

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF TUESDAY, January 11, 2011

Date: 1/11/2011                      Time: 7:00 PM                      Location: School Committee Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Makara

The following Committee Members were present:

- o Member Gorski-Strong
- o Member Collins
- o Member McNulty
- o Chairman Makara

The following Committee Members were absent:                      Member Czechowski

**Motion: Move to appoint Lori Glennon as Recording Secretary.**

The motion was made by Member Gorski-Strong

The motion was seconded by Member Collins

The following roll call vote was taken:

- 4 members having voted in the affirmative
- members having voted in the negative
- members having abstained

The motion:       X   Passed  
                         Failed

**Motion: Move to approve the meeting minutes of 11/23/2010.**

The motion was made by Member McNulty

The motion was seconded by Member Collins

The following roll call vote was taken:

- 3 members having voted in the affirmative
- members having voted in the negative
- 1 members having abstained

The motion:       X   Passed  
                         Failed

**Motion: Move to approve the meeting minutes of 12/14/2010.**

The motion was made by Member McNulty

The motion was seconded by Member Gorski-Strong

The following roll call vote was taken:

- 3 members having voted in the affirmative
- members having voted in the negative
- 1 members having abstained

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**Motion: Move to appoint Lori Glennon as Recording Secretary.**

The motion was made by Member Gorski-Strong

The motion was seconded by Member Collins

The following roll call vote was taken:

4 members having voted in the affirmative

   members having voted in the negative

   members having abstained

The motion:   X   Passed  
       Failed

**Motion: Move to approve the meeting minutes of 11/23/2010.**

The motion was made by Member McNulty

The motion was seconded by Member Collins

The following roll call vote was taken:

3 members having voted in the affirmative

   members having voted in the negative

  1 members having abstained

The motion:   X   Passed  
       Failed

**Motion: Move to approve the meeting minutes of 12/14/2010.**

The motion was made by Member McNulty

The motion was seconded by Member Gorski-Strong

The following roll call vote was taken:

3 members having voted in the affirmative

   members having voted in the negative

  1 members having abstained

The motion:      X   Passed  
                  \_\_\_\_\_ Failed

**The Assistant to the Superintendent for Business, Mr. Ted Avlas updated the committee on:**

- **Fiscal Year 12 Budget** – Scenario’s are broad Webster Admin Team will have to sit back and wait. The Administration Team is working diligently and will have a draft at our next meeting. The good news is the economy tax revenues are improving. Although the state deficit is over 2 billion and how that will affect the Chapter 70 education is yet to be seen. The mass budget is on the web site for everyone to follow the process.
- **Open Hearing** – Mr. Avlas reported that he and Mrs. Pierangeli went to an open hearing at Worcester State with the Board of Education on preparing the budget. The Circuit Breaker was discussed, which is the state’s share of out of district tuition. In the past we received 72-75% reimbursement, it was cut to 40% special ed funding. The ARRA money is gone; the key is will the state go back to the 72-75% reimbursement (\$200,000-\$250,000) which is key to keeping a lot of personnel.

**The Principal Report ~ Carrie Wallace, Principal Park Avenue Elementary School**

- **Teacher’s Assistant** – Park Avenue Elementary now has a TA in every classroom for parts of the day which allows for small group instruction and common planning for staff.
- **Reading is SNOW much fun and School Read-aloud** – Two reading programs at the PAE. With each book a student reads they get a snow ball to fill out about their book. This year the school read-aloud book is Charlotte’s Web. Fern visited each classroom with Wilbur and Charlotte. It is giving the school a common connection, each grade level having different guidelines.
- **Math Fact Challenge** – Different for each grade level, for example, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade is doing Rocket Math – as the students become skilled at new levels their rocket goes higher.
- **Winter Carnival** – PTO sponsored event to be held February 12<sup>th</sup>.
- **Presentation of School Improvement Plan** - Three goals in the plan:

#1 The Park Avenue Elementary School staff will develop a laser like focus on non-fiction writing to improve student’s skills to effectively answer open response and short answer questions in all content areas.

