

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, March 8, 2016

Date: March 8, 2016 Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Park Avenue Elementary School Library

The meeting was called to order by

The following Committee Members were present:

- o Member Chenevert
- o Member Hurton
- o Member Gorski-Strong
- o Chairman Collins

The following Committee Members were absent:

- o Member Makara

The following Committee Members participated via Remote Participation

I. Call to Order: Approval of February 9, 2016 Minutes:

Motion: To approve the February 9, 2016 Minutes

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
1 members having abstained (Gorski-Strong)

The motion: X passed
 Failed

III. Superintendent's Report

A. Assistant to the Superintendent for Business' Report

Mr. Avlas and Dr. Malkas attended the FinCom Meeting last Thursday, it was very productive. It was agreed to have a three board meeting on April 7th. Also, the Suburban Coalition was discuss at the meeting, voted and approved implementation.

Last night attended the Board of Selectman meeting. Presented the MSBA Statement of Interest draft. They expressed an interest in the new vocation programs being proposed. They voted and approved the SOI as required.

An update on the budget calendar, the Board of Selectman have requested a 3 board meeting on Monday March 14th to discuss the FY17 budget. Changes to the budget calendar are: Reminder the Special Town Meeting is May 9th at 6:00PM, Annual Town Meeting immediately at 7:00PM. Article submissions for the Town Meeting must be in by March 25th. Suggesting holding a Budget Public Hearing on April 12th , April 26th will be our last regular School Committee meeting before Town Meeting.

B. Principal Report – Steven Knowlton, Bartlett High School

- Finishing MCAS Math makeups, preparing for March testing.
- March 23rd – 28th Sophomore ELA MCAS testing
- Tomorrow the Nichols College Collection – hosting 18 junior / senior females for their 2nd visit. Program reaching out to students at risk
- YOU-niversity program is averaging 30 students/session. Being held every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday
- Grade 8 Transition Plan ~On 2/10/16 the BHS Administration met with 8th grade teachers. March 3rd we had 8th grade students assembly, later in evening held a forum for all 8th grade parents and students.
- In June, during exam week, the 8th Grade Step Up day will be held.
- Late August will have a Welcome Back BBQ for incoming 9th graders
- On 2/17 we received the NEASC response, it was favorable, however our Warning Status remains unchanged. Oct. 1st is the next submission
- April 13th - Nellie Twardzyk Memorial Ceremony. In 1935 Nellie was a BHS sophomore who made the boys varsity baseball team.
- This weekend is the State DECA Competition that our DECA Team will be participating in. Also it's the Annual Student Council Conference on Cape Cod, our members will be leaving this Thursday to attend.

C. District Wide Reports / Correspondence

1. Graduation and Dropout Rate Data.

Dr. Malkas presented a review of data from current seniors back to when they were sophomores. We are unable to capture a true picture of the drop outs due to high number of transfers and students that were retained/ A review of the state's drop out data calculation method was given. Explanation of 4 year graduation rates vs 4 year adjusted graduation rates was given along with the 5 year adjusted graduation rate.

Dr. Kelly outlined some of the scenarios of the drop out student and the alternative programs offered. Suggesting more options are needed

2. Review / Update Goals

Dr. Malkas gave an update toward her own three goals that have been aligned to the District Improvement Plan. Each goal was reviewed with the actions that have been taken to date along with actions to be taken during the remainder of the school year (included in packet)

III. Student Update – Robert Price

- Bartlett Drama Club presented a Murder Mystery Dinner to a sold out performance on 2/26 at The Lodge Restaurant
- March 4th ~ National Honor Society begins March Madness with evens planned throughout the month
- March 5th ~ BHS Show Choir received the Silver Medal at their competition
- March 7th ~ BHS Varsity Basketball beat Whitinsville Christian at the Clark Tournament (69 to 60). Playing Oxford Thursday at 7:45
- March 23rd ~ Student Council's Mr. Bartlett Competition will be held at 7:00PM. There are 7 entries

IV Old Business

A. Authorization to submit FY17 Budget.

Mr. Avlas stated that due to the cancellation of the last School Committee the FY17 budget was submitted to the Town Administrators office on Feb. 28th, as required. The submitted budget has not changed from the last school committee review.

