

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF TUESDAY, October 26, 2010

Date: 10/26/2010

Time: 7:10 PM

Location: School Committee Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Makara

I. Motion: Move to go into executive session according to M.G.L. Chapter 39 S23B to consider strategy with respect to collective bargaining.

The motion was made by Member Collins

The motion was seconded by Member McNulty

The following roll call was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

0 members having abstained

The following Committee Members were present:

Member Collins

Member Gorski Strong

Member Czechowski

Member McNulty

II. Motion: to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2010 meeting

The motion was made by Member Collins

The motion was seconded by Member Czechowski

The following roll call was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

0 members having abstained

The motion: passed

Failed

III. Dr. Gregory Ciardi requested to move Mr. Carney's Approval for the Show Choir overnight trip to Virginia Beach up on the Agenda

- Mr. Peter Carney is requesting permission for Show Choir to travel to Virginia to Show Choir competition
- Insurance binder expires 12/30/2010 and will need to be renewed before the trip
- Trip itinerary included

Motion: to accept approve the trip to Virginia Beach as presented by Mr. Carney

The motion was made by Member McNulty

The motion was seconded by Member Gorski-Strong

The following roll call was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

0 members having voted in the negative

0 members having abstained

The motion: passed

Failed

Dr. Gregory Ciardi, Superintendent of Schools presented the Superintendent's Report

Dr. Ciardi presented the Assistant to the Superintendent for Business' Report

Assistant to the Superintendent for Business, Mr. Ted Avlas presented information on the following information:

1. Massachusetts School Building Authority Project
 - Next step in enrollment projections

- The MSBA will offer (for planning purposes only) configurations based on enrollment
- No spikes of school enrollment are expected
- Possible grade configurations are as follows:
 1. Grades K-5, 6-12
 2. Grades K, 1-5, 6-12
 3. K-3, 4-8, 9-12
- Enrollment certification tool for feasibility study was approved at the last School Building Committee and sent off to MSBA

Principals Report was presented by Jason Phelps, Webster Middle School:

1. Harvest Fest was a success in its fourth year. The event was well attended by vendors. It was more community based, less school based. The PTO from Park Avenue Elementary, Webster Middle School and Bartlett Jr. High School's Advocacy Program were in attendance
2. MCAS Results for ELA
 - MCAS documents were provided
 - Grade 3 showed an increase in advanced and decrease in warning for ELA
 - Strengths were Poetry and Concept Development were at or above state averages
 - Single digit away from state averages in ELA
 - Grade 4 remains consistent with strength in Open Response. Thinking Map is helping frame writing.
 - Near or at state percent in Poetry
 - Need Improvement in non-fiction. Results were 4-5% lower than the state average.
 - Results in fiction were 8% lower than the state
 - Grade 5 more advanced scores noted, more warning scores were also noted
 - Strength in Style/Language and Open Response.
 - There is a long way to go with writing and understanding text with results 11% less than the state average
 - Grade 6 shows an increase in proficient students, needs improvement and warning status have been consistent. Students scoring in the advanced category have decreased.
3. Mathematics
 - Grade 3 has an increased number of advanced/proficient students than the last four years. This is a positive trend with areas of strength in geometry, algebra and symbols
 - Number sense, operations, number line, measurement and math vocabulary need to be addressed
 - Grade 4 has a decrease in proficient scores and an increase in warning scores
 - Strength in geometry which was close to the state average
 - Number sense, operations, computation and probability need work
 - STEP Program was introduced last year with questionable impact on scores. Item analysis not showing any impact as of yet.
 - Grade 5 scores were similar to last year at a flat line
 - Strength in data analysis at state average
 - Number sense, operations, measurement need to be addressed
 - Grade 6 shows an increase in advanced/proficient scores and a decrease in need improvement/warning
 - Strength in algebra and equations
 - Number sense, operations and measurement need to be addressed
4. Overall Scores
 - Math fact initiative continues
 - Are the math books aligned to state standards?
 - Instructional changes with small groups in math, Aimesweb math and Aimesweb reading

- The School Committee supportive in using federal funds to improve scores as improvement has been too slow.
- Dr. Ciardi stated that there has been a change in schedule, staffing and grouping of students.
- MCAS scores are released earlier in the year now to allow for data analysis
- Funding from Ed Jobs will help

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Gregory Ciardi reported the following District Wide News:

1. Introduction of Dr. Marilyn (Bonnie) Bisbicos as Interim Director of Special Education

- Ms. Bisbicos joins us with experience both in Arlington and Cambridge as the Director of Special Education.
- We are lucky to have Bonnie with us

2. Resignation of Patti Munsch Executive Assistant to the Superintendent

- Patti leaving to go back to previous occupation in the medical field
- Patti raised the bar for professional expectations

3. Race to the Top

- Grant awarded over the summer
- MOA signed in the spring
- Projects selected for scope of work of Teacher Effectiveness-Design teacher evaluation
- Align curriculum to common core standards
- Participate in National Institute for School Leadership for principals
- Standards based curriculum resources
- Increase the number of students in Mass Core Curriculum
- Dr. Ciardi thanked the Committee and the WEA for meeting the deadline
- Chairman Makara also thanked the WEA for their participation

V. Student Representative to the School Committee Daniel Zalewski presented the following:

- The Honors Banquet was held last Thursday evening with a spaghetti and meatball dinner served and students awarded a Bartlett Bag
- National Honor Society students and Student Council students participated in the Harvest Fair at Webster Middle School
- ACTs will be held at the school on December 11, 2010
- A Jr. High Dance will be held on October 29th.
- The Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on October 27 from 8 AM to 2 PM in the gym
- The National Honor Society Induction will be held on November 4th
- Rick and Dick presentation will be held on November 1st for seniors
-

V. Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Gregory M. Ciardi reported the following Old Business

1. Policy Subcommittee Meetings need to be placed back on the agenda

- Continue work we started last year. Member Collins will start to work with Chairman Makara on the process.

VI. Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Gregory M. Ciardi reported the following New Business:

A. Acceptance of Side Letter of Agreement with WEA on Article 6-9

- Existing language is teachers are required to attend two meetings per month up to 75 minutes
- Changed to teachers at Bartlett High School for the 2010-2011 school year will be allowed to leave at dismissal 2:00 PM on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
- The first four Tuesdays of each month faculty members are required to stay until 2:47 PM for faculty meetings

Action: to approve language of Side Agreement with WEA

The motion was made by Member Czechowski

The motion was seconded by Member McNulty

The following roll call was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

0 members having abstained

The motion: passed

Failed

B. Memorandum of Agreement Custodians Council 93

- Extension of 2007-2010 Agreement
- Updated policy on professional appearance revised from August 23, 2010
- Frozen salaries
- Small increase in longevity stipends with Professional Appearance Policy

Motion: To approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the Custodians Local 93

The motion was made by Member McNulty

The motion was seconded by Member Gorski-Strong

The following roll call was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

0 members having abstained

The motion: passed

Failed

Failed

Review/Transfer/Signing 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 Gorski-Strong

The following roll call was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

0 members having abstained

The motion: passed

Failed

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Munsch