

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Date: December 8, 2015      Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Park Avenue Elementary School Library

The meeting was called to order by

- o Chairman Collins

The following Committee Members were present:

- o Member Chenevert
- o Member Gorski-Strong

The following Committee Members were absent:

- o Member Hurton
- o Member Makara

The following Committee Members participated via Remote Participation

**I. Call to Order: Approval of November 24, 2015 Minutes:**

Motion: To approve the November 24, 2015 Minutes

The motion was made by Member Chenevert

The motion was seconded by Member Gorski-Strong

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. Superintendent's Report**

**A. Assistant to the Superintendent for Business' Report**

Mr. Avlas updated the Committee on the Park Avenue Building Project – On December 2<sup>nd</sup> there was a tele-conference to discuss all the outstanding issues that are being worked on. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for 12/16. The next School Building Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 17<sup>th</sup>.

The asbestos abatement has been completed at the administrative renovation project at Bartlett High School. Bay Path students are working on the demolition of the phase, construction should begin after the first of the year.

FY17 Budget meetings have been held with the District Leadership. Final review will take place in the first week of January. We will be prepared to present the first draft to School Committee on January 12<sup>th</sup>. In addition, Dr. Malkas and Mr. Avlas will meet with Pam Leduc, Town Accountant and Acting Town Administrator on December 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss the FY16 Budget

In September 2013, we joined with the Town to participate in Net Metering. The first phase was last spring, although the School Dept. was not part of that phase. The 2<sup>nd</sup> phase has begun (WMS is included), to date we have received \$24,000 in credits on our electric bill. The final project is expected to come on line in the next few months to include the rest of the district. This will have a direct impact on the budget, we are beginning to anticipate a savings.

**Principal Report – Carolyn Wallace, Park Avenue Elementary School**

Mrs. Wallace gave an update on the three academic initiatives

1. Completing implementation with GoMath
2. Completing implementation of Reading Foundations
3. New this year – partnership with Bay State Reading Institute. They are assisting with reading comprehension.

The PAWS Behavior Plan has been extended to the busses. It is making a difference. Rewards for good behavior is a “pajama day”

Annual Literacy Night is Friday, December 11, 2015 = book/theme is Gingerbread Pirate

Mrs. Wallace reported that the building is being used more by the community.

Dr. Malkas commended Mrs. Wallace for carrying over the PBIS to the busses.

### **C. District Wide Reports / Correspondence**

#### **1. Accountability Report**

Dr. Malkas stated that she just received word from Kim Dobro that BHS was given a grant called the Game Change Grant through the Massachusetts Attorney General’s office and Robert Kraft. This provides awareness and training aimed at preventing youth relationship violence. Two staff members will receive training from this grant.

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has released Accountability Changes. We remain on a waiver, with a goal to reduce the proficiency gap between all students and the high needs subgroup by half. Dr. Malkas reviewed all the changes along with goals and measurements (included in packet)

### **III. Student Update – Robert Price**

- Wednesday, 12/9 the Band & Chorus Winter Concert will be held, beginning at 6:30PM
- Boys and Girls Basketball opens the season this week vs Tantasqua
- Progress Reports go out 12/11
- Winter Wonderland will be held at Webster Lake on Friday 12/11 and Saturday 12/12
- The Christmas Mystery Breakfast will be held Saturday, 12/12 at the St. Constantine Greek Church. It is sponsored by Bartlett Drama Club.
- Next week will be the first boys and girls track meet against Northbridge

### **IV Old Business**

#### **A. Policy EEAA – Walkers and Riders – revision – Second Reading**

Second of third reading completed

### **V New Business**

#### **A. Accept donation from Long Subaru**

Mr. Scott Barry, General Manager of Long Subaru was present to detail their donation. Long Subaru is a family owned company that has a history of giving back to the community. For every new or certified Subaru sold during “Share the Love Event”, Long Subaru will donate \$100.00. They are promised a minimum of \$10,000. with the funds going to the Science Technology Engineering & Math Program at Webster Middle School. This donation will provide the program with 24 Chrome Books and a recharging cart, a 3D printer, document camera and additional resources.

Motion: Move to accept the \$10,000 donation from Long Subaru

The motion was made by Member Gorski-Strong  
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

The Committee thanked Mr. Barry for the generous gift.

#### B. Approval of Bartlett High School trip to Costa Rica

This proposed trip is for Bartlett High School student to travel to Costa Rica in April 2017. The advance notice is to allow students additional time for fundraising. Approx. 12-18 students have shown interest in the trip. Once school committee approval is given a cost will be locked in from EF Educational Tours.

Motion: Move to approve the trip to Costa Rica for April 2017

The motion was made by Member Gorski-Strong  
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

#### B. Approval of Extended Day Programming Coordinator Job Description

Dr. Malkas said that for several years Webster Middle School has participated as a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Grant for our PASS Extended Day Program. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Grant, which has funded the PASS Program will end 12/31/2015, Title 1 funds will now be used. To consolidate services we are re-writing the job description for the Programming Coordinator. This encompasses all after school and extended day job responsibilities

Motion: Move to approve the Extended Day Programming Coordinator job description

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

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. Approval of Central Massachusetts Special Education Collaborative Audit Report

Dr. Malkas presented the Central Massachusetts Special Education Collaborative Audit Report. The report shows that financial statements were in order and their practices acceptable.

Motion: Move to accept the Central Massachusetts Special Education Collaborative Audit Report as presented

The motion was made by Member Chenevert

The motion was seconded by Member Gorski-Strong

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

D. Discussion regarding Policy JJE – Fund-raising Policy

Dr. Malkas presented a proposed revised policy, changes have been made in bold print (refer to copy in packet). In addition Dr. Malkas included a sample policy from the State of Maine. There was discussion about School Committee authorizing fundraising, also being informed for a better understanding of where funds raised will be used. Mr. Avlas stated there are

Mr. Avlas suggested including Booster Clubs in the annual athletic fall meeting. The Committee agreed they are not attempting to restrain groups from fundraising, but would like notice of who is fundraising and who is benefiting from the funds.

There was continued discussion regarding policy language, what is considered a charitable organization and the possibility of having a second policy for Booster Club fundraising

E. Review of draft letter regarding proposed OSV Charter School

Dr. Malkas attended a Public Hearing yesterday for the proposed Old Sturbridge Village Charter School. She felt there were three items of concern from the charter school application. Those concerns were outlined in a letter drafted by Dr. Malkas, after review by the Committee it will be brought to the next meeting for vote and signatures.

Mr. Avlas said the proposed budget is on the DESE website, and if a Webster student attends we would be responsible for tuition.

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

Motion: Move to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 PM

The motion was made by Member Gorski-Strong

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

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lori Glennon

Documents used during this meeting include:

- November 24, 2015 Minutes
- Policy EEAA– Walkers and Riders
- Long Subaru Press Release
- Field Trip Request with supporting documentation for April 2017 to Costa Rica
- Extended Day Programming Coordinator Job Description
- Central Massachusetts Special Education Collaborative Audit Report
- Policy JJE – Fundraising
- Maine Policy DFAB – Athletic Booster Organizations (used for reference)