

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, March 10, 2020

Date: March 10, 2020 Time: 6:30 PM Location: School Committee 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 Napierata
- o Member Blythe
- o Member Seddiki
- o Member Makara

The following Committee Members were absent:

I. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Hurton announced that this meeting is recorded both video and audio.

II. Approval of February 25, 2020 Minutes

Motion: Approve February 25, 2020 Minutes

The motion was made by Member

The motion was seconded by Member

The following roll call vote was taken:

4 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

 members having abstained (Member Makara)

The motion: X passed

 Failed

III. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent Update/ District Wide Reports / Correspondence

1. Personnel Update

Resignations – Wiktoria Mankowska – ABA at PAE

We have moved Debora Zablocki from Interim to Official Dean of Students at PAE

Update on WMS Principal Search – We have an interview committee that met with candidates last week. Publically thank Julie O'Connor, Jill Chapdelaine, Kathy Baris, Meg Lazaroski, Shari Haire. Amanda Young and Stacy Tucker could not make it. Pushed forward Heidi Peterson as a finalist. Today held a WMS staff voluntary meet/greet for feedback. Will proceed and keep you updated.

2. Enrollment Update: Dr. Goguen provided a chart showing enrollment figures for 3/1/2020, 12/1/2019 and 10/1/2019. We have had a slight decline since 10/1 (1850 to 1830).

3. District Safety Meeting – Coronavirus / Flu Planning This is a hot topic, very serious matter. Just got off the conference call with DESE. Gov. Baker has just announced a State of Emergency. Dr. Goguen reviewed the recent steps taken. She wants to promote calmness while being proactive. Shout out to all our school nurses. We have had multiple meetings since Monday, working collaboratively with Town Officials, administrators and union reps to discuss what steps we need to take should something happen. DESE Commissioner just issued revised regulation for school days attended, they will not use attendance figures after 3/2/2020, District are not required to make up missed days beyond their 185 school days. There has been a lot of conversation about school events. Given recent news we will meet tomorrow to re-evaluate. The WMS Washington DC trip and all out of state field trips have been cancelled. All others are on hold. There is a concern about events bringing crowds into our school. We are asking families to use common sense if students are sick to keep them home. There has been information shared with families, they are posted on the website. Additional cleaning of building and busses are in place. We have purchased additional hand sanitizer and sanitizing spray guns.

4. Community Partnership Update

*Samuel Slater Museum Partnership – This is still being built. Today a group of WPS staff along with Mr. Roberts met to brainstorm ideas to see the best educational practices for this museum

*We have established an Early Literacy Partnership Group with Head Start, Town Library, South County and PAE staff. They are collaborating their literacy efforts

*Town Library – 2020 Earth Day – there is a meeting tomorrow for planning 2020 Earth Day

* MAPFRE –Real Madrid Sports Program –we are in the process of looking for coaches for the basketball season and scheduling when the coaches from Spain will come over

*MAPFRE - Carbon Challenge – Hoping to excite WPS and MAPFRE staff in a carbon footprint challenge. It is voluntary to have staff map their personal footprint. There will be an end celebration for winners.

*MAPFRE - Innova – Looking to launch this next year. This will involve students in solving real life problems along with staff from MAPFRE. Similar to Destination Imagine – critical thinking problem solving.

*MAPFRE – Looking to potentially roll out a United Nations Sustainable Development Book Reading Club- Grades k through 6. Linking from the Innova Club (grades 7-12). Keeping kids engaged in critical thinking around the environment.

*It Starts at Home – Partnership with Jill St. Cyr, we held a meeting on ways to assist high need families, and she has been meeting with our guidance counselors.

