

MINUTEMAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

About Minuteman

Minuteman is a four-year public high school in Lexington, Massachusetts founded in the Career and Technical Education tradition. Minuteman serves the member towns of: Acton, Arlington, Belmont, Bolton, Boxborough, Carlisle, Concord, Dover, Lancaster, Lexington, Lincoln, Needham, Stow, Sudbury, Wayland, and Weston and teaches more than 700 diverse young men and women from local communities across eastern Massachusetts. Minuteman is a REVOLUTION IN LEARNING, preparing every student for success in college, industry and life.

Stow Enrollment

As of October 1, 2012, twenty-five (25) high school students and one (1) post graduate student were enrolled at Minuteman providing a full time equivalent (FTE) of twenty-six (26) residents of Stow.

While attending Minuteman, these students receive a number of benefits:

- **Experience the Modern American High School.** Minuteman offers a distinctly modern learning experience where students venture beyond a traditional high school curriculum to explore their interests and discover their passion, whether that's Bio-technology, Robotics, Environmental Technology, or something else entirely from among our twenty majors.
- **Believe in Yourself.** Students graduate from Minuteman with an enduring self-confidence that they can achieve anything they set out to do, no matter how high the hurdle, how long the road, how loud the skeptics.
- **Prepare for College and Life.** Minuteman equips students with the academic foundation and study skills to succeed in college *and* the industry certifications and acumen to succeed in business, affording every student a unique flexibility upon graduation to pursue their dreams.
- **Learn from Experts.** Minuteman's teachers are demonstrated experts in their respective fields, injecting a depth of knowledge and experience into their classes that is rarely found in public or private schools.
- **Be More Than Just Another Student.** There is no such thing as "just another student" at Minuteman – instead, teachers and staff personally invest themselves in truly knowing each student and working closely with them to realize their full, individual potential.
- **Make a Fresh Start.** From their very first day of school, Minuteman students are given the opportunity to make a fresh start among new friends and new teachers who will see them as they are and not as who they once were.

Nashoba Regional High School and Minuteman Half Day Program

Minuteman offers a unique program allowing juniors and seniors, who have passed the MCAS, enrollment on a half day-every day basis in a career major. This allows a student

to graduate from Nashoba Regional High School *and* receive a competency certificate from Minuteman. Currently, no Stow students participate.

Minuteman offers technical training programs to adults who are looking for rewarding jobs in high demand careers. Adults may apply to the Minuteman Technical Institute programs to hone skills in a technical area, retrain for new employment, or learn new technical skills for the first time.

2012 Stow Graduates and Awards

Nicolo Antonelli, Metal Fabrication
 Erin Collins, Cosmetology
 Samantha Linstrom, Graphic Communications

SkillsUSA

<u>Student</u>	<u>Program Category</u>	<u>State Results</u>	<u>National Results</u>
Christine Hamilton	Environmental Science	Gold Medalist	Second Place

Class of 2012 Graduate Achievement Highlights

- 66% college bound or advanced Technical Training, 27% career bound and 3% military.
- 100% of Dental graduates passed the National Dental Board examination.
- 100% of Early Education and Care Infant/Toddler and Preschool graduates achieved Teacher Certification.
- 100% of Cosmetology graduates passed State Board examinations.
- 100% of Health Occupation graduates achieved college acceptance or career placement.
- 100% of Environmental Technology graduates were certified in OSHA 40-Hour HAZWOPER training, and confined-space entry training. 62% passed either the Massachusetts Grade II Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator License exam, and the Massachusetts Drinking-Water Treatment Plant Grade 1 Operator License Exam.
- Valedictorian James Cardillo, Electrical Wiring graduate from Peabody attending Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton Fl. Salutatorian Daniel Dangora, Robotics graduate from Medford attending UMass, Lowell to pursue electrical engineering.

Capital Projects

- MSBA Update: Minuteman moves forward in the “pipeline” of the MSBA Vocational School Repair and Renew program announced by the State Treasurer’s office in 2010. On December 3, 2012 Minuteman was approved by MSBA to hire SKANSKA as the Owner’s Project Manager (OPM) for the Feasibility Study. The OPM and School Building Committee will work together to review various models of enrollment as stated in the Request For Service for the OPM. In January of 2013 a link to the School Building Project will keep all towns informed of our progress.

