

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, April 24, 2018

Date: May 22, 2018 Time: 6:30 PM Location: Michael Makara Conference Room
77 Poland Street, Webster, MA 01570

The meeting was called to order by: Chairman Hurton

The following Committee Members were present

- o Member Chenevert
- o Member Seddiki
- o Member Blythe

The following Committee Members were absent:

- o Member Napierata

Chairman Hurton recognized the traumatic experience of a school shooting in Santa Fe, Texas. This is occurring much too often, every school in the country is struggling with this. On behalf of the School Committee and School District we offer thoughts and prayers to the Santa Fe School District. There was a moment of silence

I. Call to Order: Approval of April 24, 2018 Minutes

Motion: To Approve April 24, 2018 Minutes

The motion was made by Member Chenevert
The motion was seconded by Member Blythe
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 Seddiki)
The motion: X Passed
 Failed

Motion: To approve May 8, 2018 Minutes

The motion was made by Member Chenevert
The motion was seconded by Member Seddiki
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 Blythe)
The motion: X Passed
 Failed

II Superintendent's Report

1. Notice of Approved Adult Education Grant

Superintendent Goguen was pleased to announce that we received the Community Adult Learning Center Grant. We will be receiving \$426,530.00, an increase of \$151,368 from last year. Thank you to Leslie Baker and Terri Gillardi for their hard work.

Leslie Baker was present and spoke of the increase in funds this year – it will allow us to open a site in Southbridge, 150 seats for adult learners. The only item not received was the integrated learning – only one was awarded in the region.

Ms. Baker gave an overview of the program; this is the 20th year the program has run, we are the only DESE supported program. There have been many Southbridge residents interested, but have been unable to attend previously. On Tuesday and Thursday classes will be offered in Webster, on Monday and Wednesday in Southbridge. Have also proposed a medical assistant program making a valuable employee in the south county that is grant funded (not DESE funded).

Tomorrow Leslie and Deb Feraco will be spending the day at Ft. Devens working with the Department of Education to work out details of the grant. Very Excited.

Chairman Hurton congratulated Ms. Baker and her team

2. The Fifth Globe STEM Education Center Symposium

Superintendent Goguen attended the Fifth annual STEM Education Symposium at Harvard last week. Made many connections there, currently looking at a STEM pilot for Webster Middle School. Learned that we are not alone in preparing our students for 21st Century Learning.

3. Hubbard Health System Annual meeting

Last week Superintendent Goguen attended the Hubbard Health System Annual Meeting. Through a grant this group is dedicated to servicing special needs students; one of our Park Avenue Elementary students, CJ Gibbons was given a custom made bike. Over 100 people attended. Superintendent Goguen publically thanked Sarah Phillips for writing the grant. This event highlighted the kindness in Webster. Also acknowledged at this event was Webster EMS Chief Gary Milliard for all they do in town.

Chairman Hurton spoke of EMS Chief Milliard and his staff and recognized them for their hard work in our community.

4. Bartlett High School Principal Search Update

Finalist, Peter Cushing, met with students, teachers, staff, parents and School Committee members today. Superintendent Goguen will keep the Committee informed of next steps.

B. Principal Report – Michael Zajac, Webster Middle School

Assistant Principal, Tony Kaczynski presented for Mr. Zajac

1. Show Choir Presentation

On May 15th Bartlett High School Show Choir performed for the middle school students. This performance showcased both groups

2. Jr. National Honor Society Induction Ceremony

June 6th at 7:00PM the first ever Jr. National Honor Society Induction Ceremony will take place. Nineteen students will be inducted. Thank you to Laurie Foley,

3. Field Day Update

Field Day will be held on Wednesday, June 20th – this is being organized / designed by the Unified Arts Teachers. Grades 5/6 will participate in the morning, Grades 7/8 in the afternoon. Bag lunches will be served.

4. Eighth Grade Celebration Day

This year the celebration will be at Breezy Point in Douglas (past two years were at Indian Ranch) from 8am – 1:30pm.

Other events:

- *June 4-8 Spirit Week
- *June 20 Step Up Day for Grades 5, 6 & 7
- *June 20 Mr. Zajac and Mr. Kaczynski will visit 4th Grade at PAE to introduce themselves
- *June 21 Step Up Day for Grade 4 9-10:30
- *June 22 8th Grade Award Ceremony

Member Blythe asked about the 8th grade celebration day and what activities they would be able to partake in. Mr. K said there are lifeguards on duty, Mrs. Goguen said there is a specific field trip for parents to sign off on their child's swimming ability.

C. Business Managers' Report

1. Update on Town Meeting

Mrs. Pierangeli said the May 14th Town Meeting went very smooth and was quick. Our budget was approved as well as the \$35,000 Warrant Article to complete paving, painting of lines and cleaning up of entry way of new central office. Pleased to report an addition of \$40,000 to enclose the Bartlett High School main entrance for safety, built into that was \$10,000 to enhance the district communication for all school.

