

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

Date: March 8, 2011

Time: 6:45 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: To enter into Executive Session according to M.G.I. Ch39 S23B to consider strategy with respect to collective bargaining to return to public session there after

The motion was made by Member Collins

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

Motion: To return to Public Session at 7:05 PM

The motion was made by Member Czechowski

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

Motion: To approve the meeting minute's of March 8, 2011

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 approve the Executive Meeting minute's of March 8, 2011

The motion was made by Member Collins
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
 1 members having abstained

The motion: X passed
 Failed

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

- ❖ Snow removal: All schools were monitored, the only school that required work was Park Avenue Elementary, and the final cost was \$10,118.00. Mr. Avlas will be looking for state or federal assistance.
- ❖ Budget Calendar – the budget was submitted to the Town Administrator, we will present the FY2012 Budget to the Finance Committee on Monday, March 14, 2011.
- ❖ The next School Committee meeting will be the last regular scheduled meeting before articles are due for Town Meeting. These would be Capital Improvement Articles. April 11, 2011 the articles are due. Monday, May 9, 2011 is Town Meeting

The Principal Report was presented by Michael Hackenson, Principal Bartlett Jr. Sr. High School

- ❖ Sue Larson obtained a grant from the Webster Cultural Council. An author/comic artist will be coming to meet with students in Grades 6-12. He will speak to the students in the auditorium and meeting with a small group.
- ❖ Lorinda Ralph was a finalist in the Lions Club Speech contest. She came in second place.
- ❖ Brianna Poulin, a student athlete at Bartlett High School, was recognized by Papa Ginos and the New England Patriots as The Game Time Student of the Month.
- ❖ Presently taking re-takes of the MCAS – fewest number of students taking re-takes (two are transfers from out of state)
- ❖ Summary of drop out rate (attached) from the DESE website
- ❖ The atmosphere at Bartlett has not been good since January. The teachers and administrators met over February vacation to discuss what could be done. Every student was reminded of handbook rules/regulations and faculty was reminded of the penalty for students that didn't follow the rules.

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

- ❖ District Wide Reports – The Webster Public Schools will have a system review in April by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, school accountability division. This will identify the strengths and weaknesses of the district. Documents must be sent to DESE by April 6, 2011. April 11-14, 2011 there will be a visiting team from DESE, we will be assigned a liaison that will provide us with an agenda of the visit. This is a major event in the district.

Student Representative to the School Committee Dan Z.

- ❖ There is a very positive impact on the enforcement of rules as described by Mr. Hackenson
- ❖ Upcoming events: March 3 – Basketball Tournament March 31 – Family Feud Night
- ❖ Shamrocks are being sold to support MDA by the National Honor Society
- ❖ Red Cross Blood Drive will be Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Old Business

A. Mr. Avlas updated the Committee on the School Building Committee progress; he reviewed the dates/process taken by the sub committee to choose an Owner’s Project Manager. The SBC authorized R.F.Walsh, we are asking for the School Committee’s approval tonight. If approved we will negotiate and sign a contract with RF Walsh, send all the documents to the MSBA, they will review, if necessary we would go in for a interview. April 4, 2011 is the next MSBA OPM review. If all goes well we can execute the OPM contract after that.

Motion: To approve R.F. Walsh as Owners Project Manager for Park Avenue Elementary building project

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

New Business

A. Approval of 2011-2012 School Calendar; Dr. Ciardi explained that it is very similar to the current year calendar. The administrators reviewed the calendar as did the Webster Educators Assoc. A parent e-mailed Dr. Ciardi expressing the concern of the 8/23 start date being too early; surrounding towns start one week later. The parent suggest eliminating Feb and April vacation and having only March break,

Chairman Makara asked if there has been any feedback regarding the Professional Development days (1/2 day no school, first Wed of the month.) Dr. Ciardi responded No, there has been no feedback. Ms. Millett spoke about having a March break, she said the MCAS testing dates would be too close if there was a March break. Discussion between committee members on when graduation would be – the first Friday of June = June 2, 2012. Also discussed was the possibility of further discussion regarding whether to have 2 weeks vacation vs March for the following year calendar

Motion: To approve the draft of the 2011-2012 School Calendar

The motion was made by Member Gorski-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: passed
 Failed

B. Approval of Emergency Dispensing Site at Bartlett Jr. Sr. High School. Dr. Ciardi, Mr. Hackenson, Mr. Avlas met with Ken Gikas, Massachusetts Region 2 Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition also a member of the Webster Board of Health is asking for an agreement to use Bartlett High School in the event of an extreme event. The two objections Dr. Ciardi presented would be the disruption to the education and cost. In terms of cost the state would reimburse any cost associated with supplies, use and security of the building. Disruption of education; in the event the school is being used for this major event, the event itself would be the disruption of education.

Motion: To authorize approval of Emergency Dispensing site at Bartlett Jr. Sr. High School

The motion was made by Member Czechowski
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: passed
 Failed

C. Approval of 2011 "Unit B" Administrators Contract discussed in executive session

Motion: To approve "Unit B" Administrators Contract for 2010-2011

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: passed
 Failed

D. Discussion of May 2011 Town Meeting Articles. Mr. Avlas presented three articles (Capital Improvement plan to be consideration at the May Town Meeting.

1) Soffit, gutter repair and reconfiguration at the Filmer Building. There are numerous failings that have prevented the water from draining. It is not only affecting the brick but also we are getting ground water in the basement. This has been on the Capital Improvement Plan. The cost would be approximately \$41-42,000.

2) Exterior masonry work at the Filmer Building, due to old age and elements, there is deterioration to the brick work of the building. Cost would be approximately \$90,000.

3) Webster Policy Grant - The committee approved this grant in 2009, we have not gone forward because it needs town funding. It would be for school security purposes. It would include a school ID card machine, closed circuit television surveillance system for Bartlett, base radio and antenna, re-keying of locks, and handheld metal detectors. The grant would match any/all that we choose to do. The grant was approved in 2009 and expires in August 2011.

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

Motion: To transfer \$10,835.53 from the Bartlett High School Student Activity Savings Account to the Bartlett High School Student Activity Checking account.

The motion was made by Member McNulty
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

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 9:25.

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