

2007 ANNUAL REPORT TO THE TOWN OF LINCOLN

MINUTEMAN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

School of Applied Arts & Sciences

758 Marrett Road, Lexington, Massachusetts 02421

www.minuteman.org

Class of 2007 Graduate Achievement Highlights

- 98% of the Class of 2007 graduated into college, employed in their field of study or enlisted in the US military.
- 100% of the Class of 2007 successfully passed the state-required MCAS tests in English and Math.
- Commercial & Human Services graduates achieved 98% placement rate with 76% enrolled in college, 21% employed in their field of study, and 1% in the military.
- Science Technology graduates achieved 98% placement with 81% enrolled in college, 7% employed in their field of study and 10% enlisted in the US military with 100% of Electromechanical Engineering, Environmental Science, Office Technology and Graphic Communications students attending college.
- Construction-Trades graduates achieved 92% placement rate 35% enrolled in college, 49% entering the workplace in their field of study and 8% enlisting in the US military.
- 100% of Dental graduates passed the National Dental Board examination.
- 100% of Early Childhood Education graduates were certified by the Office for Child Care Services.
- 100% of Cosmetology graduates passed the state board examination to become a licensed hair stylist.
- Medical Occupations graduates achieved 100% placement in college.
- Gabriel J. Gerzon, a graduate from Concord, was honored as an Outstanding Vocational Student of the Year by the Minuteman Regional School Committee, the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators and State Commissioner of Education, Dr. David Driscoll.
- Sam Rogers, a Biotechnology Academy student from Concord, graduated Valedictorian in the Class of 2007.
- Student speakers at the Class of 2007 graduation ceremony were Valedictorian Sam Rogers of Concord, Salutatorian James Michaels of Acton and Class President Rachel Forziati of Malden.



The Class of 2007

Lincoln

Taylor Alexander
Amanda Woodland

Cosmetology
Early Childhood Education

Gabriel J. Gerzon **Outstanding Student of the Year 2007**

Gabriel J. Gerzon, a Carpentry major from Concord, is the son of Robert and Christine Gerzon and the youngest of five children. Ranked fourth in his graduating Class of 2007, Gabe excelled in academics, his technical program of study and sports, and had been active in out-of-school extracurricular activities.

Gabe brought honor to his family, community and school throughout his high school years through student activism and leadership both on and off campus, including being a student representative to the Minuteman Carpentry Advisory Committee, his founding membership in the Concord Coffee House for Youth, a regular contributor to the Minuteman Art & Literary Magazine, a two-year varsity member of the Minuteman basketball team, an avid snowboarder, a member of the Minuteman Student Ambassador Corps and a straight four year Honor Roll Student earning high honors each marking term since freshmen year.

Complimenting his carpentry and construction management studies at Minuteman, Gabe combined his interests in media and writing with an appreciation for math and science as they relate to his field of study. He enjoys art, poetry and the social sciences and says that he came to better appreciate these subjects as they were taught in the academic classroom and often applied in his carpentry studies through literature, architecture and urban studies.

Gabe has tremendous leadership abilities. Struggling to find a place to call their own, Gabe and his friends developed a grass-roots plan to create the Concord Coffee House for Youth. This establishment is for kids by kids in every sense of the word. A daily place where high school students can study, engage each other with board games, read poetry, listen to and learn to play music, conduct college and career planning discussion and focused workshops, or just relax. He used his carpentry skills to build a stage for poetry readings, musical performances or other entertainment. Gabe used his leadership skills to get this project off the ground and it opened last year and it is going strong today.

Gabe was accepted to all colleges where he applied including the University of Massachusetts, McDaniel College, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and Clark University. He is enrolled in Psychology and Communications with later plans to enter a career in media or writing.

Gabriel Gerzon, Minuteman's Outstanding Student of the Year for 2007, envisions a career in human services or the arts using the carpentry field as a springboard to understanding how things work, how communities and the world around us are built and sustained and how like-minded people can improve our society for the better by taking academic knowledge and applying it to problems and creating solutions.

