

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Date: April 12, 2016 Time: 6:45PM

Location: Park Avenue Elementary School Library

The meeting was called to order by

The following Committee Members were present:

- o Member Chenevert
- o Member Makara
- o Member Gorski-Strong (arrive at 7:00 and left at 9:00)

The following Committee Members were absent:

- o Chairman Collins

The following Committee Members participated via Remote Participation

I. Call to Order: Move into Executive Session in Accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, S21(a) to consider strategy with respect to collective bargaining:

Motion: To Move into Executive Session in Accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, S21(a) to consider strategy with respect to collective bargaining:

The motion was made by Member Hurton

The motion was seconded by Member Chenevert

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

Motion: To return to public session immediately following executive session

The motion was made by Member Hurton

The motion was seconded by Member Chenevert

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

II. Approval of March 22, 2016 Minutes:

Carry over to next meeting

III. Superintendent's Report

A. Assistant to the Superintendent for Business' Report

- Park Avenue Elementary Building Update – following up on unfinished items such as HVAC, kitchen equipment, excavation, bathroom flooring
- District electric and gas contracts have gone out to bid with French River
- Negotiating a 2 year extension of the bus contract that will expire June 2016
- New telephone contract was signed with Windstream Communications.
- April 1st student counts were submitted and a determination will be made if we will continue in the CEP Program
- In the process of selecting a Food Services manager
- Tomorrow is the Nellie Twardzik Commemorative Ceremony at BHS at 3:00 PM

B. Principal Report – Jennifer Lundwall, Webster Middle School

- Attendance rate at 95%
- Parent survey went out early March. There were 56 responses. Highlights were given on results
- Student Lead Conferences will held this Thursday.
- Mrs. Lundwall wanted to acknowledge the staff for the recent presentation of their own portfolios on student achievement.

C. District Wide Reports / Correspondence

1. Safe Community Forum

District Attorney Early's office has provided grant funds to support a Safe Communities Forum. We are the 2nd district in the state to be awarded these funds. On May 17th we will host this forum at BHS from 5:00 – 8:00 PM. The community partners for the district; Webster Police, Webster Fire, EMS and other agencies will provide an exhibit in the cafeteria. There will be a panel presentation of speakers from law enforcement, Harrington Hospital and emergency rescue on the opioid crisis.

IV. Student Update – Robert Price

- Tomorrow is the Nellie Twardzik Ceremony. The National Honor Society will be assisting in this event
- Spring sports have begun
- Last week was Diversity Week
- There are many student field trip coming up; this Friday the BHS Art Classes will travel to NYC along with two international trips.

V. Public Hearing: FY17 Budget

Dr. Malkas spoke of the recent Budget Workshop held with three School Committee members and the District Leadership Team. She reviewed the critical needs based on the Districts three priorities. An analysis of the scenarios with and without over ride funding was given.

Mr. Avlas reviewed the FY17 Foundation Budget. The Board of Selectman did vote last night for a Prop 2 ½ on the ballot. Dr. Malkas reviewed the FY17 Budget Priorities, there was a review of positions that they are looking to restore that had been cut in years past.

Each administrator gave their rationale to their recommended additional staff. In the absence of an override none of the presented positions will be funded.

Mr. Avlas summed up the presentation giving figures needed in the proposed over ride. A Maintenance of Effort funding, as the budget stands now will not result in any cuts but will not allow for any advancement.

Representative McKenna spoke to the Charter School Bill currently under review

The Public Hearing ended at 8:35PM

VI Old Business

A. Approval of Resolution Against Lifting the Cap on Commonwealth Charter Schools

There has been recent changes to a proposed Bill, it is not applicable to discuss this item and request this item be removed.

VII New Business

A. Acceptance of donation from Bartlett Cheerleaders

The Bartlett Cheerleaders have been doing fundraising and have asked to partner with us in purchasing new mats. They would like to donate half the cost. Out half would come from the facility rental account.

Motion: To accept donation in the amount of \$2,621.00 from Bartlett Cheerleaders

The motion was made by Member Hurton

The motion was seconded by Member Gorski-Strong

The following roll call vote was taken:

 4 members having voted in the affirmative
 0 members having voted in the negative
 0 members having abstained

The motion: X passed
 Failed

B Approval of out of state field trip – Grades 3, 4 and 5 to Hyde Cultural Center

Mrs. Howe from Park Avenue Elementary and Mrs. Baggett from Webster Middle School will be taking students in grades 3 through 5 to the Hyde Cultural Center located in Woodstock, CT. The students in Grades 3 & 4 will attend the Young People’s Concert on May 4th. Grade 5 students will attend the Salt March Opera, “Cinderella” on May 17th. This trip is grant funded.

Motion: To approve out of state field trip – Grades 3, 4 and 5 to Hyde Cultural Center

The motion was made by Member Gorski-Strong

The motion was seconded by Member Hurton

The following roll call vote was taken:

 4 members having voted in the affirmative
 0 members having voted in the negative
 0 members having abstained

The motion: X passed
 Failed

C. School Choice Discussion

Dr. Malkas provided the School Committee an update on the 2015-2016 enrollment including anticipated enrollment vacancies as it applies to School Choice students looking to attend Webster Public Schools. Currently we are exceeding enrollment at Park Avenue. Discussion continued with building principals reviewing class size and their building projected enrollment. Public Hearing on School Choice will be held next month

D. Approval of Memorandum of Agreement for Custodial Union

Dr. Malkas reviewed the changes to the Custodial Union Memorandum of Agreement (outline included in packet). This would extend the agreement until June 30, 2017.

Motion: To approve the Memorandum of Agreement for Custodial Union

The motion was made by Member Hurton

The motion was seconded by Member Chenevert

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

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

Motion: Move to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 PM

The motion was made by Member Hurton

The motion was seconded by Member Chenevert

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

Documents used during this meeting include:

- March 22, 2016 Minutes
- FY 17 Budget Priorities
- FY17 Foundation Budget
- Public Hearing Notice from March 25, 2016 Webster Times
- Resolution against lifting the cap on Commonwealth Charter Schools – proposed Bill information

- Bartlett Cheerleader donation, copy of mat invoice
- Grade 3 & 4 Field Trip request form to Woodstock, CT
- Grade 5 Field Trip request form to Woodstock, CT
- Memorandum of Agreement for Custodian Union