

Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District
Superintendent's Report
Thursday, June 9, 2016

William H. Lupini, Superintendent-Director

Graduation 2016

Graduation ceremonies for the Class of 2016 took place on Friday, June 6, 2016. The class of 232 students from the former Essex Agricultural School, North Shore Technical High School, and Peabody Vocational programs, spent two years in the newly merged Essex Technical High School.

Student speakers included Hannah Marchant from Danvers (Class President and Salutatorian; Health Assisting Program), Dominique Patalano from North Reading (Vice President; Landscape and Turf Management), Kathleen Bolduc from Peabody (Salutatorian; Equine Science), Allison Christoffels from Methuen (Valedictorian; Veterinary Science); and Prabhjyot Kaur from Danvers (Valedictorian; Information Technology Services).

State Officers

Stephanie Dawe, a 2016 graduate of Essex Technical High School, has been elected as President of Massachusetts FFA for 2016-2017. Stephanie came to our school from Danvers and was a student in the Equine Science program. She will be attending the University of Massachusetts (Amherst), where she will major in Equine Science.

In addition, Michaela Ramsey, another 2016 graduate, was elected as Parliamentarian of Massachusetts FFA for the coming year. Michaela is a resident of Winthrop and was a student in the Veterinary Science program. She will be attending Mount Holyoke College, where she will major in Biology.

Mathew Cunha, a current sophomore in the Information Support Services and Networking program, has been elected as a State Officer for SkillsUSA. He came to our school from the Peabody Public Schools. Mathew will attend the SkillsUSA National Conference in Louisville (June 20-25, 2016) and State Officer Training from July 25-29, 2016.

FY2017 Budget

Although we are still in the process of finalizing the FY2017 budget, there are a number of areas of possible modification that Committee members should be aware of, including the following:

- Peas in a Pod. Given our agreement with the on-site childcare provider, we now anticipate an additional \$70k in rental income for FY2017.
- CTE Position. To date, we have not been able to identify a third CTE position for consolidation in the coming year. Therefore, we anticipate an additional \$64k in staffing costs to be included in the FY2017 budget.
- Essex County Retirement. We still face the possibility of an additional obligation if the legislature does not appropriate the \$800k that was anticipated to cover both FY2015 and FY2016 costs. Although we currently have \$400k encumbered, we could need to identify an additional \$400k in funding to cover these retirement costs.
- State Budget. The FY2017 Senate Budget proposal calls for an additional \$98k in Chapter 70 dollars and \$68k in Regional Transportation funding for Essex North Shore. We expect to see a final state budget in the next 2-3 weeks.

Class of 2020 Applications and Acceptances

We received a total of 988 applications for the Class of 2020. As of Tuesday, June 7th, we have accepted 366 students (we can enroll a freshman class of 360), with another 480 students included on our waitlist. We expect to provide member and non-member communities with a summary of their freshman enrollments for 2016-2017 within the next 2-3 weeks.

Athletic Director

Farah Lalli has been named Athletic Director for the Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District, effective in September, 2016. Ms. Lalli will succeed Paul Worth, who is retiring after serving as Athletic Director at North Shore Technical High School and Essex Technical High School.

Farah brings 14 years of teaching and administration in Health and Physical Education to her new role. She has been the varsity women's lacrosse coach and a health and physical education teacher at Essex Technical High School since it opened. She served as Student Services Department Head at Essex Agricultural High School, where she also coached women's lacrosse and taught for seven years. Prior to that, she worked for the Chelmsford Public Schools, teaching adaptive physical education, high school health and physical education, and coaching lacrosse.

We are very pleased to have been able to offer this position to someone of Ms. Lalli's qualifications who also has experience with our students, administrators, and coaches.

Early College

The 2016-2017 school year represented the first year of an Early College partnership program between Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District and North Shore Community College (NSCC). The initial year of implementation was very successful and we are looking forward to enhancing this partnership in the coming years.

Specifically, 44 of our students enrolled in courses offered through the Spring program. While two students withdrew and two others were in non-graded offerings, 31 of the students achieved a grade of A or B in their chosen course. In addition, 28 students have registered for the two (2) courses that will be offered this summer (STEM and Pre-Calculus).

We have recently started accepting applications for the fall, as well as looking at some issues that we encountered in the first year of offerings (conflicts for student-athletes, room scheduling, etc.). In addition, we hope to work with NSCC representatives to create articulation agreements, develop additional pathways (environmental studies, manufacturing, animal care, pre-engineering), and clarify present pathways.

It is clear that we are involved in the creation of something that will benefit our students and programs. Thanks to Nancy Dashcund, who has led our efforts to establish these programs and worked closely with NSCC representatives over the past year.

Perkins Grant (FY2017)

The Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act provides funding for quality vocational, technical and agricultural programs in public schools throughout the country. Although the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (MDESE) had difficulty with the allocation for our school district in both FY2015 and FY2016, our efforts have led to an FY2017 allocation that more accurately reflects our merged school system. Specifically, we have been informed that we will receive \$23k more in Perkins funding for FY2017 than in the prior year (total funding of \$296k).

Student Representatives to the School Committee (2016-2017)

I am very pleased to announce that Julia Wersackas and Gio Montero will serve as Student Representatives to the School Committee for the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years. Ms. Wersackas is a junior from Lynnfield who is enrolled in the Plumbing program. Mr. Montero is junior from Salem who a member of the Advanced Manufacturing program. Both students will begin their participation with our September meeting(s).