FY2015 ACTUAL SUDBURY ASSESSMENT (BOTH INCLUDE TRANSPORTATION) FOR 22 STUDENTS AND SPED CHARGES	\$241,943	\$543,451	\$301,508	124.62%	MINUTEMAN'S S ASSESSMENT IS 2 1/4 TIMES HIGHER	ESTIMATED CAPITAL FEE CHARGED BY EACH SCHOOL BASED ON NEW CAPITAL DEBT DIVIDED BY TOTAL ENROLLMENT INCLUDING NON-RESIDENT TUITION STUDENTS	See column B, Line 10	\$196	\$3,514	\$3,318	1693.96%	MINUTEMAN'S CAPITAL FEE COST IS OVER 16 TIMES HIGHER

Capital debt is actual for NASHOBA VALLEY and ESTIMATED for a Minuteman \$100 million capital project less a 50% MSBA grant	NEW CAPITAL DEBT	\$3,800,000	\$50,000,000	\$46,200,000	1215.79%	A MINUTEMAN CAPITAL INVESTMENT IS 2 1/4 TIMES LARGER	NASHOBA VALLEY DOES NOT CHARGE TUITION STUDENTS FOR SPED/IEP SERVICES. MINUTEMAN IS CURRENTLY CHARGING AND WILL CONTINUE TO CHARGE \$5,000 FOR EACH TUITION STUDENT ON AN IEP. APPROXIMATELY HALF OF SUDBURY'S MINUTEMAN STUDENTS ARE ON AN IEP.	CURRENT MINUTEMAN SPED CHARGE PER TUITION STUDENT (\$5,000 per student, or \$2,500 per student on average since approximately 50% of all enrolled Minuteman member students are on an IEP)	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	100.00%	
Online bond calculator used to derive annual debt service for both schools. The givens here are that the interest rate will increase and Minuteman's \$100 million dollar project will vary.	ESTIMATED ANNUAL DEBT SERVICE 3.75% on a 30 YEAR BOND: ASSABET VALLEY \$30.5 MILLION IS FIXED, MINUTEMAN'S \$60 MILLION WILL VARY;	\$213,133	\$2,804,381	\$2,591,248	1215.79%	MINUTEMAN DEBT SERVICE OVER 12 TIMES LARGER	CHAPTER 71 RULES AND FORMULAS CHANGE EVERY YEAR AND ARE BASED ON THE SCHOOL'S CHAPTER 70 AID CALCULATIONS AND THE LEGISLATIVE BUDGET. \$2,400 is a conservative estimate for practical discussion.	SUDBURY'S ESTIMATED RETAINED CHAPTER 70 AID EXCEEDS AND ELIMINATES ANY TRANSPORTATION COSTS CONCERNS.	(\$2,300)	(\$2,300)	\$0.00	0.00%	CHAPTER 70 AID RETENTION DECREASES OVERALL TUITION COSTS
NASHOBA VALLEY's total debt service divided by current member FTE's. SUDBURY's share of Minuteman's debt service is the total debt divided by total NASHOBA VALLEY's member FTE students times SUDBURY's 22 students	SUDBURY'S TOTAL CAPITAL ASSESSMENT ESTIMATED FOR NASHOBA VALLEY AND ESTIMATED FOR MINUTEMAN	\$6,353.56	\$143,147.06	\$136,793	2153.02%	MINUTEMAN'S CAPITAL ASSESSMENT IS 21 TIMES HIGHER	THE TOTAL OF TUITION, SPED FEES, TRANSPORTATION, AND ESTIMATED CAPITAL FEE.	TOTAL PER STUDENT TUITION CHARGES	\$15,456	\$25,145	\$9,689	62.69%	
Total cost is the simple addition of lines 8 and 11.	TOTAL MEMBERSHIP COSTS FOR NASHOBA VALLEY AND MINUTEMAN, PLUS \$ DIFFERENCE, AND % DIFFERENCE	248,297	686,598	438,301	176.52%	MINUTEMAN COST OF MEMBERSHIP IS 2.75 TIMES HIGHER	TOTAL TUITION CHARGES FOR BOTH SCHOOLS BASED ON A STUDENT ENROLLMENT OF 25	STUDENT TOTAL TUITION CHARGE FOR 25 STUDENTS	\$386,407	\$628,630	\$242,223	62.69%	MINUTEMAN'S TOTAL TUITION COSTS ARE 1.6 TIMES HIGHER

* The argument that "GRANTS" are not included is misleading. Minuteman and Assabet Valley state and federal grants total approximately \$900,000 annually. But most important is that grants are spent proportionately equal and transparently on resident and non-resident students. In the case of Minuteman, the per student grant amount on average is \$900,000 divided by 748 or \$1,200. ASSABET VALLEY average student grant amount is the same \$900,000, but divided by a total enrolment of 1,030, the average grant amount is \$875 per student. ** THE LEGISLATURES' NON-RESIDENT TRANSPORTATION AID WAS LOST DUE TO THE LEGISLATURE'S BUDGET UNDERESTIMATION OF EXPECTED REVENUES. AS SUCH, ALL DISTRICTS SHOULD ANTICIPATE A REDUCTION IN CHAPTER 71 TRANSPORTATION AID AS WELL.

