

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF TUESDAY, August 23, 2011

Date: Tuesday August 23, 2011

Time: 7:10 PM

Location: School Committee Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Makara

The following Committee Members were present:

- o Member Geotis
- o Member Czechowski

The following Committee Members were absent:

- o Member McNulty
- o Member Collins

Motion: Move to approve the meeting minute's of July 19, 2011 was passed over to the next meeting

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

(1) Summer Maintance

FILMER ADMINISTRATION BUILDING: A natural gas burner conversion was installed. Now all buildings in the district have been converted. Old oil tanks will be removed from the basement soon. We should expect a payback in one year.

PARK AVENUE ELEMENTARY: There was some classroom remodeling, attempting to make more out of less. The STAR Program was rearranged and painted.

WEBSTER MIDDLE SCHOOL: There was not a lot that needed work on the inside. There was driveway work done by the DPW

BARTLETT JR. SR. HIGH SCHOOL: Seventy two smoke detectors were replaced in the C section. Now the entire building has been updated. A few rooms were renovated; one was the Literacy Lab, just off the Library. Mr. Hackenson added that the goal in the remodel was to welcome all level of readers.

The custodians did a great job; it was a short summer and many activities going on in the building.

(2) School Security Project at Bartlett Jr. Sr. High School

At the last Town Meeting, a COPS grant was approved. Keyless entry system was installed. This program keeps a record of what door was opened, when and by whom. Also a new video surveillance system was installed. The system covers the cafeteria, library, auditorium, entrance, exit, and hallways. Administration will able to go back and review if needed. Final installation was last week, additional training is planned.

Member Geotis asked about the keyless entry; what happens if someone loses their card. Mr. Avlas told the committee that when a lost key is reported, the key would be deactivated and a new key would be issued. Member Geotis also asked if this works at Bartlett would it be considered for installation at other buildings. Mr. Avlas responded, yes.

Mr. Avlas reported that there is one project left unfinished. The boys and girls locker room at Bartlett; the air quality system has malfunctioned, a part is on order, once it is replaced the painting and cleaning will be done. Member Geotis asked if students are still able to use the locker room, is it a health concern. Mr. Avlas said that yes it is still used, absolutely not a health issue.

(3) School Building Project update

Today Dr. Ciardi, Member Collins and Mr. Avlas attended a meeting in Boston at the Massachusetts School Building Authority for the Designer Selection. A review of the designers for the feasibility study was done. Eleven proposals were submitted and reviewed by the 15 member committee. Dore & Whittier won the bid. Mr. Avlas is very pleased with the selection. The next step is to negotiate a contract, submit it to the MSBA for their approval. The next School Building Committee meeting is September 6, 2011.

The Principal Report

No Principal Report

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

(1) Opening Day of School

Yesterday was the annual opening day of meetings for teachers, instructional assistants and teaching associates. Breakfast was provided by the middle school cafeteria for over 260 people. Mrs. Lundwall, Mr. Kaczynski and AmComm were there early making sure all the technology was working. Today was Opening Day for all students. There were NO problems. All buses arrived, departed without incident, parent drop off and pick up was flawless. Additional police presence assisted in the smooth opening. Enrollment numbers are changing very quickly, and will present numbers at upcoming meeting.

(2) Personnel Update / Announcement

Mike Hackenson, after 12 years as principal, has announced his retirement from Bartlett Jr. Sr. High School. Mike graduated from BHS in 1972; he was VP of his class. In 1986 he came on as an English teacher, then left to Oxford HS, came back as the principal at BHS. He has assisted in attaining full accreditation with the NEASC, partner programs with local college established, 6++6 offerings of AP classes, 90% of graduates are going on to college, 80% of 10<sup>th</sup> grade students scored advanced or proficient in the MCAS English test and 70% in the math test.

We will begin forming a search committee within a week or 10 days. This committee will be made up of faculty, parents, members of the community and administrators. Hopefully we will have a candidate in place at the time Mr. Hackenson retires. Enclosed in this packet is a calendar for the search committee.

(3) Update of Summer Professional Development and New Teacher Orientation, presented by Andrew Kelley

The first curriculum development began July 1<sup>st</sup>, the focus was on teaching teams to develop curriculum units based on the new Massachusetts Curriculum Standards. A New Teacher Orientation was held August 18, 2011, very successful to the new teachers.

Old Business

New Business:

A. Appointment of School Committee Member to the WEF Board of Directors.

Chairman Makara asked that this be put off until next meeting due to two members not in attendance this evening

B. Authorization for prepayment SPED Tuitions

Mr. Avlas explained that Massachusetts General Laws allows us to pre-pay special education tuition whenever we have the ability to do so. The pre-payment may not exceed three (3) months of tuitions. Last year we recommended the same and pre-paid \$130,000 and what we are requesting again this year.

Chairman Makara went on to explain that this law allows money remaining in the 2011 budget to be used in FY2012 SPED tuition payment.

Motion to authorize prepayment of SPED Tuition in the amount of \$130,000

The motion was made by Member Czechowski

The motion was seconded by Member Geotis

The following roll call vote was taken:

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

The motion:        X passed  
                     Failed

C. Declare Material Surplus

Mr. Avlas asked the committee to declare surplus computer equipment that is no longer useful and has been replaced and upgraded. The technology people from AmComm gave us a complete inventory, a summary is included for your review. A recycling company will come and pick up all the items and we will be paid for the items that can be recycled. Items are: 165 computers, 160 monitors, 14 printers/scanners, 19 network switches.

Motion to declare material surplus as presented

The motion was made by Member Czechowski

The motion was seconded by Member Geotis

The following roll call vote was taken:

3 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 at 8:15PM.

The motion was made by Member Czechowski

The motion was seconded by Member Geotis

The following roll call vote was taken:

3 members having voted in the affirmative

     members having voted in the negative

     members having abstained

The motion:   X   passed

       Failed

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Glennon