

MINUTEMAN REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Minuteman is a four-year public high school serving the member towns of: Acton, Arlington, Belmont, Bolton, Boxborough, Carlisle, Concord, Dover, Lancaster, Lexington, Lincoln, Needham, Stow, Sudbury, Wayland, and Weston. Minuteman combines rigorous academics in preparation for college with relevant career and technical programs.

Stow Enrollment

As of October 1, 2011, twenty (20) high school students, three (3) post graduate students were enrolled at Minuteman providing a full time equivalent (FTE) of twenty three (23) residents of Stow.

Minuteman experienced a 7% increase in the Freshman Class resulting in the largest freshman class in 12 years. The “Benefits of Minuteman” are clear:

- **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 'Post Graduate' programs to Stow residents of any age who are seeking to enhance their skill development. Post-Graduate Students are charged tuition to offset operating costs.

2011 Stow Graduates and Awards

Jenna Ellis, Hospitality
Kenneth Gorham Jr., Engineering Technology
Trevor Hennessy, Metal Fabrication
Andrew Jagger, Biotechnology
Jacob Littlefield, Metal Fabrication
Kristen Mikoski, Culinary Arts/Baking
Kyle Polin, Environmental Science
Mark Rainha, Graphic Communications
Matthew Stephens, Telecommunications
Christopher Ulichney, Programming & Web

At the 2011 graduation, Kenneth Gorham was awarded the Stow Lions Club Award. Kristen Mikoski was awarded the Francis Kopias Memorial Award and the Roger Eleftherakis Memorial Scholarship.

SkillsUSA

| <u>Student</u> | <u>Competition Category</u> | <u>State Results</u> |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Kristen Mikoski | Culinary Arts/Baking | Silver Medalist |
| Kenneth Gorham, Jr. | Engineering Technology | Bronze Medalist |
| Christine Hamilton | Environmental Science | Gold Medalist |

These awards are given to students of superior academic achievement and significant participation in school or community activities.

Class of 2011 Graduate Achievement Highlights

- 73% college bound or advanced Technical Training, 12% career bound and 4% military. Overall, graduates achieved an 89% positive placement rate.
- 100% of Dental graduates passed the National Dental Board examination.
- 90% of Early Education and Care program completers were certified by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care.
- 78% of Cosmetology graduates passed State Board examinations.
- Health Occupation graduates achieved 78% in college acceptance.
- 86% of Environmental Technology graduates earned the Massachusetts Grade II Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator License.
- Valedictorian Michael Breen, Biotechnology graduate from Bolton attending University of Rochester in Rochester, NY. Salutatorian Benjamin Basseches, Pre-Engineering graduate from Lexington attending Brown University in Providence, RI.

Capital Projects

- Lexington Water Department is requiring replacement of several major components of the school's water supply system. This work will be completed in December 2011; estimated total cost of \$120,000 is covered out of our FY12 budget.
- An emergency \$475,000 capital project was successfully completed. Lexington issued an order at the end of June 2011 in regards to the area of the school known as the Trades Hall. The order restricted access and occupancy to the Trades Hall immediately. Minuteman had to obtain a waiver from DCAM to hire a design architect, demolish the interior area and rebuild the area under current building codes in order to open school in the fall.
- MSBA Update: Minuteman is in the "pipeline" of the Vocational School Repair and Renew program announced by the State Treasurer's office in 2010. The Feasibility Study financing was unanimously approved by all 16 member towns in 2010. The School Building Committees will review various models to accommodate member community enrollment, as well as various levels of non-member enrollment. A final project model is expected by 2014.

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.
- The Educational Program planning process has identified several new programs that offer students increased choices in career majors, including Criminal Justice/Bio-Security, Animal Science and the Technical Theater Arts. Two programs phased out in 2010 included Office Technology and Auto Body Repair. Drafting and Design Visual Communications will be phased out by 2014.

Professional Development

- The Minuteman staff have created academic and Career and Technical Education (CTE) goals that emphasize formative assessment practices, teacher-to-teacher peer observations, Executive Function support, Reading Consultancies, and Academic-Career and Technical curriculum integration. The integration of technology to enhance student learning is an ongoing commitment.

Student Access, Participation and Support

- An Executive Function initiative was launched last year. Minuteman provides students with resources 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 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.
- Minuteman offers 16 sports with three levels (Varsity, Junior Varsity and Freshman) throughout the school year. Over the past 7 years the number of participants has

doubled in many of the sports offered. Students have more than 20 clubs and activities.

- 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