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REFERENCES NASHOBA VALLEY
TOWN OF SUDBURY
MM FY15 ASSESSED ENROLLMENT 22
MM FY2015 ASSESSMENTS (ATTACHED)
MM ACTUAL FY16 ASSESSED ENROLLMENT 25
MM FY16 PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENTS (ATTACHED)

BOND CALCULATOR

<http://www.zenwealth.com/businessfinanceonline/RV/BondCalculator.html>

DESE FY15 TUITION RATES <http://www.doe.mass.edu/cte/admissions/fy15-trates.html>

NASHOBA VALLEY'S FY15 BUDGET http://p1cdn3static.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_20337583/File/Public_Hearing_Febbruary_4_2014.pdf

**Nashoba Valley Assessments
(attached p.8) from FY2015 Budget Book (ATTACHED)**

NASHOBA VALLEY'S FY15 ASSESSMENTS	\$8,116,088
NASHOBA VALLEY'S TOTAL ENROLLMENT	750
NASHOBA VALLEY'S FTE ENROLLMENT	738
SUDBURY'S MINUTEMAN FY2015 ASSESSMENT	\$543,451

1) We assume that if Sudbury adopts the amended regional agreement proposed by the Minuteman District, then Sudbury will be allowed to leave the Minuteman District.

a) The revised regional agreement is posted here:

[http://minuteman.org/images/Supt/RAAS_RATE/Rescanned Draft RA v. 3.11.14 Clearn.PDF](http://minuteman.org/images/Supt/RAAS_RATE/Rescanned_Draft_RA_v.3.11.14_Clearn.PDF)

VEOC has asked Town Counsel to review the proposed agreement to verify to what certainty we would be allowed to withdraw.

b) Additionally, there is a "gentlemen's agreement" commonly known as the Needham Resolution associated with the amended regional agreement. Over half the towns in the Minuteman District have agreed (BOS vote) to abide by the resolution. A copy of the resolution is appended, at the bottom of page 2 in the attached e-mail.

VEOC would like Town Counsel to comment on the enforceability of this arrangement

c) If Sudbury adopts the amended regional agreement the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) would approve Sudbury's withdrawal from the Minuteman District. See Section (IX)(c) of the Amended Regional Agreement. NOTE that in the amended regional agreement we must receive DESE approval for our intent to withdraw no later than December 31 preceding the July 1 effective date of withdrawal, constraining our timeline going forward.

Some entity from Sudbury (BOS? Town Council? Town staff?) would have to determine from DESE that our petition to withdraw would be honored.

2) We assume that leaving the Minuteman District under the current regional agreement, which requires the approval of all sixteen member towns and DESE, is not feasible.

3) We assume the Minuteman District will construct a 628-student school, entailing a \$120 million capital project. School design is not final; capital costs are unknown. The continued availability of MSBA matching funds is unknown. The size of the school is critical in determining the mix of member and tuition students in the short to medium term.

4) **We assume Minuteman would only accept tuition students from non-member towns under an Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA).** The proposed IMAs between the Minuteman District and non-member towns will impose a capital fee for tuition students. If these fees were imposed, Sudbury would no longer subsidize capital costs to the current extent.

https://sudbury.ma.us/veoc/?attachment_id=46

https://sudbury.ma.us/veoc/?attachment_id=47

The links above show proposed IMAs between Minuteman District and non-member towns requiring a capital fee per tuition student. The IMAs would be negotiated on a per-town basis with Minuteman District from these frameworks. The uncertainty is whether individual towns would obtain substantially different terms or whether interim agreements might be made.

Generic Uncertainty -- These will affect Sudbury regardless of what decision we make. They apply to all vocational schools.

1) The Foundation Budget Review Commission is currently examining the way the foundation budget (chapter 70 education aid) is calculated, with a report expected in June of 2015. Any changes will affect the base tuition rates upon which reimbursement to vocational schools (and other schools is calculated.)

See: <http://www.mma.org/foundation>

2) Commissioner Chester presented to the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) proposed changes to the Chapter 74 Regulations, including items such as permitting capital fees, non-resident tuition rates, limitations on attending out of district exploratory programs, and transportation limits for non-resident students. The proposed changes are out for public comment, and Commissioner Chester envisions the revised proposals coming for a vote before BESE in February 2015.

Proposed Amendments dates November 14, 2014, were forwarded to VEOC on November 25.