

Essex North Shore Agricultural and Technical School District
Superintendent's Report
Thursday, December 8, 2016

William H. Lupini, Superintendent-Director

Open House and Applications

The third annual Essex Technical High School Open House, which was held on Saturday, November 19, 2016, was a tremendous success. Although we do not have precise attendance figures, those who have been at the school for past events believe this was our largest turnout yet. Thanks again to our teachers, administrators, and students for all of their work in ensuring that Open House was a great experience for everyone in attendance.

As of Wednesday (11.30.2016), 639 students had filed applications to attend Essex Technical High School (559 of those applications have been verified). Over 150 applications were completed over the Open House weekend. At this rate, we will easily surpass the number of applications filed for 2016-2017.

Meetings with Municipal Leaders

We have begun to schedule preliminary meetings with municipal leaders from our larger communities in preparation for the upcoming budget discussions. These meetings are intended to provide an opportunity to discuss enrollments (including applications for 2017-2018), key budget issues for FY2018 (including collective bargaining), our administrative restructuring, and other pertinent matters. Meetings have been scheduled in Beverly (with Mayor Cahill) on 12.5.2016, in Peabody (with Mayor Bettencourt) on 12.8.2016, and in Gloucester (with the City Council) on 12.13.2016. We anticipate scheduling meetings in Danvers and Salem before the end of the calendar year.

Commissioner Visit

Commissioner Chester will visit Essex Technical High School on Friday, December 9, 2016. We are very pleased that the Commissioner will be able to spend time at our school talking with students and teachers, as well as seeing our programs and hearing about the opportunities available to students at the school. He will arrive at the school around 10:30 a.m. and, after his visit, join the North Shore Roundtable group for our annual holiday luncheon at noon.

Recognitions

Congratulations to the following students, who were named "Student of the Month" for October:

- Academy A: Jessie Craig (Junior), Companion Animal (Saugus)
- Academy B: Domenic LoGiudice (Senior), Graphic Design (Peabody)
- Academy D: Tatyana Silva (Junior), Health Assisting (Peabody)
- Academy E: Drew Gagnon (Senior), Landscape (Peabody)

The October Staff Member of the Month is Kevin Strob (History Teacher).

Congratulations to the students and staff who are being recognized this month.

In the News

There has been a great deal of news regarding vocational schools in Massachusetts over the past few weeks. Please see the "Skills for our Future" report from the Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center (http://massbudget.org/report_window.php?loc=Skills-For-Our-Future.html).

In addition, the Salem News printed this editorial calling for support of the recommendations in the report: http://www.salemnews.com/opinion/editorials/our-view-charter-foes-should-get-behind-vocational-schools/article_5c14d82f-7e7f-5791-8642-15a021c6f4f4.html.