2. MASBO Conference

Mrs. Pierangeli attended MASBO Conference from May 15-18 on the Cape. First time attending, networking with many Massachusetts Business Managers there was a full agenda. Jeff Riley, new DESE Commissioner spoke on improvements in the Commonwealth, Jay Sullivan, Associate Commissioner of State Finance spoke on funding. Important takeaways – session on federal grants, EPIMS (Employee Personnel Information Management System) collection. The session ended with speaker Dr. John Draper he spoke about perception of public education.

III. Student Update: Lays Napoli

- Prom took place on May 12th – great event
- Senior Class Trip will take place on Friday June 1st
- Senior Banquet will take place Tuesday June 5th at Point Breeze
- Student Council is selling “Kiss a senior goodbye” – bags of Hershey Kisses will be sold for \$1
- Spring Concert took place on Thursday, May 17th
- BHS Principal Finalist, Peter Cushing, visited today. He met with students, staff, parents and community members
- Farm to school event – strawberry shortcake
- MCAS testing will take place tomorrow and Thursday for sophomores

This is the last School Committee Lays will attend. She said it was a pleasure to be the Student Rep this year, she thanked the committee for the opportunity. Chairman Hurton said she truly represents the Bartlett students and thanked her. She was presented with flowers from Superintendent Goguen. Member Seddiki commented on her updates and Lays' sense of community. Member Blythe wished her well. Member Chenevert said it has been entertaining having her at the meetings and thanked her.

IV. Old Business

A. Third and Final Reading – Policy JFBB – School Choice

This is an update to the policy to include new regulations for The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act.

Motion: To approve Policy JFBB – School Choice

The motion was made by Member Seddiki
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. FY19 Budget Update

Chairman Hurton specifically asked for this agenda item. He reviewed the budget process and offered a final opportunity for discussion. Superintendent Goguen said there was a \$22.00 difference in the Town Meeting approved Budget. There were no additional questions or comments

Motion: To approve the \$20,969,677 Budget

The motion was made by Member Seddiki
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. Open Meeting Law Violation Determination

Chairman Hurton explained that there was an OML Violation filed by Mrs. Linda Millett on March 7th. Her allegation was we violated the OML regulations during our Budget Workshop. The School Committee discuss and voted that they did not feel there was a violation. The Attorney General's Office conducted their investigation and interviews. A letter dated May 8th came from the Office of the Attorney General, it has been determined that there was not a violation and the complaint has been closed.

V. New Business

A. Approval of out of state field trip – BHS Senior Class to High Meadows, Granby, CT

This is a traditional senior class trip

Motion: To approve of out of state field trip – BHS Senior Class to High Meadows, Granby, CT

The motion was made by Member Chenevert
The motion was seconded by Member Seddiki
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. Acceptance of \$3,200.00 Janet Malser Humanities Trust Grant

Sean Harrington, Bartlett High School Art teacher has received funding through the Janet Malser Humanities Trust Grant in the amount of \$3,200. These funds will support field trips and buy clay for the Empty Bowls event for next year. Mrs. Goguen publically thanked them for their support

Motion: To acceptance of \$3,200.00 Janet Malser Humanities Trust Grant

The motion was made by Member Chenevert

The motion was seconded by Member Seddiki

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

C. Appoint School Committee Member as Payroll Designee

Per the Massachusetts Municipal Modernization Law (section 57-58), the School Committee is permitted to designate one or more of its members to review and approve bills or payment warrants, with a report provided at the next meeting.

Motion: To appoint Member Blythe as Payroll Designee

The motion was made by Member Seddiki

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

D. Appoint School Committee Member as Warrant Designee

Same as above – Chairman Hurton volunteered for this

Motion: To appoint Chairman Hurton as Warrant Designee

The motion was made by Member Chenevert

The motion was seconded by Member Seddiki

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. Appoint School Committee Member as Back up Warrant Designee

Chairman Hurton explained that the law does allow for a pack up designee

Motion: To appoint Member Chenevert as Back up Warrant Designee

The motion was made by Member Seddiki

The motion was seconded by Member Blythe

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

F. Approval of Reading Specialist Job Description

Superintendent Goguen has begun the process of reviewing and updating job descriptions. Next year we are looking to add a Reading Specialist for more direct service to students at Webster Middle School and Park Avenue Elementary School.

Mrs. Daniels explained the elimination of Literacy Coach and the addition of Reading Specialist. This position is funded through Title I Grant.

