

**Concord STM Hearing
1-27-2016**

Presented by:
Minuteman High School
Carrie Flood, Concord rep and
Vice Chair of School Committee



New Minuteman Regional Agreement

Paving the Way for a Bright Future

What is Minuteman?

- Our regional vocational-technical high school
- Rigorous academic courses, including Advanced Placement (AP)
- Industry-supported career and technical education in 16 career majors
- State and professional certifications
- Art, Drama, Music, and no-cut Sports

Minuteman High School

- Students pass the MCAS exam, as must students in academic high schools
- 65% of graduates pursue college
- 33% begin careers
- Students gain ***a competitive advantage in the new economy*** with robust academics coupled with a high-quality career and technical education
- 16 current member towns
- Established in 1970

What Is the Regional Agreement?

- The Regional Agreement, also known as the District Agreement:
 - Created the Minuteman District
 - Outlines District funding and governance
 - Was revised in 1973, 1979, and 1980
- The District has been trying to improve and modernize the Regional Agreement for several years.

Background

- In 2014, the Minuteman School Committee approved a series of changes.
- Changes in the Agreement require all member communities to agree.
 - Ten towns, including Concord, voted “yes.”
 - One town, Wayland, voted “no”.
 - Five towns didn’t vote.

Status of Proposed Changes

- During the Fall of 2015, a working group led by area selectmen decided to try again
- Stakeholders recommended “consensus” revisions to the Minuteman School Committee.
- The Minuteman School Committee approved those revisions on December 21, 2015.

What's in the New Agreement?

- The new Regional Agreement represents a ***compromise*** designed to stabilize and strengthen the District.
- The new Regional Agreement includes amendments from 2014, ***plus*** several new terms recommended by Selectmen and approved by the Minuteman School Committee.

Major Features of the Agreement as presented in 2014

- Uses a four-year “rolling” average for capital and operating assessments in order to avoid budget volatility for member towns
- Uses modified weighted voting, giving towns with greater numbers of students greater say in School Committee decisions
- Simplifies the process for withdrawal by member towns.

Major Improvements to the 2014 Revisions

- Eliminates the five-student minimum charged to member towns for capital costs, replacing it with a one-student minimum
- Requires out-of-district communities to pay their share of capital costs for a new MSBA-supported school building
- Allows for early withdrawal by **up to** seven member communities

Reasons to Approve the New Regional Agreement

- Ratification of a new Regional Agreement will honor the hard work and spirit of compromise among Selectmen representing our 16 towns.
- Ratification of a new Regional Agreement will end years of dispute among member towns over Minuteman governance issues...and create a more unified District.
- Ratification of a new Regional Agreement may make it more attractive for new members to join.

Reasons to Approve the New Regional Agreement

- Ratification of a new Regional Agreement will help the District proceed with its long-planned and badly needed, state-funded construction project.
- Combined actions will protect a roughly \$45 million reimbursement from the MSBA.

Recap

- The new Regional Agreement is the product of compromise and consensus.
- It strengthens Minuteman's governance structure and quickly clarifies District membership.
- Ratification clears the way for a decision on the MSBA-supported Minuteman building project.

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MINUTEMAN
A REVOLUTION IN LEARNING

**For more information on the
Regional Agreement
and the Building Project:**

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

Thank you

Current Membership

	<u>2015</u>	<u>4-yr</u>		<u>2015</u>	<u>4-yr</u>
Acton	31	25.5	Lancaster	39	29.5
Arlington	117	135.3	Lexington	49.5	46.4
Belmont*	26	29	Lincoln*	10	5.8
Bolton	9	9.8	Needham	24	26.8
Boxborough*	5	4.5	Stow	13	19.5
Carlisle	5	8.5	Sudbury*	25	20.8
Concord	15	10.3	Wayland**	2	5.3
Dover*	2	2	Weston	4	3.5

Projected Total Member FY 2020 Assessments

16 towns 9 towns % change

Acton	1,097,198	1,155,433	5.31%
Arlington	5,635,400	6,004,460	6.55%
Belmont	1,182,148	1,255,298	6.19%
Bolton	421,885	439,862	4.26%
Boxborough	223,007	5,137	-97.70%
Carlisle	341,643	5,137	-98.50%
Concord	590,363	627,795	6.34%
Dover	166,629	5,137	-96.92%
Lancaster	1,321,371	1,391,760	5.33%
Lexington	1,745,134	1,857,185	6.42%
Lincoln	279,576	5,137	-98.16%
Needham	958,845	1,018,379	6.21%
Stow	700,104	735,197	5.01%
Sudbury	996,678	5,137	-99.48%
Wayland	158,710	5,137	-96.76%
Weston	203,091	5,137	-97.47%
Total	16,021,782	14,521,328	

Concord's estimated 2020 assessment breakdown

	<u>16 Members</u>	<u>9 Members</u>
Minimum Required Contribution	233,064	234,263
Transportation	32,006	36,849
<u>Other Operating Assessment</u>	<u>115,962</u>	<u>130,179</u>
S/T	\$381,032	\$401,291
<u>Debt/Capital</u>	<u>209,331</u>	<u>226,503</u>
Total Assessment	\$590,363	\$627,794