

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF TUESDAY, February 8, 2011

Date: February 8, 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 Czechowski
- o Member McNulty

The following Committee Members were absent:

Motion: Move to approve the meeting minute's of January 25, 2011.

The motion was made by Member McNulty

The motion was seconded by Member Collins

The following roll call vote was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed
 Failed

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

- ❖ PAE Building Committee is moving forward. Ten OPM (Owner's Project Manager) applications were received. The selection committee is now reviewing / ranking, at a meeting next week the group will come forward with a short list of 3-5 to be interviewed. A finalist will then meet with the Building Committee, if they agree, on to the School Committee on 3/8, then on to the MSBA for their approval. A decision will be made by the middle of March.
- ❖ The other update is the snow on the school's roof. The Building Inspector visited our schools. No issues with WMS and BHS, the building inspector gave the head custodians signs to look for. PAE did have some issues, snow removal started immediately. We are now addressing removing the snow that came off the roof and is against the building. The cost could exceed \$10,000 just for PAE; Mr. Avlas will give the committee a final report next week. Much thanks to the custodians and highway department for their hard work.

The Principal Report Mr. Jason Phelps, Webster Middle School

- ❖ Problem Solving Teams is a collaboration around student achievement, using data to change instruction in the classroom. There are 3 main purposes (1) Share data at monthly meetings
 - (2) Share strategies
 - (3) Share information on student concerns.

Dr. Ciardi began the Public Hearing on the FY2012 School Budget by informing the committee that the Administrative Team has been busy making cuts to the original budget. Due to those cuts; savings from past years' (\$292,000), and school choice (\$400,000); the school will be moderating their request from the Town by \$692,000. Some of the cuts that were made by not increasing staff, such as a guidance counselor at BHS, additional 6th grade teacher and an assistant principal @ PAE. Positions that will be added are SPED Director which is grant funded from 2011, four new Applied Behaviorist Analysis Specialist (teacher assisting students with autism)

Mr. Avlas stated that this is the 3rd draft of FY 2012 budget. He reviewed the impact items that had significant cuts; salaries were cut by roughly \$350,000; Bartlett Athletics; significant cut in supplies & uniforms, SPED tuitions cut by bringing tuition students back into the district, and a cut in federal/state funding. FY2012 budget is 1.8% over FY2011 budget. The state has calculated that the Town of Webster must pay .92% of the target budget; the budget presented is at 50%. The school website has the school budget and sites to review additional information.

A question from Mrs. Linda Millett about the salary increase's being factored into this new budget. Mr. Avlas explained that 1.5% for cost of living and lane and step change increases have been added.

Motion to authorize the close of the Public Hearing.

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

The following roll call vote was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative
 _ members having voted in the negative
 _ members having abstained
The motion: X_____passed
 _____Failed

Motion to re-open the regularly scheduled School Committee Meeting

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

The following roll call vote was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative
 _ members having voted in the negative
 _ members having abstained
The motion: X_____passed
 _____Failed

Old Business

Mr. Phelps presented the Webster Middle School Improvement Plan

Goal #1~ WMS will continue to raise student achievement in the areas of English Language Arts in state and local assessments The staff will be using AIMSweb to assess student reading and pair reading to reach out goal. The teachers are using a new rubric to assess the student non-fiction writing. Using SMART MCAS Generator to assist as an indicator of student outcome.

Goal #2 ~ WMS will continue to raise student achievement in the area of Mathematics The staff is using AIMS web to help students become more proficient in their math skills. Common assessments will examine student's work, focus on instructional progress.

Goal #3 ~ WMS will provide programming for parents and the community which will enable these constituents to contribute meaningfully to the education of students at the WMS This started last year to bring initiative (grants) to bring funding to the families of our students.

Motion to accept the Webster Middle School Improvement Plan

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

The following roll call vote was taken:

 5 members having voted in the affirmative
 members having voted in the negative
 members having abstained

The motion: X passed
 Failed

Dr. Ciardi asked for approval of the revision of the school calendar. Typically five extra days are built into the calendar, this year we have already used seven. The original calendar had the last day of school (180 days) on June 9, 2011; we need June 10, June 13-17 and June 20th to meet the 180 day minimum. Other districts are considering cancelling vacations, school on Saturday; those schools most likely started after Labor Day. Dr. Ciardi's recommendation is to extend the school year and asked the committee to authorize four additional days if needed on June 21-24, 2010 if we have more snow days. These snow days do not change the date of graduation.

Motion: Accept the revised school calendar

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

The following roll call vote was taken:

 5 members having voted in the affirmative
 members having voted in the negative
 members having abstained

The motion: X passed
 Failed

New Business

A. Mr. Avlas presented the FY2012 Capital Improvement Budget, he told the committee that this was originally prepared for us by a hired firm back in 2007, and this is the final year of the 5 year capital improvement plan. Eight out of 10 are original from 2007 in the Admin Building. Park Ave has MANY; hopefully we will resolve the situation with the new school. WMS has minor items, BHS numerous concerns, building reaching 33 years old. The outdoor track is becoming a safety hazard. The soffit and gutter repair at the admin building is a priority.

B. WMS to Nature's Classroom – not ready to bring to School Committee for approval

C. Donations were made totaling \$3,240 toward the replacement of a kiln at BHS.

Motion: Move to accept the donations for a new kiln

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

The following roll call vote was taken:

 5 members having voted in the affirmative
 members having voted in the negative
 members having abstained

The motion: X passed
 Failed

Chairman Makara would like to add an additional item to New Business. We have been asked as a committee to formally endorse the building of the new police station. The committee values the relationship we have with the police and continued protection to our kids is very important.

Motion: Formally endorse the building of a new police station

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

The following roll call vote was taken:

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

The motion: X passed
 Failed

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 Gorsky-Strong
The motion was seconded by Member Collins

The following roll call vote was taken:

 5 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed

 Failed

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Glennon