*Nichols College – working together to see what courses we can add to our BHS Program of Studies related to dual enrollment

*Gentex Visit – this coming Friday along with Kate Berti, WMS Stem Teacher to see a program that advances engineering hands on learning

5. MCAS Dates

Dr. Goguen presented a calendar of MCAS testing dates for the district

6. Other Updates

*Received the Turnaround Site Visit reports for BHS and WMS. The ILT Teams are unpacking. We will report back when building principals are present

*Shout out to Jill Chapdelaine for writing a grant that will provide an additional 14 days of CMP coaching for the WMS and BHS staff

*Wellness Meeting on 3/16

*Continue to hold monthly meetings with WEA

B. Student Update – Logan Paranto

- There has been Black History Trivia every day for the past 2 weeks with questions about African American athletes, singers, artists, political figures
- Seniors had a meeting on 2/27 regarding college financial aid
- Mr. Bartlett competition will be this Thursday
- Medical Careers Club had a CPR class on 2/27
- The DECA Club competed in the state competition in Boston. Kathryn James took home 1st place in her role play at the competition
- Student Council participated in the state wide conference in Hyannis on March 7-8. They brought home the five star and the gold level of excellence
- The boy's basketball team won games against Greater Lowell Technical and Bellingham before playing their final game against Sutton in the District E Division 3 Championship. The team finished their season with a record of 20-4
- The cheerleading team won the regional competition on Sunday March 8th and will compete this Sunday March 15th at Worcester State for the state competition
- Spring sports signups were held and try outs will be held next week.

C. Business Manager Report – Monique Pierangeli

1. School Building Committee Update

Mrs. Pierangeli said the Enrollment Report came in from MSBA and will be discussed later in this meeting. No meetings have been held

2. Federal Internal Controls Guidelines Draft

The auditor informed us of new guidelines that must be published specific to Federal grants. This guideline process began over the summer, MASBO provided a template. Have met with Town Accountant Tim Bell to review our internal steps as they are slightly different than the town regulations. The auditors are happy with the document. The final guideline will come for School Committee approval at the next meeting. The biggest difference between Federal and State grants are the purchasing guide.

D. Principal Report – Robin Parmley, Park Avenue Elementary School

1. Kindergarten Information Night

Over 50 families attended for incoming kindergarten students. Great Team Effort We are inviting area preschools to come on May 18 to come and tour the school

2. Dr. Seuss Spirit Week

Wrapped up last week. Had a different theme each day. Wonderful partnership with MAPFRE volunteers that came and read to each class, they also donated the book they read.

3. MCAS Training

Held a very thorough training on protocols of the upcoming MCAS.

IV. Old Business

A. Monthly Fundraising Applications

Chairman Hurton said it is School Committee policy to review not approve fundraising applications. This month's applications are - BHS – Art Dept. – Empty Bowls on April 17th
WMS – NJHS – popcorn sale
PAE PTO – Scholastic Book Fair March 23 – 28, 2020

B. Approval of Central Massachusetts Collaborative Agreement

Dr. Goguen presented the new collaborative agreement – the changes are in red. This expands the agreement to Oxford Public Schools. Worcester Public School Committee has approved. Next step is for the Oxford School Committee to approve then to DESE for final approval. Tuition rates must be approved annually. This would take effect 7/1/2020. The new executive director is bringing incredible changes, taking a systematic approach. We currently have 3 students in the CMC programs.

Chairman Hurton wanted to publically acknowledge all the hard work that went into this agreement. Dr. Goguen thanked Kathleen Baris, Monique Pierangeli and the team from Worcester Public Schools.

Motion: To approve the Central Massachusetts Collaborative Agreement as presented

The motion was made by Member Seddiki

The motion was seconded by Member Blythe

The following roll call vote was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed

 Failed

C. Acceptance of MSBA Design Enrollment Projection Certification

Dr. Goguen presented the MSBA Projected Enrollment Report for the Bartlett High School project. MSBA shows a slight dip but a stable trend. Mrs. Pierangeli said we proposed 480-500, MSBA is recommending a design enrollment of 445. We have had approval of a Feasibility Study, part of that process is to look at 10 year enrollment history at BHS. We are looking to entice students to return to Webster with the new proposed program offerings. This does not affect reimbursement rates, but does effect the design of the project.