2007 Students High Achievers

Congratulation to the following students recognized as High Achievers this year:

Mike Belanger of Ayer, *HVAC/R*
Krista Burgoyne of Bolton, *Culinary Arts & Hospitality Management*
Ben Caeser of Lancaster, *Computer Programming*
Brian Clough of Dover, *Carpentry*
Lori Conners of Sudbury, *Exploratory*
Melissa D'Amico of Ayer, *Cosmetology*
Juanita Estrida of Arlington, *Graphic Communications*
Aaron Gralnik of Lexington, *Environmental Technology*
Chris Hansen of Medford, *Electromechanical Engineering*
Eliza Leahy of Needham, *Environmental Technology*
Jason McPhail of Watertown, *HVAC/R*
Alice Ofria of Medford, *Environmental Technology*

Student Performance Highlights

- Minuteman Regional High School sophomores had a 97% pass rate on the English Language Arts MCAS Test, a 94% pass rate in Math, 72% in Biology, and 100% in Chemistry taken in May 2007.
- Minuteman students on the Math Team competed strongly at all levels against academically diverse groups of area schools finishing the year ranked in first place in the state vocational conference for the third year in a row.
- A Latin course was expanded to serve the growing number of students interested in medical careers, biotechnology and science.
- The Minuteman Players, the school's drama students, produced and performed a full production of Matthew Barber's "*Enchanted April*."
- Faculty members from English, Math, Science and several vocational fields designed a series of MCAS Science curriculum standards for use throughout each of the school's 22 vocational majors.
- The first state-approved high school pre-engineering program entered its eighth year and graduated its fourth class of students, again with 100% attending college.
- Approximately 82% of the Science and Technology seniors graduating received certification in their respective area, while approximately 92% were planning to continue their education or training upon graduation.
- A Team of two Pre-Engineering students placed second in the "West Point Bridge Design" contest – A National Internet-based software design contest.
- Minuteman is now an authorized CertiPort Testing Center for Microsoft Office Specialist Certifications.
- Students in Carpentry, Electrical Wiring, Plumbing and HVAC completed construction of the single family home for the Lincoln Housing Commission in Lincoln, MA.
- Underclassmen created four scaled New England style homes for display at the New England Home Show in Boston. Minuteman was the only participating vocational high school in MA.
- Electrical Wiring students completely wired two residential units in Lexington.
- Environmental Science students were invited to attend the Secretary's Award for Excellence in Environmental Education as an honorable mention. This award honors individual schools,

teacher and students across the Commonwealth who have distinguished themselves in environmental education initiatives.

- For the third year in a row, Culinary Arts students won first-place in the annual culinary competition at Newbury College and in so doing earned \$7,000 in scholarships for enrollment at Newbury College.
- As a community service project a team of junior Graphic Communications students worked with the Lahey Clinic in designing and printing a 2007 calendar incorporating artwork drawn by elementary age students who are patients in the “young hearts” clinic.
- The Cosmetology Class of 2007 had a 100% success rate when taking the State Board Exams.

National Honor Society

The Minuteman Chapter of the National Honor Society proudly served the school and the community with thousands of volunteer hours maintaining a solid and diverse membership while inducting twenty-five new members.

Congratulations to the new recently inducted members: Thomas Andrews of Arlington, JonFanco Barretto of Medford, Nathaniel Bearg of Concord, Paul Blaszczyznki of Arlington, Amanda Cabral of Medford, Hailey Callahan of Concord, Sean Chicosky of Acton, John Clark of Belmont, Ashley Cobuzzi of Lexington, Abigail Dornbusch of Needham, Katheryn Fontaine of Arlington, Elizabeth Haberkorn of Stow, Nicholas Hammond of Medford, Geoffrey Landskov of Arlington, Bradley Lowe of Boxborough, Tyler Manoukian of Carlisle, Molly Mullen of Cambridge, Christina Niccoloro of Cambridge, Alice Ofria of Medford, Michelle Pierre of Arlington, Nicholas Ritchie of Carlisle, William Roche of Concord, Rebecca Rowe of Arlington, Christopher Sproul of Stow, and Allison Walsh of Medford.

