

January-February 2016

Presented by:
Minuteman High School

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New Minuteman Regional Agreement

Paving the Way for a Bright Future

A REVOLUTION IN LEARNING



Who is Minuteman?

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Minuteman High School

- 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 towns
- Established in 1970



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What is the Regional Agreement?

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What Is the Regional Agreement?

- The Regional Agreement, also known as the District Agreement:
 - Created the Minuteman District
 - Outlines how the District is governed
 - 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 towns to agree.
 - Ten towns voted “yes.”
 - One town 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 the revisions on December 21, 2015.



What's in the new Regional Agreement?

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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

- 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



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Why Should We Support This?

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Reasons to Approve the New Regional Agreement

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

Reasons to Approve the New Regional Agreement

- Ratification of a new Regional Agreement will honor the hard work of the working group of Selectmen representing our 16 towns.
- Ratification of a new Regional Agreement will establish a tone of cooperation among member communities, paving the way for a brighter future for vocational-technical education in the region.
- Ratification of a new Regional Agreement may make it more attractive for new members to join.



Recap

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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 about the MSBA-supported Minuteman building project.