

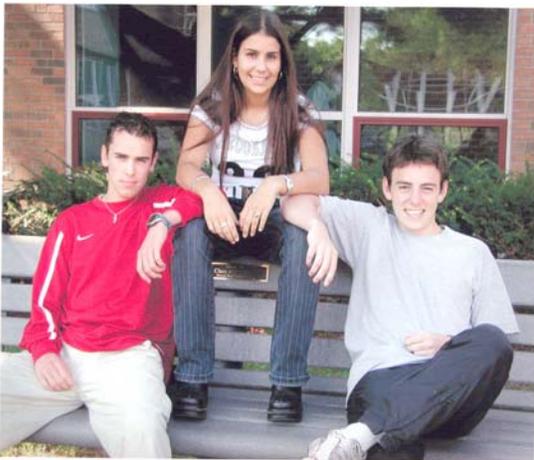
## REPORT OF THE WESTON INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATION

Established in 1950 by Town Meeting, the Weston International Affiliation (formerly the Weston Rombas Affiliation) oversees the town's two international student exchange programs, one with the town of Rombas, France, and one with a preparatory school in Porto Alegre, Brazil. We also help welcome any student from abroad who attends Weston High School.

Every year, the committee selects one Weston student to go to each of the two countries, and welcomes one student from each of our affiliated communities. The affiliation pays round trip airfare for the Weston students. We assist our visitors by finding homes for them and helping with academic and social adjustments and with expenses incurred while in Weston. These expenses include school accident insurance, some of the cost of the Close-Up trip to Washington, DC, or the full cost of the eighth grade trip there, yearbooks, special books and classroom supplies, sports deposits and other miscellaneous expenses. In 2003, we also helped to sponsor a group of five Russian students and their teacher for a two week long trip here.

Although we are an official town committee, we receive no tax money. Our funds come from an annual town-wide appeal, and from our spring brunch. Townspeople were generous as always in 2003, and we raised about six thousand dollars from these two sources. Contributions are tax deductible.

The affiliation is also grateful for the support we receive from the community in the form of housing for our visitors. Approximately ten families a year open their homes and hearts to these teenagers. Lasting ties often form, some of which now extend thirty or forty years. Each student usually stays about two months with five different families, thus seeing several versions of what an American family looks like. New host families are welcomed by the affiliation. We encourage families who cannot serve as hosts to participate by inviting our international students to a dinner, weekend trip, sport event, the movies, or another family activity.



*Weston International Exchange students: Jean-Charles Tijou from Rombas, Daniella Forte from Weston, and Rafael Jacintho from Porto Alegre.*

### Highlights of 2003:

\*Our visiting scholars for the current school year are:

*Rafael Guerra Jacintho* from Porto Alegre, who has stayed with the families of Emily and Dave Hutcheson, and Henriette and John Power.

*Jean-Charles Tijou* from Rombas, whose hosts have been the families of Gilda and Joe Forte, and Carol and Henry Fizer.

Jean-Charles and Rafael were honored at the annual reception in September at which they were officially welcomed to the town by Selectman Harold Hestnes, Assistant Superintendent Cheryl Maloney, and World Languages Chair, Cindy Crimmin.

\*In 2002-03, our exchange students were:

*Jessica Ge* from Rombas, whose hosts in 2003 were the families of Anthea and Bob Bowen, and of Henriette and John Power.

*Everton Assis* from Porto Alegre, who stayed with Yvonne and Rainer Sieber, Elizabeth Ross and Richard Wrangham, Tania and Jack Deary, Marlene Nordstrom and Ken Wood, and Becky and Dana Callow.

\*Weston students abroad:

*Mara Eagle* is spending the 2003-4 school year in Rombas. *Daniela Forte* returned from her year there in August to return to Weston High School as a junior.

- \* Kaja Autler, mother of Lilian Autler (W-R '83), traveled in February to South America to see her daughter. The two of them went to Porto Alegre where they saw several former exchange students as well as Sonia Szewczyk, director of the Brazilian exchange.
- \* Jim Smith, member of WIA and history teacher at the high school, helped organize a two-week trip to Weston for five Russian students and their teacher. WIA sponsored the group and welcomed them at our spring brunch. Later in the year, Weston High senior Elle Anatole met with some of these students on a trip to Russia with her family.
- \* Carlie Grob (W-R '01-02) went to visit friends in Rombas in April; two of her French friends came to see her in the summer.
- \* Jean-Louis Pironio, head of the French exchange, and his wife, Sylvie, came to Weston in May for the graduation of Joe Forte (W-R '96-97) from Boston College.
- \* Cecile Tijou, (R-W '00-01) returned to Weston in July and August, leaving shortly before her brother, Jean-Charles, arrived for his year here.

\* In September Alan Oliff, Superintendent of Weston Public Schools, traveled with his wife, Alice, to Rombas where the Pironios and the whole French committee treated them to a wonderful three days. They visited the lycee and an elementary school and took part in the reception held by the town to welcome Mara Eagle.

Audrey Weiland (R-W '97-98) returned for a few weeks to Weston and was here for the fall reception.