Minuteman Takes Grand Prize Award at MIT-Sponsored Competition

Three cross-vocational teams from Minuteman’s Biotechnology, Pre-Engineering and Robotics competed in a Design Challenge at the Museum of Science in Boston.

In this full-day design event, amongst teams from across New England, Minuteman’s Technology Division took home the gold medal -- winning the MIT-sponsored WINDY 500 Grand Prize Award. The teams were challenged with designing, building and racing wind-powered vehicles using only materials provided. The cars had to carry a single driver.

The Windy 500 is part of EurekaFest, a multi-day celebration sponsored by the Lemelson-MIT Program, a foundation dedicated to supporting and encouraging invention and innovation.

In preparation for the event, Minuteman’s teams competed against each other on design projects during the school day. They participated in team building exercises and analysis that was headed by Dr. Clarissa Sawyer, a corporate consultant in the field.

Members of the winning Minuteman team were freshman Ivy Smith of Medford, and Becky Cole of Arlington. The juniors were Paul Blaczynski of Arlington, Jeff Palma of Concord, and Robin Weinstein of Weston. Students on the two other Minuteman competing teams were juniors Kevin Brown of Pepperell, Charlie Deakins of Carlisle, Chris Hansen of Medford, Dan Polansky of Dedham, Paramveer Pabla of Arlington and freshman Sean Keane of Arlington,

Therese Gray-Gaudet of Medford, Eben Goldman of Lexington, Kenny March and Torri Dodge of Stow, and Eo Jin Hwang, a visiting exchange student from Japan.

The races were emceed by Ray Magliozzi, one of the Click n' Clack Brothers of National Public Radio's CarTalk. The Windy 500 is featured on the CarTalk website. As well, Nate and Deanne, from PBS Kids' Design Squad television program, served as the Windy 500 hosts for the day.

Overall School Highlights

- A new Freshmen Exploratory program was designed and implemented as a means to ensure that members of the Class of 2011 have a full opportunity to experience each of Minuteman's twenty-two technical programs before choosing a major. This new exploratory program runs half of grade 9 and allows students to develop a better understanding of their talents and interests while exposing them to diverse careers.
- Minuteman developed a Nontraditional Exploratory Program for Girls for the Class of 2011 through which all female students learned about the viability and challenges of women in nontraditional careers, such as automotive technology, carpentry and construction, computer science and engineering. The freshmen girls learned about these careers through a series of hands-on exercises, guest speakers and alumni panelists and field site visits to industry partners.
- New and/or updated college articulation and advance credit agreements with numerous top colleges in over 78 different courses and programs at over 17 colleges and universities.
- Community Education services, including After School programs for middle school students, Adult High School services, Evening and Continuing Education courses and Summer School programs and camps, provided to member town residents continued at one of the highest participation and success levels in the state.
- The Facilities Management Department completed major campus renovation and facility improvement projects including a program of delivering "green" products to school services.

Minuteman Students Receive John and Abigail Adams Scholarships

The John and Abigail Adams Scholarship provides a tuition waiver for eight traditional semesters of undergraduate education at the University of Massachusetts, the seven state colleges, or fifteen community colleges. Students qualify for the scholarship when score in the Advanced category in either the Mathematics or the English language arts section of the grade 10 MCAS test; score in the Proficient or Advanced category on the second subject (Mathematics or English language arts); and have a combined MCAS score on these assessments that ranks in the top 25% in their school district. Congratulations to the thirty-six Minuteman Students Awarded!

