

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF TUESDAY, November 22, 2011

Date: Tuesday November 22, 2011

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: School Committee Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order by

- o Chairman Makara

The following Committee Members were present:

- o Member Czechowski (arrived at 7:10)
- o Member Geotis
- o Member McNulty

The following Committee Members were absent:

- o Member Collins

Motion: Move to approve the meeting minute's of September 13, 2011.

The motion was passed over

Motion: Move to approve the meeting minute's of November 8, 2011

The motion was made by Member McNulty

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

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

**(1) Update of School Building Project –**

- On November 9, 2011 the Park Avenue Elementary PTO and Parents heard the presentation by Dore & Whittier. November 17, 2011 again at Webster Middle School.
- Earlier that day Dr. Ciardi and Ted Avlas went to MSBA in Boston along with Dave Billings & Joe Naughton from RF Walsh, Rob Fitzgerald & Lee Dore from Dore & Whittier, Dan Ricci was present via conference call. This group met with three members of the MSBA to discuss the options presented. The option favored was the K-4 configuration.
- November 17, 2011 evening there was a School Building Committee meeting; cost estimates were reviewed for each option along with time schedule and impacts of the construction. The Committee voted to eliminate one of the four options, Option 3. November 30, 2011 the School Building Committee will be voting on the preferred option to pass along to the MSBA
- Chairman Makara explained that the School Committee must discuss and take a formal vote the option being passed forward, a December 6, 2011 meeting must be added to the meeting calendar

Mr. Avlas informed the Committee that at the next regular scheduled meeting the School Year Budget Calendar will be presented.

**The Principal Report - Michael Hackenson**

- Recognition to Kim Granger, BHS Guidance Counselor, for organizing a Shadow Day for all Parochial school students and parents to spend the day with 9<sup>th</sup> grade Bartlett students. This was well attended.
- The Life Skills Program, teacher Brian Saad and Karen Mitchell, held it's first ever Thanksgiving Dinner. The class shopped, prepared and served dinner for 48 guests. This dinner met Massachusetts State Curriculum on measurements, cooking, temperature, The Life Skills Program is also looking into local businesses to involve these students in a work program.
- BHS staff has been working diligently on their professional developments days. The 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade has common planning periods, grades 9-12 do not, this gives the subject matter teachers the opportunity to work collaboratively. Dr. Kelley and staff have been working to have all units on line for students and parents to review.
- Dr. Kelley has been working with us and evaluating our advanced placement program, possibility creating a Pathways Program, which is a level between honors and AP
- By mid January a new Program of Studies will be available
- Thirty-four students were this years recipients of the John and Abigail Adams scholarship
- ACCESS Program, a program offering college courses to students; a hybrid course that is on-line along with meeting with a professor. An offering from Nichols College, one student at BHS took this class.

**District Wide Reports/Correspondence**

**1. NCLB Waiver**

Dr. Ciardi told the Committee that on November 14, 2011, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has requested a waiver from the U.S. Department of Education regarding certain provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act. (press release included in packet) Eighty-one percent (81%) of Massachusetts schools and ninety (90%) districts in are not making the goals set. A decision should come down late winter. If approved, AYP will be replaced with a new measurement closing the gap for all children, not just the ones in warning/failing level. The MCAS testing will remain the same.

## 2. Notice of Special Town Meeting

The Board of Selectman has posted a Special Town Meeting on December 5, 2011 at 7:00. The school does not have any articles on this agenda.

## 3. Recognition of Superintendent's Scholar

Every year the Worcester County Roundtable of the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents asks districts to submit one top performing student to be the recipient of the Superintendent Scholar. This award is given to a high school senior that demonstrates high academic success, a commitment to student leadership and participation in clubs and sports. This year the award is given to Megan Baker. Megan is ranked #1 in her class, she has dual enrollment with QCC and Bartlett, she is involved in the Select Choir, Show Choir, Band, Journalism Club, Student Council and National Honor Society. This year the banquet will be held January 5<sup>th</sup> at WPI

Megan thanked Dr. Cairdi and the Committee. She said that she has received her first college acceptance, University of Vermont. She will be majoring in journalism / communication.

## Student Representative to the School Committee Tori McIntyre

- This week is Spirit Week, tomorrow the Pep Rally will be held
- Friday night is the V Dance
- Bartlett Cheerleaders participated in a competition and ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the state
- Recently held the first ever Powder Puff football game – the senior girls vs the junior girls

## Old Business

### A. Superintendent Search Update

Chairman Makara explained the process for the superintendent search. Last week there was a meeting the MASC representative, Patricia Corriera. She came to describe what she can offer in assisting the Committee in this process. Tonight the Committee must vote on whether they will enter into a contract with MASC to assist in this process.

### Motion: Move to agree to hire MASC to assist in the Superintendent Search

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

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

B. Draft of school calendar survey

Included in this packet is this years school calendar and a draft of a survey that can go on the school's website. This survey will assist in setting the 2011-2012 school calendar. If there are any changes suggested, they must be submitted to the WEA for their input. The committee agreed with the proposed survey and asked that it be put on the website, results to be shared at the next meeting.

**New Business:**

A. Draft of Policy on Head Injury & Concussion

Dr. Ciardi reminded the Committee that the Massachusetts Department of Public Health is mandating all Massachusetts schools have a policy on Head Injury & Concussion. The new regulations overlap with our current school policy. The timeline for implementing this policy is complicated due to the time needed for development, training and three readings to adopt a new policy. The Massachusetts Department of Health has revised it's requirement, schools now have until March 1, 2012 to have a policy in place. But an interim policy must be in place by January 1, 2012. Included in this packet is a draft of the interim policy.

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

Motion: Move to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM.

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

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