

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

Date: September 8, 2015

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: School Committee Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order by

- Chairman Collins

The following Committee Members were present:

- Member Hurton
- Member Makara
- Member Chenevert

The following Committee Members were absent:

- Member Gorski-Strong

The following Committee Members participated via Remote Participation

**I. Call to Order: Approval of August 25, 2015 Minutes:**

Motion: To approve the August 25, 2015 Minutes

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

**II. Superintendent's Report**

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

**1. Update on School Building Committee**

Mr. Avlas gave, what will be, one of the last updates on the PAE Building Project. The project is mostly completed, punch list being worked on. Happy to report the construction phase is over, it was on time and under budget.

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

- PreK – Grade 4 = 700+ students enrolled, had an excellent opening
- PreK and Kindergarten started today
- Thank you to all that attended the Ribbon Cutting
- Community Open House will be held on October 4, 2015 from 10-2. Many activities planned
- New Initiatives: \*BSRI – Bay State Reading Institute – enhance rigor in small groups  
\*PBIS – Positive Behavior Intervention Support

- Breakfast in the Classroom – year 2, additional grant funding has allowed the purchase of storage shelves, food carts and other items to accommodate the increase in enrollment/participation. Mrs. Wallace introduced Thalia McClay, Breakfast Coordinator. Thalia stated that today they served 790 students (82% participation)

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

#### **1. Goal Setting**

Dr. Malkas detailed the goals were developed as part of a revision of the strategic plan, review of the standards on the evaluation rubric, and through collaborative discussions with the district leadership team. The superintendent is required to have a minimum of 3 goals, last year there were 5 goals; the 5 A's (Attendance, Achievement, Attainment of diploma, Academic environment, Accessing Community Partners). This year the DLT developed, Academic Achievement; it has 3 legs; Student engagement, College/Career Readiness and Family Engagement. Dr. Malkas is looking to use internal data to measure these goals.

The Committee Members and Dr. Malkas discussed the components of the goals and the effort that will be made to attain them.

#### **Motion: To approve the 2015-2016 Superintendent Goals**

The motion was made by Member Hurton

The motion was seconded by Member Makara

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

#### **2. Update on School Opening**

Dr. Malkas outlined the start of the school year; the first two days were with only staff, on Wednesday students arrived. PreK and K began today. On Monday we had a presentation for staff from the FBI. We have established a collaboration between grade level staff to develop standards for students as they advance in grade levels. This year we have 10 busses at PAE (last year there were 8). Each day has improved. WMS and BHS routes have been consolidated and are traveling on the same bus this year.. AA Transportation has done great to provide transportation for our students. Dr. Malkas thanked the Community for their patience and support over these first days of school delays.

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

- Students are adjusting to the new schedule
- The climate seems to be more relaxed and focused with only grades 9-12 in the building
- This week fall sports began
- September 9<sup>th</sup> is the Mandatory Sports Meeting at 6:30PM
- Thursday is the start of new program; 16 seniors assigned to mentor Freshman Students and help them assimilate to the high school, making the transition easier

- September 16<sup>th</sup> – Open House 6:30PM. Parents are encouraged to attend
- September 17<sup>th</sup> – AP Kickoff – Growing number of students taking AP classes. This is a motivation assembly for AP classes

#### **IV Old Business**

#### **V New Business**

##### **A. Policy JKAA – Physical Restraint of Students – First Reading**

Dr. Malkas stated that there has been a change in Massachusetts legislation in public schools regarding physical restraints of students in public schools. This change is substantial enough to adopt a new policy. This is a safeguard for staff and students. Only staff that has been properly trained can use restraint on a student. Mrs. Baris reviewed the changes. They can also be found on the district web site under the mandated training. Physical Restraint is used as a last resort, not training, regulations focus on alternative procedures. She reviewed the regulations and procedures.

Member Hurton asked for clarification on page 2, last paragraph, specifically what happens when a building principal is not available. Mrs. Baris stated that legal counsel has been contacted for clarification to that line along with a few other items.

##### **B. Coordinated Program Review – Final Report**

Through the Offices for Program Quality Assurance (PQA), we had an audit of our Special Education and Civil Rights policies, procedures and documents for compliance to state and federal law. Dr. Malkas said the district did very well in the Special Education indicator's (5 out of 59 needed partial implementation). For the Civil Rights section there were 9 out of 26 indicators that require further action. Mrs. Baris gave a review of the Coordinated Program Review process and outlined the indicators that require corrective action. Tomorrow Dr. Malkas and Mrs. Baris will be meeting with the DESE auditor to review the necessary steps for corrective action to be put in place. The corrective action plan must be submitted to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education by September 25, 2015.

Chairman Collins congratulated Mrs. Baris and her team for good work

##### **C. Title IIA Fiscal Review – Final Report**

At the end of June, the DESE conducted a fiscal review of Title IIA, Teacher Quality grant. These grant funds have been used for teaching positions under class size reduction and a small amount has been allocated for professional development. In addition there is an allocation to sue funds for the parochial schools. The results of the review indicated that the "payroll records are accurate and had proper supporting documentation" and ledgers were "in compliance with grant requirements and allowable under Title IIA regulations". Dr. Malkas wanted to commend Mrs. Daniels and Mrs. Pierangeli for their accurate management funds

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

Motion: Move to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM

The motion was made by Member Hurton

The motion was seconded by Member Makara

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:

- ❖ August 25, 2015 Minutes
- ❖ Superintendent Goals Powerpoint
- ❖ Policy JKAA
- ❖ Coordinated Program Review Powerpoint
- ❖ DESE Letter – Title IIA