Motion: To approve the Reading Specialist Job Description

The motion was made by Member Seddiki

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

G. Approval of Exploratory Foreign Language Teacher Job Description

This has been tabled to a future meeting

Chairman Hurton is recusing himself from this agenda item as his wife is currently a Special Education Team Chairperson

Superintendent Goguen explained the purpose of updating / approving these new job descriptions is make them clear so expectations are known for evaluations and helping us move the District forward. It is our intention to look at all the job descriptions and update them.

H. Approval of Special Education Team Chairperson Job Description

Superintendent Goguen said this has been updated with the additional of this position at WMS.

Mrs. Baris explained the role of the Special Education Team Chair, the person oversees the process for students referred to Special Education, ensures that all regulations / policies are followed. They also serve as the designee for allocation of resources. Current team chairs had the opportunity to have input in this job description.

Member Chenevert questioned the new “physical requirements” added to the JD’s. Member Seddiki spoke of her experience of writing job descriptions to have a guideline of expectations and possible accommodations. Member Chenevert said it is was a good addition.

Motion: To approval of Special Education Team Chairperson Job Description

The motion was made by Member Blythe

The motion was seconded by Member Seddiki

The following roll call vote was taken:

3 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

1 members having abstained (Chairman Hurton)

The motion: X passed

 Failed

I. Approval of School Psychologist Job Description

Mrs. Baris explained this JD. Received input from our current school psychologist, reviewed all duties and expectations.

Motion: To approval of School Psychologist Job Description as presented

The motion was made by Member Seddiki

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

J. Discussion on Central Massachusetts Collaboration

Superintendent Goguen spoke as she is the School Committee designee to the Central Massachusetts Collaborative. She along with the Worcester Public School superintendent are the two board members. Currently we are using this Collaborative for three of our students. Appears we are not using the facility as much as the other district. There is a tremendous commitment for the small usage we currently have. At this late date Executive Director is still working on budget, concerned with the current deficit. Superintendent Goguen recently spent an entire day meeting with directors of the CMC schools. Mrs. Baris joined Mrs. Goguen at the last meeting. Included in this packet is the original contract signed in 2014, she does not have history how Webster is the only town besides Worcester in the agreement. We're members, but not utilizing it. The amount of time spent out of this district to attend CMC board meetings is concerning. CMC is currently looking to get more memberships. If we are to withdraw we must give one year notice. We will be sure to consult with our attorney to be sure the necessary steps are taken.

Mrs. Baris spoke of her experience. Since CMC does not have a broad membership, many programs are geared just for Worcester Public School students. We could remain as a non-member. Mrs. Baris concurs with Superintendent Goguen about her concerns

Member Chenevert agrees that investing so much time and not getting benefits is not wise. He supports the decision to withdraw. Chairman Hurton does not see the value in remaining with the low number of students attending. It is concerning to hear of their operating struggles.

Motion: To withdraw from the Central Massachusetts Collaboration

The motion was made by Member Chenevert

The motion was seconded by Member Blythe

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

K. Discussion of School Committee use of Chromebooks

Chairman Hurton requested for this to be on the agenda for discussion. Due to the large numbers of papers being handed out at meetings he is suggesting the use of Chromebooks by School Committee members. Member Seddiki agrees, an alternative to reduce the amount of paper if we can do this by using Chromebook she is in support.

Mrs. Pierangeli will look into securing Chromebook for the Committee

L. Approval of Custodial Union, Council 93 Contract

Superintendent Goguen said the negotiations went very well. Asking the School Committee members for their consideration in ratifying this contract. She thanked Member Napierata for being the School Committee representative in this negotiations.

There were no questions.

Motion: To approve the Custodial Union, Council 93 Contract effective July 1, 2018

The motion was made by Member Chenevert

The motion was seconded by Member Seddiki

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

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

A. Approve transfer request from Bartlett High School Student Activity Savings to Checking Account

Motion: To approve transfer request in the amount of \$22,305.92 from Bartlett High School Student Activity Savings to Checking Account

The motion was made by Member Chenevert

The motion was seconded by Member Seddiki

The following roll call vote was taken:

 3 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

 1 members having abstained (Chairman Hurton)

The motion: X passed

 Failed

VII. Adjournment

Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:54 PM

The motion was made by Member Chenevert

The motion was seconded by Member Seddiki

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, Secretary to the School Committee

Documents used during this meeting include:

- April 24, 2018 Meeting Minutes
- May 8, 2018 Meeting Minutes
- Policy JFBB – School Choice
- Open Meeting Law Complaint decision from the Attorney General
- Out of State field trip request – Bartlett Seniors to High Meadows, Granby CT
- Janet Malser Humanities Grant
- Job Description – Reading Specialist
- Job Description – Special education Team Chairperson
- Job Description – School Psychologist
- Agreement of the Central Massachusetts Collaborative
- Contract Agreement between Custodial Union Council July 1, 2018 – June 3, 2021
- Bartlett High School Student Activities Transfer Request