The following students were awarded: Arthur Albuquerque, Sean Chickosky, Benjamin Howell and Arielle Shander of Acton; Colin Donogue, Geoffrey Landskov, John Scaduto, Jacob Smith, Patrick Cooney, Paramveer Pabla and Paul Blaszczyński of Arlington; Courtney Lindhorst of Belmont; Krysten Shedd of Boston; Bradlee Tower of Boxborough; Joel Cioffi of Burlington; Elizabeth Mullane of Cambridge; Charles Deakins of Carlisle; Nathaniel Bearg, and Jeffrey Palma of Concord; Daniel Polansky of Dedham; Brian Clough of Dover; Kristen Capen of Lancaster; Lily Altshuler of Maynard; Nicholas Hammond and Chris Hansen of Medford;

Richard Harrington, David Kelly, and William Patey of Needham; Collin Aucoin, Jonathan Evers, Elizabeth Haberkorn, Sarah Nichols and Adam Radl of Stow; Michael Lavy of Watertown; and Joshua Kerti of Wayland.

Minuteman Students Take Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals at National SkillsUSA Competition

Sixteen students from Minuteman Regional High School represented their school and Massachusetts at a national competition, the SkillsUSA Championships in Kansas City, MO in late June. Twelve came home with first, second or third place medals and four more returned with top ranking national placements.

Jake Shearer of Wayland, a junior in Medical Assisting placed first in the Medical Assisting competition. This was Jake's second year at the National Competition placing third last year. Jake's impressive national first place ranking as a sophomore brings high hopes for next year's competition.

Karl Gibson of Arlington, a senior in Computer Technology placed Silver in the Computer Programming Competition. This is the second year that this competition has been available to compete in and Karl's second trip to Nationals. Last year, Karl was awarded first in the Nation.

The Biotechnology team of senior's **Desi Forte and Amber Hill of Watertown**, and sophomore **Abby Dornbusch of Needham** were honored as Second Place finalists in the Tech Prep Showcase Competition. Tech Prep Showcase is a unique leadership competition where students are required to perform an act of community service and develop a detailed and rehearsed presentation following competition guidelines and concludes by making a formal presentation to a group of judges. This competition is also in its infancy stages and has had great success from students for the past two years of its existence. The sophomore Environmental Technology team of **Allison Walsh and Alice Ofria of Medford** and **Becky Rowe of Arlington**, were also honored as Silver Medal winners in the Tech Prep Showcase Competition.

The team of junior's **Christopher Hansen of Medford and Paramveer Pabla of Arlington** took their skills in Robotic and Automation Technology to the national level, and emerged as bronze medal winners, placing third in the country. Chris and Paramveer's competition area, where they worked all day on Thursday to produce a medal-winning project, was directly below the sign announcing the competition, and drew many onlookers, but the experienced team seldom looked up, concentrating on their work.

Making her third appearance at the National Competition, senior **Krista Burgoyne of Bolton**, took National Third Place and a bronze medal in Commercial Baking. Visitors to the competition could watch contestants preparing, baking and displaying more than a half-dozen types of pastry and assorted confections. Krista placed first in the Nation the previous two years. Krista was previously awarded a full tuition scholarship at the Culinary Institute of America.

Four other students also received national standings; **Ian Hurley of Ayer**, placed first in the state in Automotive Service Technology. **Elizabeth Mullane of Cambridge**, placed first in the state in Office Computer Applications. **Francis Gassert of Acton** placed first in the state in Related Technical Math. **Evan Rogers of Concord** placed first in the state in Job Interview, another Leadership competition.

Through leadership events and competitions on the district, state and national level, the organization helps students excel in their education and future technical, skilled and service careers, including health occupations. SkillsUSA serves nearly 265,000 high school and college/postsecondary students and their chapter advisors who are professional members.

Art and Literary Magazine Celebrates 22nd Publication

The ink is dry on the twenty-second edition of Minuteman Regional High School's Art & Literary Magazine, and as usual, the publication contains many outstanding examples of student-generated poetry and art. This year's magazine showcases 20 poets and 13 artists.

The winners of school-wide poetry and art contests provide the content for the magazine. This year, approximately 150 poems from about 80 poets were submitted. In the art contest, 40 artists submitted 70 pieces of artwork. Originality is the primary criteria used in selecting work for inclusion in the magazine, and selection committee members also try to ensure a mixture of styles.