Curriculum and Instruction

- Since 2008, all 9th grade students have English and Math every day, rather than a “week-on-week-off” schedule, thus providing more consistent and concentrated instruction as well as project-based learning. Minuteman is rated a Level 1 school by the DESE. The first-time pass rates on MCAS remain high across all disciplines including a 100% passing rate in ELA in 2012.
- As part of our Revolution in Learning, we want every Minuteman student to fully explore their interests and discover their passion. Minuteman offers more than twenty different majors categorized into three clusters: Bio-Science/Engineering, Human & Commercial Services, and Trades & Transportation. The Educational Program planning process has identified potential new programs that offer students increased choices in career majors, including Criminal Justice/Bio-Security, Animal Science, Entertainment Engineering, Advanced Computer Manufacturing, and Medical Equipment Repair.
- Each student graduates with the OSHA 10 Safety Certification. In addition, during the CTE week, juniors and seniors participate in an Entrepreneur Class. Prior to commencement, seniors are required to produce a comprehensive Business Plan related to their career major.

Professional Development

- Minuteman teachers continue to control much of the context for their professional development. Teachers pursue academic and Career and Technical Education (CTE) goals that emphasize formative assessment practices and common summative assessments. Teachers meet to review student work and adjust the curriculum and instruction as needed. Teacher-to-teacher peer observations are conducted at least twice per year according to protocols derived from the National School Reform Faculty model. More and more, Executive Function strategies and techniques are being adopted toward the development of a specific Minuteman approach to: note-taking, unit organization, and study skills. Academic-Career and Technical curriculum integration results in lessons and student work that feature the application of academic skills in the CTE context and vice versa. That integration lends itself to students' developing and practicing 21st century skills (speaking, listening, collaborating, researching, and presenting). The integration of technology to enhance student learning is an on-going commitment. Finally, this year professional development has also been focused on the new DESE model teacher evaluation system, which requires the development of individual and team goals following the SMART model (Specific and Strategic; Measurable; Action-oriented; Rigorous, Realistic, and Results oriented; and Timed).

Student Access, Participation and Support

- An Executive Function initiative was launched in 2010. Led by our reading specialist, we have expanded our efforts to include study skills, pre-reading strategies, and unit re-organization to help students with resources to develop habits and techniques to enhance their planning and organization skills.

- Minuteman continues to support a full-time Reading Specialist. In addition to working with the students on his own caseload, he consults with academic and CTE teachers toward the development and application of a school-wide reading program.
- The Special Education Department continuously develops individualized programs and provides services so that all our students succeed. We focus on teaching students about the nature of their disability and their Individualized Education Program. The Special Education department successfully implemented the Student Learning Center (SLC). The SLC allows students to understand their disability, develop skills and techniques to minimize the impact of the student's disability, and to promote independence and personal responsibility. The SLC supports the transition to college. The SLC also supports the transition to college by following a model of service delivery that is popular among most colleges and universities in the United States.
- The Music and Art department continues to grow. Most recently, two students were accepted to the Massachusetts Music Educator's Association Northeast District Chorus; one of whom also received an All State Chorus recommendation. The Visual Arts Department offers 8 different elective courses including traditional studio courses and Digital Photography to over 200 students. Student work has been displayed in various communities including Lexington, Carlisle, Arlington and Watertown. Recent graduates have been accepted at MassArt, Savannah College of Art and Design, Lesley University, New Hampshire Institute of Art and Art Institutes of Boston. The program continues to grow as student interest and enthusiasm is high.
- Minuteman offers 16 sports with three levels (Varsity, Junior Varsity and Freshman) throughout the school year. Over the past 12 years the number of participants has doubled in many of the sports offered. The athletic department is also looking to expand to include a track team. Students are offered more than 20 clubs and activities. Success of the Athletic teams has been outstanding within the past few years as students are winning awards and competitions. Minuteman has been participating in the Vocational and MIAA State tournaments. This past Fall season Cross Country runners qualified for the Vocational tournament, the golf team competed in the individual Vocational tournament, the Girls Soccer team qualified and competed in the Vocational tournament (losing in the Quarterfinals) and also competed in the MIAA State tournament, and the Minuteman Football team competed and was runner-up in the Vocational Superbowl.
- The Minuteman Parent Association (MPA) meets monthly and supports all aspects of the Minuteman community. In addition, the Grant-a-Wish program supports numerous initiatives and incentives for student achievement.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice DeLuca, School Committee Chair

Edward Bouquillon, Superintendent of Schools