1. Proposed Budget Workshop

Dr. Malkas is suggesting a meeting with the District Leadership Team and School Committee to work through some budget draft scenarios. It becomes challenging to prioritize when cuts are needed. This workshop would enable a collaborative discussion to understand priorities. It was agreed that this would be held on Saturday, April 2nd. Time and place to be announced.

B. Approval of 2016-2017 Calendar

At the first review of the calendar it was recommended to survey families with proposed changes in the 2016-2017 school calendar. Results of the survey were given.

Motion: To approve 2016-2017 school calendar

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
 members having voted in the negative
 members having abstained

The motion: X passed
 Failed

V New Business

A. Presentation and Approval of 2017-2021 Capital Improvement Plan

Mr. Avlas reviewed the FY17-21 Capital Improvement Plan. Once approved this will be presented to the Town Administrator

Motion: To approve 2017-2021 Capital Improvement Plan

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

B. Approval of MSBA Statement of Interest – Bartlett High School

Mr. Avlas stated that the MSBA is now accepting Statement of Interest for 2016. This allows us to inform the MSBA about deficiencies that exist at Bartlett High School. The submission deadline is April 8th. An outline of items in need of repair / replacement is included in the packet. The Board of Selectman voted last night approving the submission. Our 2015 Statement of Interest proceeded to an MSBA Senior Study Screening visit. Included in the SOI are three Chapter 74 approved program proposals. These three educational programs must not be in competition with BayPath. We have been advised to be specific. Based on conversation with the superintendent at Bay Path it was determined that: Early Education and Care, Biotechnology and Radio & Television Broadcasting would be the programs offered. The Labor Market Value supports the need for these programs.

Motion: having convened in an open meeting on March 8, 2016, prior to the closing date, the School Committee of Webster, Massachusetts, in accordance with its charter, by-laws and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated April 8, 2016 for the Bartlett High School located at 52 Lake Parkway, Webster, MA. which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City/Town/Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

The motion was made by Member Hurton
The motion was seconded by Member Gorski-Strong

The following roll call vote was taken:

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

The motion: X passed
 Failed

C. Acceptance of \$10,000 donation to Bartlett High School from the Fels Family Foundation

Mrs. Marilyn Fels has donated \$10,000 to be shared between the athletics and music departments for “immediate” needs. The Fels Family foundation are great supporters of the school and community and greatly appreciate their support.

Motion: To accept \$10,000 donation to Bartlett High School from the Fels Family Foundation as presented

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
 members having voted in the negative
 members having abstained

The motion: X passed
 Failed

D. Approval of out of state field trip – Bartlett High School Show Choir to Connecticut

This even occurred this past Saturday. The Bartlett High School Show Choir traveled to Daniel Hand High School in Madison CT for a competition

Motion: To approve of out of state field trip – Bartlett High School show Choir to Madison, Connecticut

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
__ members having voted in the negative
__ members having abstained

The motion: X passed
_____ Failed

E. Appointment of a School Committee member to the Town Administrator's Search Committee

The Board of Selectmen opened the Town Administrator's Screening Committee at their February 22nd meeting. Pursuant to Chapter 7, Section 3 of the town by-laws, the screening committee shall consist of 9 members; on from the School Committee. Mr. Avlas volunteered to represent the School Committee.

Motion: To appoint Ted Avlas as the School Committee representative on the Town Administrator's Search Committee

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
__ 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.

A. Approve transfer request from Park Avenue Elementary School Students Activity Savings to Checking Account.

This item was tabled until the next meeting

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:

- February 9, 2016 Minutes
- 2015 Graduation Rates
- Superintendent Goals
- 2016-2017 School Calendar Parent Survey
- 2016-2017 School Calendar
- FY 2017-2021 Capital Improvement Plan

- 2016 MSBA Statement of Interest
- Mrs. Marilyn Fels donation
- BHS Field Trip request – Show Choir to Madison CT
- Town Administrator Screening Committee requesting SC member