The committee extends special thanks to the host families in all three participating countries. They provide the most essential ingredient for the success of this cultural exchange.



*Weston School Superintendent Alan Oliff visits with Mara Eagle in Rombas. Mara is Weston's current representative to Rombas.*

## WESTON WAR MEMORIAL EDUCATIONAL FUND COMMITTEE

The Weston War Memorial Educational Fund Committee awarded \$14,000 in financial assistance to six Weston High School seniors during 2003. These awards are based on financial need, scholastic ability and school recommendations.

Retired committee member Aimo Teitinen passed away in 2003. The Weston War Memorial Education Fund Committee received many donations to the fund in his memory. "Tate" was a dedicated man who served the town well for many years. His sense of humor, helpfulness and guidance will be missed.

The Committee appreciates the continued support from the community to the annual fall fund drive.

Principal Balance, June 30, 2002:	\$226,783.00
Annual Fund Appeal:	4,365.00
Gain on Sale of Investments:	1,686.12
Principal Balance, June 30, 2003	\$232,834.12

## REPORT OF MINUTEMAN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

### *School of Applied Arts & Sciences*

#### Class of 2003 Graduate Achievement Highlights

- 91% of the Class of 2003 graduated into either college or employment in their field of study.
- 100% of Dental, Cosmetology and Early Childhood Education graduates passed the national or state certification examinations in their respective fields.
- More than 90% of graduates in Science Technology, Medical Occupations, Construction Trades and Commercial and Human Services either enrolled in college or found jobs in their fields of study
- A Biotechnology Academy student was honored as an Outstanding Vocational Student of the Year by the Minuteman Regional School Committee, the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators, the State Board of Education and state Commissioner of Education.
- Another Biotechnology student earned a national second place in the prestigious Presidential Scholars Program.

#### Academic Division Highlights

- Minuteman sophomores tied for second place in Massachusetts among regional technical schools on MCAS test performance.
- 45 students took advantage of college level pre-calculus and calculus courses under an agreement with Middlesex Community College. A Biotechnology student placed fourth in the technical math competition at the Skills USA-VICA National Math Meet.
- Students on the Math Team competed strongly at all levels against academically diverse groups of area schools, finishing the year in first place in the state vocational conference.
- An on-line seminar provides training in Internet research, writing skills, software application usage and time management to Freshmen.

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- The Special Education Department teamed with mainstream teachers to help students achieve one of the highest levels of special education MCAS “pass” scores in the state.

#### **Science & Technology Division Highlights**

- The Biotechnology Academy was designated an outstanding high school program by the National Center for Career and Technical Education at Ohio State University in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Education.
- The Biotechnology Academy formed a new partnership with Harvard’s Molecular Biology Laboratory and Children’s Hospital and introduced bioethics, cell graphing and forensic science into its curriculum.
- The first state-approved high school pre-engineering program entered its fourth year. In cooperation with the University of Massachusetts, Minuteman offers college level engineering courses on Saturday mornings to serve students from local high schools.
- Two Electromechanical Robotics students took National Third Place in Skills USA-VICA National Competition on Team Robotics and Automation.
- Environmental Science students worked with the Bolton Conservation Commission to create a vernal-pool monitoring plan that includes a public information brochure for educating local homeowners on the subject.
- Many new business/industry projects were achieved, including:  
*Verizon* -- after-school technology training for middle school students,  
*Cognex Corporation of Natick* -- weekly on-line interactive training on Visions Systems,  
*GTE* - helping with new physics units for biotechnology,  
*Northeast Center for Telecommunications* - grant assistance,  
*Adept Robots* - an \$80,000 gift for the Electromechanical Engineering/ Robotics program,
- Environmental Technology students worked in service projects for such agencies as the MWRA, Cambridge Water Department, Bolton Conservation Commission, Sudbury Valley Trustees, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Northeastern University Marine Biology Research Laboratory, and the United States National Park Service, Minuteman National Historic Park.
- Minuteman staff members are active in working with the Department of Education in developing the vocational Certification of Occupational Proficiency (C.O.P.), including serving as state chairs for Engineering and for Office Technology and state vice-chair for Telecommunications.

#### **Construction - Power Mechanics - Building Trades Division Highlights**

- The Automotive Technology Department won the industry’s Most Outstanding Automotive Program in Massachusetts award for the fifth year in a row.
- Students in Carpentry, Electrical Wiring, Plumbing and HVAC completed construction of a three-bedroom colonial home for the Lexington Housing Authority.
- Carpentry and Drafting students designed and constructed classroom improvements for two schools in Lincoln.
- Drafting & Design Technology students completed plans for a large garage to be built in Lexington.
- Student teams completed the reconstruction - design, construction and installation -- of the historic cannon stands for the Belmont Town Common.
- The Automotive Technology and Automotive Collision Repair programs both earned recertification through the National Automotive Technical Education Foundation.
- The Landscape Management Department won several awards, including their sixth consecutive First Place at the Annual New England Flower Show in Boston.

