

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF TUESDAY, December 13, 2011

Date: Tuesday December 13, 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
- o Member Geotis
- o Member Collins

The following Committee Members were absent:

- o Member McNulty

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 22, 2011

The motion was made by Member Geotis

The motion was seconded by Member Czechowski

The following roll call vote was taken:

3 members having voted in the affirmative
 members having voted in the negative
 members having abstained (Member Collins)

The motion: X passed
 Failed

Motion: Move to approve the meeting minute's of December 6, 2011

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 (Member Collins)

The motion: X passed
 _____ Failed

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

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

The following roll call vote was taken:

3 members having voted in the affirmative
 members having voted in the negative
 members having abstained (Member Geotis)

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

- R.F. Walsh reviewed the preferred schematic plan as prepared by Dore and Whittier. It was submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) by the December 9, 2011 deadline.
- January 11, 2012 the preferred schematic plan will be presented to the MSBA for their approval. Dr. Ciardi and Ted Avlas will be in attendance for this meeting.
- December 19, 2011 there will be a power point presentation at the Selectman's Meeting by R.F. Walsh and Dore and Whittier.
- Rob Fitzgerald from Dore and Whittier wrote a letter to the Ted Avlas acknowledging the school community on their hard work so far in this process.

(2) FY2013 Budget

- Deliberations are continuing with the administration team. With all the activity on Beacon Hill, the FY2013 budget has taken a back seat. The first presentation of the Budget Calendar to the School Committee will be January 10, 2012,. The second one will be on January 24, 2012. The Governors Budget will be released on January 25, 2012.

Member Collins said yesterday the Senate House Ways and Means Committee held it's first vote, this is the first critical step in setting the budget.

The Principal Report - Carrie Wallace - Park Avenue Elementary School

- Polar Express Night was held two weeks ago. It was a joint effort by the PTO and Park Avenue Elementary teachers. Twenty-two (22) teachers attended along with approx. 185 students and their families - totaling over 400 people. Most were dressed in their pajamas for the evening's events. Students moved from classroom to classroom doing math and literacy projects. A wonderful, exciting evening.

- Auld Lang Syne – events are being planned for the Park Avenue Elementary Schools’ 50th birthday to be held January 21, 2012 from 3-5PM. Reflecting back on the history of the school, asking Webster alumni to participate.
- March 2, 2012 ~ Dr. Seuss Birthday Celebration

Park Avenue Elementary School Improvement Plan

Goal #1 Create data teams: as a grade level team, having monthly meetings. the teachers examine student results and discussing what is working and what is not. A data wall will be created and used for reflection and discussion.

Goal #2 Building and implementing the new Massachusetts Frameworks units to align our curriculum with the new frameworks.

Goal #3 Safety ~ created a Ecology Task Force along with the Walker Partnership to implement a safe, respectful and responsible school culture for students and staff. Also implementation of the Second Step bully prevention program to assist in the success of this goal.

Motion: Move to accept the Park Avenue Elementary School Improvement Plan as presented this evening by Principal Wallace

The motion was made by Member Collins
 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

District Wide Reports/Correspondence - None this evening

Student Representative to the School Committee Tori McIntyre not available this evening ~ she is performing in the Show Choir concert this evening.

Old Business

A. Superintendent Search Update – Chairman Makara reiterated to the Committee that an agreement was made at the December 8, 2011 School Committee with the MASC to assist in the superintendent search committee. We strive to gain as much input from the community and staff as possible. Pat Corriera will begin meeting with focus groups this week. The timeline was decided upon, the survey is on-line for anyone that has a desire to complete. Additional meetings are scheduled.

B. Policy on Head Injury & Concussion (2nd reading) – Dr. Ciardi reminded the committee this is the third time we have discussed this draft of the policy. The diagnosis and treatment of head injury and concussion with student athletes is among the most important things we must do to keep our student athletes safe. A difficult timeline was set by the Massachusetts Department of Health, the deadline has been extended to March 1, 2012. Our Athletic Director made a presentation to the Committee in the fall outlining the procedures that are already in place at Webster Public Schools. The MASC and MIAA have been working on a draft policy for all districts to use. Dr. Ciardi is asking the Committee to consider two things (1) adopt an interim policy with the intent to revise and formalize by March 1, 2012. (2) this school committee has a policy on the adoption of policies; requiring three readings in order for us to be legal we will need two motions, one to suspend the three reading policy to adopt a policy.

Motion: Move suspend the three reading policy required to adopt a policy

The motion was made by Member Czechowski
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

Motion: Move to adopt the interim policy for head injury and concussion as presented this evening

The motion was made by Member Geotis
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

New Business:

A. FY2013 Budget Calendar – Mr. Avlas reviewed the FY2013 Budget Calendar (enclosed in packet). January 10, 2012 will be the first review before the committee. A public hearing has been held at a regularly scheduled school committee meeting for the past few years, Mr. Avlas is asking the committee to consider holding the public hearing in the school auditorium for a larger community attendance. By our next meeting,, January 10th a decision needs to be made as to where the public hearing will be held in order for it to be advertised. The attached timeline outlines all the meetings / committees that the budget will be presented to.

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

Motion: Move to adjourn the meeting at 7:50PM.

The motion was made by Member Collins

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