"We really have quite an artistic community at the school," Mr. Donovan said. "We used to just get block printing, but now, it's quite a variety. We added photography to the art contest three or four years ago. This year, there are quite a few pieces of artwork done in anime style. "Anime has become very popular in the school," he said. "They had an Anime Club this year for the first time.

A third contest, open to juniors in the Graphics department, determines who designs the magazine's cover. Patrick Cooney of Arlington won this year's cover design contest. Patrick also did the magazine's entire layout.

Former Minuteman English teacher Denise R. Donovan served as the Copyright Editor, and the Graphics Coordinator was Graphics Department senior teacher Daniel Vardaro. The school's Office Technology department did the word processing. "The magazine is truly an integrated student effort," Mr. Donovan said. "By the time it's done, many students from all majors and departments have played a part in its creation."

The student artists featured in this year's magazine are Francis Gassert of Acton; Jared Bessett-Kirton, Paul Blaszczyński and Ashley Val of Arlington; Courtney Lindhorst of Belmont; Joseph Cusano of Concord; David Vaughan of Dorchester; Michael Hammond and Ivy Smith of Medford; Hilary Fox of Needham; Julia Repucci of North Andover; Marcela Ribeiro of Sudbury; and Michael Don of Watertown.

The student poets featured in this year's magazine are Sean Chickosky, Franci Gassert, Michael Mortis and Arielle Shander of Acton; Pat Cooney, Molly McDowell, Amy Rivera and Ashley Val of Arlington; Elizabeth Mullane of Cambridge; Nat Bearg and Jeffrey Palma of Concord; David Gagliardi and Aaron Granik of Lexington; Ivy Smith of Medford; Eliza Leahy and Matt Schlegel of Needham; Kevin Murphy of Peabody; Libby Haberkorn and Erica Linstrom of Stow; and Marcela Ribeiro of Sudbury.

Minuteman Celebrates First Annual Science & Technology Career/College Expo

Minuteman Regional High School was very excited to extend an invitation to companies and colleges to participate in our First Annual Science & Technology Expo for students interested in exploring technology career pathways. The Science & Technology Expo was held at Minuteman Regional High School on March 15, 2007.

This evening was designed to allow the opportunity for companies and colleges to identify as being a partner with Minuteman, showcase products, and more importantly, share how their education in one of Minuteman's technology program lead to college and then exciting and rewarding careers. Present at this Expo were prospective students and their parents, as well as, Minuteman technology faculty, current and former technology students, parents, industry partners, and representatives from colleges/universities. Minuteman was also pleased to welcome keynote speaker Dr. Cary Sneider, Vice President of the Museum of Science Boston and the Executive Director of the National Center for Technological Literacy.

The goal of the Science & Technology Expo was to provide a program that would identify viable career opportunities in technology and how career pathways that begins in one of Minuteman's eleven technology programs could continue onto a two or four-year post-graduate program and into a rewarding business, engineering, medical, science, or technical career.

School Committee Recognition

After several years of dedicated service, one member left the Regional School Committee in 2007. The entire Minuteman Regional School District thanks Linda Frizzell of Belmont for her many years of service, leadership and commitment to Minuteman Regional High School.

Minuteman Regional School Committee 2007

Charles Olmstead of Acton	Rosalie Barton-May of Lancaster
Laura Morrissette of Arlington (<i>Secretary</i>)	Marjorie Daggett of Lexington
Joseph Scali of Belmont	Kemon Taschioglou of Lincoln
Kileen Burgoyne of Bolton	Jeffrey Stulin of Needham (<i>Chair</i>)
Donna Corey of Boxborough	Alice DeLuca of Stow
Nancy Weiss of Carlisle (<i>Vice-Chair</i>)	Atty. Paul Lynch of Sudbury
John Lang of Concord	Mary Ellen Castagno of Wayland
Frank Gobbi, Jr. of Dover	David Harmon of Weston

Student Representative – Molly McDowell of Arlington

- End Report -