### Commercial & Human Services Division Highlights

- The Child Development Center and the Early Childhood Education department were recertified by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. Not all commercial centers receive this certification.
- A three-student Retail Marketing & Management team placed first in state level entrepreneur competition among Distributive Education students. Another student won first place in the Massachusetts School Bank Association's annual essay contest. Both contests were held at the Federal Reserve Bank in Boston.
- Students hosted their annual "Breakfast with Santa" fund-raiser for Children's Hospital of Boston. Over the years, Minuteman students have donated more than \$10,000 to needy children.
- The Culinary Arts Department is preparing to become a certification site by the American Culinary Federation, due to be awarded in June 2004.
- For the second year in a row, Culinary Arts students won first place in the culinary competition at Newbury College earning \$7,000 in scholarships at the college.
- Graphics Communications students earned second and third place in a New England-wide poster design competition sponsored by the Printing & Publishing Council of New England.
- A junior Graphic Communications team worked with the Lahey Clinic, to designing and printing a 2004 calendar with artwork by children who are patients in the "young hearts" clinic.
- Culinary Arts Baking students won First and Second places in the National Skills USA-VICA skills competition.

- ### Overall Highlights and Honors

- A Freshman Exploratory program, designed to ensure that students experience each of Minuteman's twenty-three technical programs before choosing a major, was introduced. This program runs through half the year, exposing students to a variety of careers.
- **National Honor Society** -- The Minuteman Chapter of the National Honor Society served the school and the community with thousands of volunteer hours maintaining a solid and diverse membership while inducting twenty-four new members.
- A junior Biotechnology Academy student was a presenter at Harvard University's Junior Science Symposium.
- The School to Careers Partnership has formed a Minuteman Business/Education Alliance with 1,700 companies. This will allow Minuteman to facilitate communication and cooperative student-employer projects and internship opportunities for the district's 15 participating high schools.
- 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, enjoyed one of the highest participation and success levels in the state.
- Numerous staff development efforts focused on obtaining national rather than just state certification in graphics & digital media, culinary arts, and collision repair.

### Honors for the School

Minuteman was named one of the **Top 50 schools in the *High Schools That Work*** network of approximately 1,100 schools in 27 states across the country. Minuteman was the only school in Massachusetts selected for this honor. "The top 50 sites were chosen based on the performance of their students on the past two grade 12 National Assessment Educational Project-based assessments and evidence that the schools have implemented the ten key practices of *High Schools That Work*," wrote Massachusetts Commissioner of Education David P. Driscoll.

Dr. David Form, a Biotechnology Academy instructor at Minuteman was named the **2003 Massachusetts Biology Teacher of the Year** by the National Association of Biology Teachers. The award was given “in recognition of excellence in the teaching of biology and service to the profession. Criteria for selection included innovation and sharing of information through community interaction. In addition to teaching Biotechnology at Minuteman for the past eight years, Dr. Form teaches a course in bioinformatics at Boston University and is developing a course for high school science teachers through the Whitehead Institute to introduce them to bioinformatics, a strategy of using computers and Internet sources to acquire, analyze and compare genes and proteins.

The Minuteman Automotive Academy was selected by the National Automotive Youth Educational Systems program as a site for high level career learning in the field and voted the **Most Outstanding Automotive Technology Program in Massachusetts** by the Industry Planning Council of New England.

For additional information visit our website at [www.minuteman.org](http://www.minuteman.org)

MINUTEMAN FINANCIAL INFORMATION					
	FY 02	FY03	FY03 ACTUAL/	TRANSFER/	
REVENUES	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ENCUMBERED	RECEIPTS	AVAILABLE
District Assessment	\$7,252,023	\$7,497,855	\$7,497,855	\$ 0	\$ 0
Chapter 70 Aid	2,557,038	2,557,038	2,530,950	-	(26,088)
Current Tuition	0	279,289	304,528		25,239
Transportation Reimbursement	959,806	778,747	800,334	-	21,587
Choice	317,019	592,598	592,598		
Other Program Income	321,685	250,971	230,233		(20,738)
Certified E & D	84,697	15,185	15,185		
Previous Years' Tuition	<u>2,945,017</u>	<u>3,701,837</u>	<u>3,701,837</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$14,437,285</b>	<b>\$ 15,673,520</b>	<b>\$ 15,673,520</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
Instructional Cost	829,019	923,798	766,925	21,645	178,518
Administrative Cost	410,983	567,519	516,210	(10,291)	41,018
Risk Insurance	168,631	222,230	193,062	0	29,168
Salaries and Benefits	10,900,798	11,597,338	11,589,770	35,700	43,268
Facilities and Equipment	949,395	1,298,900	1,318,946	67,813	47,767
Transportation	1,067,811	1,055,885	1,048,873	0	7,012
Cafeteria	4,760	7,850	7,536	0	314
Debt Management	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 14,331,397</b>	<b>\$ 15,673,520</b>	<b>\$ 15,441,322</b>	<b>\$114,867</b>	<b>\$347,065</b>
<b>EXCESS REVENUE</b>	<b>\$105,888</b>		<b>\$ 232,198</b>	<b>\$114,867</b>	<b>\$ 347,065</b>