Member Seddiki reflected on the PAE project – “if you build it they will come” and we have already outgrown the projected enrollment there (designed for 730 and we are over 800 now). She is asking what flexibility there would be. It was explained that enrollment figures will define our program design. We are not be able to go back for reconsideration of their calculations.

We still anticipate being on the MSBA April's agenda.

Motion: To approve the MSBA Design Enrollment Projection Certification

The motion was made by Member Makara

The motion was seconded by Member Blythe

The following roll call vote was taken:
 5 members having voted in the affirmative
 _ members having voted in the negative
 _ members having abstained
The motion: X passed
 _____ Failed

V. New Business

A. Approval of Student Opportunity Act Plan

Superintendent Goguen presented the comprehensive plan of how we propose to use the additional Chapter 70 funds. This was put on the website for public review and feedback. We did receive some feedback and questions from the union. Dr. Goguen shared some of the comments. Dr. Goguen feels the plan we are submitting is what the SOA is meant for - to reach the sub groups that are not reaching proficiency. This plan must be submitted by 4/1/2020 to DESE. Thank you to Janice Daniels for her assistance in writing this plan.

Motion: To approve the Student Opportunity Act Plan as presented

The motion was made by Member Blythe
The motion was seconded by Member Seddiki
The following roll call vote was taken:
 5 members having voted in the affirmative
 _ members having voted in the negative
 _ members having abstained
The motion: X passed
 _____ Failed

B. Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy – JICFB-R – First Reading

The content of the new policy is included in the packet. The forms that will be used are not included. We have formed an anti-bullying task committee, it is comprised of dean of students, assistant principals, guidance and some central office staff. Would like to thank Patty Mackay, Heidi Peterson, Gina Nieves, Kathy Baris, Chris Shen, Nancy Guiney, and Jill Chapdelaine. Special shout out to Margarita Nieves who translated this new policy. This was posted on our website for feedback from staff and parents.

Since the forms are not included this item will be tabled and will not be considered as the first reading this evening.

Chairman Hurton said the School Committee policy has a three reading (meetings) to discuss any changes. This is the third reading of the following: There were no questions or comments on the following

C. Equal Education Opportunities Policy – JBB – Third and Final Reading

Motion: To approve Equal Education Opportunities Policy – JBB as presented

The motion was made by Member Blythe
The motion was seconded by Member Seddiki

The following roll call vote was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed

 Failed

D. Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights and Services Policy – JFABD – Third and Final Reading

Motion: To approve Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights and Services Policy – JFABD as presented

The motion was made by Member Blythe

The motion was seconded by Member Seddiki

The following roll call vote was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed

 Failed

E. Educational Opportunities for Military Children Policy – JFABE – Third and Final Reading

Motion: To approve Educational Opportunities for Military Children Policy – JFABE as presented

The motion was made by Member Blythe

The motion was seconded by Member Seddiki

The following roll call vote was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed

 Failed

F. Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care Policy – JFABF – Third and Final Reading

Motion: To approve Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care Policy – JFABF as presented

The motion was made by Member Blythe

The motion was seconded by Member Seddiki

The following roll call vote was taken:

5 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.

X. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:36PM

The motion was made by Member Seddiki

The motion was seconded by Member Napierata

The following roll call vote was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed

 Failed

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Marrazzo

Documents included in the packet:

- February 25, 2020 Minutes
- Webster Public Schools Internal Manual for Federal Grants
- Fundraising Applications: BHS Empty Bowls
 - WMS NJHS popcorn sale
 - PAE PTO Scholastic Book fair
- Central Massachusetts Collaborative Agreement
- MSBA Enrollment Projection letter
- Student Opportunity Act Plan
- Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy – JICFB-R – review (not first reading)
- Equal Education Opportunities Policy – JBB – Third and Final Reading
- Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights and Services Policy – JFABD – Third and Final Reading
- Education Opportunities for Military Children Policy – JFABE – Third and Final Reading
- Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care Policy – JFABF – Third and Final Reading