#2 Park Avenue Elementary School staff will develop a laser like focus on the number sense strand of mathematics to improve student’s basic mathematics skills

#3 Park Avenue elementary School will implement the Peaceful Playground program to increase student activity and decrease bullying during recess.

**The Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Gregory M. Ciardi** presented information on the following:

- The Superintendent’s office has received a request from the Town to submit to the Town Report. This is given out at Town Meeting. The deadline was yesterday, it is much earlier than in previous years. The Superintendent’s office will be working on this submission in the next few weeks.
- Webster Public Schools met the deadline for submitting the Anti Bullying Policy

Chairman Makara asked Dr. Ciardi if he has been asked by the Selectmen to submit school employee’s salaries to be published in the Town Report ~ it is public record. Dr. Ciardi had not and would like to wait until he gets a formal request. If the request does come it is important to inform employees that this will happen.

**Student Representative to the School Committee Dan Zalewski.** –

- Review of the Bartlett HS sports teams
- The Student Council will be sponsoring “Minute to Win it”
- Anxious to see if tomorrow will be the first snow day
- Each school has been affected to a tragic house fire with one of our families. Donations have been coming in and anyone interested in contributing can contact any of the schools or the superintendent’s office.

Old Business

New Business

Motion to authorize negotiations for Labor Agreements with the Instructional Assistance Associations and the Custodian's Union.

The motion was made by Member Collins (IA Assoc) Member McNulty (Custodian)

The motion was seconded by Member Gorski-Strong (IA Assoc.) Member Collins (Custodian)

The following roll call vote was taken:

4 members having voted in the affirmative

   members having voted in the negative

   members having abstained

The motion:   X   Passed

       Failed

It was agreed that member McNulty would be the IA School Committee Rep and Member Czechowski would be the Custodial School Committee Rep.

Motion to accept an anonymous donation of \$250.00 to the Webster Middle School PASS Program

The motion was made by Member Gorsky-Strong

The motion was seconded by Member McNulty

The following roll call vote was taken:

4 members having voted in the affirmative

   members having voted in the negative

   members having abstained

The motion:   X   Passed

       Failed

It is not normal practice to receive an anonymous donation, but is very much appreciated.

Motion to accept donation of student desks to the Park Avenue School

The motion was made by Member McNulty

The motion was seconded by Member Gorski-Strong

The following roll call vote was taken:

4 members having voted in the affirmative

   members having voted in the negative

   members having abstained

The motion:   X   Passed

       Failed

50 refurbished students' desks have been donated by All American Recycling of Ayer, MA. Carrie Wallace will arrange for the desks to be picked up.

Motion to approve the Park Avenue School Improvement Plan

The motion was made by Member McNulty  
The motion was seconded by Member Gorski-Strong

The following roll call vote was taken:

4 members having voted in the affirmative  
   members having voted in the negative  
   members having abstained  
The motion:   X   Passed  
       Failed

Member Collins would like to see a follow-up on the goals set.

Motion to approve a request for Services for an Owner's Project Manager (OPM) for the Park Avenue School Building Project.

The motion was made by Member McNulty  
The motion was seconded by Member Collins

The following roll call vote was taken:

4 members having voted in the affirmative  
   members having voted in the negative  
   members having abstained  
The motion:   X   Passed  
       Failed

Mr. Avlas is asking committee to approve the document and approve advertising for the Owner's Project Management. This is an 80 page document; major items include what the requirements are for someone to apply. This has been approved by the school's attorney, the Building Committee and MSBA.

Review / Transfer / Singing of Bills, Payrolls and Vouchers: Committee reviewed and signed bills and vouchers.

Motion: Move to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was made by Member Collins  
The motion was seconded by Member Gorsky-Strong

The following roll call vote was taken:

  4   members having voted in the affirmative  
       members having voted in the negative  
       members having abstained  
The motion:   X   Passed  
       Failed

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Glennon