

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, August 23, 2016

Date: August 23, 2016 Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Park Avenue Elementary School Library

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

There was a tour of the three schools before the meeting began.

Chairman Collins stated it was evident the hard work done over the summer even as summer programs were being held.
Buildings are ready for the start of school

I. Approval of June 28, 2016 Minutes:

Motion: To approve the June 28, 2016 Minutes

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

Approval of July 26, 2016 Minutes:

Motion: To approve the July 26, 2016 Minutes

The motion was made by Member Makara

The motion was seconded by Member Hurton

The following roll call vote was taken:

3 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

1 members having abstained (Member Chenevert)

The motion: X passed

 Failed

III. Superintendent's Report

A. Assistant to the Superintendent for Business' Report

1. Report on Summer Maintenance Projects and the Condition of the School Buildings

Mr. Avlas updated the Committee on the summer maintenance done in in all the buildings

Park Avenue elementary – continue to work on the punch list

Webster Middle School – fence repairs, new signage, keyless access installed, refinished the gym floor, science eye wash stations were updated and inspected.

Bartlett High School – paving of sidewalks, student parking lot repaired, emergency evacuation for handicapped has also been paved (by Eastern Avenue), kitchen repairs and HVAC repairs, fire alarms have been replaced, volleyball court was installed

- Next School Building Committee meeting will be Thursday, August 25, 2016
- Lead and copper testing on the school's drinking water will be done soon. UMass and DEP will be doing the testing
- Administrative Renovation project is progressing this summer, there are some budget concerns, will have an update at the next meeting.
- Town Charter Review have been meeting twice a month.
- Town Administrator Search – 5 finalists have been passed along to the Selectman, they have 30 days to select
- Last year during the PAE Building the Jabloski Square had to be relocated. There was a re-dedication ceremony on August 17, 2016 at the new site (a brochure is included)

B. District Wide Reports / Correspondence

1. School Personnel Update

Mr. Lind gave a personnel update (excel sheet included in packet)

2. Webster Middle School Standard Based Report Card Update

AS a follow from the last meeting Mr. Lind presented a plan to address parent concerns (included in packet). He is recommending an advisory committee / task force. Options of this plan were given.

Member Collins spoke to the process of creating a task force and setting exception / time lines. Member Hurton stated the benefits of a task force, but was concerned about improving the process for this year's students so there aren't similar experiences as the last school year.

Mrs. Lundwall has begun to respond to parent concerns. Parents were mailed the WMS Handbook and have been invited to a meeting this Thursday.

Member Hurton asked if the technology troubles have been addressed. Mr. Lundwall replied that it has been remedied. Member Makara is not sure if a formal advisory is necessary, but he wants updates. His concern is the teacher's inconsistency and hopes it is addressed early on. Accountability and timeline is important along with the need for open communication.

Chairman Collins summed up that the Committee doesn't want to hinder the progress. If there could be an informal working group with input from parents and staff. Creating a Task Force with all the regulations that are required is not the best means.

3. Superintendent Goals Update

Mr. Lind presented a draft of his goals asking the Committee what they would like to see. There was discussion over process / changes / timeframes. One suggestion from Member Hurton is to provide final goals for review and adopt the goals as an agenda item at the next meeting. He asked if PBIS goal would be carried through with all grade levels. Mr Lind explained how it can be integrated in all grade levels.

III. Old Business

A. Policy IHAMB – Teaching about Alcohol, Tobacco and Drugs – Second Reading

Member Hurton questioned if adding parent / guardian should be added to this policy. Discussion about the purpose of this policy and its creation is from the new Opioid Bill. Mr. Lind will follow up with MASC to see if there are any policies to address Mr. Hurton's concerns.

B. Policy JICH – Alcohol, tobacco, and drug use by Students Prohibited – Second Reading

No questions / comments

C. Town of Webster Charter Review committee Request

Mr. Avlas is the School Committee designee to this Committee. He reviewed Section 3-4 as it pertains to the School Committee. He is suggesting that Section 3-4B1 to be amended, and recommended a letter to be signed at the next meeting.

D. Approval of Revised Staffing Plan

Mr. Lind reviewed the staffing changes that had been recommended at the last meeting, giving explanation to the options. Included in the packet is the new recommended changes. At Webster Middle School; having a dual Grade 5 and Special Education certified teacher would allow the hiring of an additional Grade 2 teacher.

There was discussion over class size and meeting the needs of students.

Motion: To approve the revised staffing plan

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

 0 members having voted in the negative

 0 members having abstained

The motion: X passed

 Failed

E. Create Webster Middle School Standard Based Report Card Task Force and Appoint School Committee member and Chairperson

Pass over

IV. New Business

A. Approval of Park Avenue Elementary School Student Handbook

Mrs. Wallace introduced the new Assistant Principal, Dr. Patricia (Patty) Mackay.

Dr. Mackay reviewed the changes 9outline included in the packet). There was discussion over the changes in dismissal

Motion: To approve the Park Avenue Elementary School Student Handbook

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 2.5 FTE Paraprofessional's at Park Avenue Elementary School

Mr. Lind referenced the memo from Mr. Baris (included in packet). Mrs. Baris spoke of the need due to additional support to comply with new students requiring services. Funding will be from salary adjustments.

Mr. Avlas said the money from the Superintendent salary line will fund the 2.5 FTE's

Motion: To approve 2.5 FTE Paraprofessional's at Park Avenue Elementary School as presented

The motion was made by Member Makara
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 (Member Hurton)

The motion: X passed
 Failed

C. Approval of 1.0 FTE Grade 1 Teacher

With the increasing class size, Grade 1 is a concern. Mr. Lind is asking to add a seventh Grade 1 teacher. Chairman Collins questioned the sustainability of this position. Mr. Avlas spoke about the process to fill the needs at each school, will be using the funds from the salary savings due to resignations and retirements.

Motion: To approve 1.0 FTE Grade 1 Teacher

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

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

Motion: Move to approve the \$420.00 transfer from Webster Middle School Student Activity savings to checking account

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

Motion: Move to approve the \$16,231.70 from Bartlett High School Student Activity savings to checking account

The motion was made by Member Makara

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 (Member Hurton)

The motion: X passed

_____Failed

VII. Move to enter into Executive Session according to M.G.L. 30A, S21(a) to discuss strategy with respect to litigation and not to reconvene into Open Session

I. Move into Executive Session in Accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, S21(a) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation and to reconvene in Open Session

Motion: To Move into Executive Session in Accordance with MGL Chapter 30A, S21(a) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation and not to reconvene in Open Session

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

Motion: Move to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 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:

- June 28, 2016 Minutes

- July 26, 2016
- New hire spreadsheet
- WMS Standards based Report Card plan
- Superintendent Goals
- Policy IHAMB – Teaching about Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drugs
- Policy JICH - Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Use by Students Prohibited
- Charter Review Committee Request
- Administrative Team Staffing Recommendations
- Advisory Committees to the School Committee – Policy BDF
- Park Avenue Elementary Student Handbook
- Request for 2.5 FTE Paraprofessionals from Kathleen Baris
- Request for 1.0 FTE Grade 1 Teacher from R. Lind
- Webster Middle School Transfer request
- Bartlett High School Transfer request