

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, February 25, 2020

Date: February 25, 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

- Member Napierata
- Member Blythe
- Member Seddiki
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The following Committee Members were absent:

- Member Makara

I. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance

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

II. Approval of January 28, 2020 Minutes

Motion: Approve January 28, 2020 Minutes

The motion was made by Member Blythe

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

III. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent Update/ District Wide Reports / Correspondence

1. Personnel Update

New Hires: Angela LeBel – Grade 5 Teacher at WMS
 Leslie Pietz – PE/Health Teacher at PAE
 Wiktoria Mankowska – ABA at PAE
 John Unoh – ABA at PAE
 Allison Rozenas – ABA at PAE
 Tammy Beland – School Year Administrative Assistant at PAE
 Alyssa Note – Paraprofessional at BHS

Michael Zajac, Principal at Webster Middle School has submitted his letter of resignation

We welcomed back Michael Harpin, he is at Webster Middle School

Cari Reed has been appointed full year administrative assistant at PAE she was previously the school year admin assist.

2. Adult Education Program Quality Review Update

Dr. Goguen said we received an additional \$11,798.00 grant funds effective 1/15/2020. These additional funds will be used for additional professional development and a new data specialist.

In October 2019 we had a DESE Program Quality Review (PQR), we received the Program Quality Review (PQR) results. The purpose of the review is to assess the Adult Education program, we were measured in 4 of the 10 indicators, rating proficient or developing.

Leslie Baker, Director of the Adult Education, ABE Linkages was present and elaborated on the review findings. Very pleased with results. Dr. Goguen complimented the Adult Ed staff and their continuing practitioners looking to continue to improve.

Chairman Hurton asked if the recent changes in the offerings resulted in the PQR. Ms. Baker replied that yes, partly. They were looking at 4 particular areas.

Dr. Goguen said we continue to grow the Adult Education collaboration with the increase of EL parents being involved.

3. Other Updates

- Program of Studies work with BHS

Dr. Goguen and Central Office Team has been working with BHS staff to finalize a new Program of Studies

- Bottom Line Meeting

Recent conference call with this Boston based organization. They help first generation students from low income backgrounds get into college. They work with district/students in the Boston area, they are unable to offer help for our students– we will continue to have communication.

- WMS Scheduling

Developing a new schedule. Working in conjunction with WMS staff and union. Hope to roll out to staff next week. Still some work to be done.

- WMS Learning Walks with Instructional Leaders & DESE Content Specialists

Last week the SSOS (DESE) Team and administrators had walk throughs at WMS. It was a very fruitful day, these are non-evaluated visits that have led to open conversations about what was seen. Will continue to schedule more.

- BHS Learning Walks with Central Office & BHS Administrators

DESE was not present for the BHS Learning Walk throughs, administrators found this very meaningful. More will be scheduled.

- District Safety Meeting

Monthly safety meeting are ongoing.

- Student Opportunity Plan – DESE Webinar

Central office members participated in a DESE Webinar. We have a draft of the plan complete and will be forwarded to SC members. There was discussion about scheduling a Public Hearing or sending out a survey to get public feedback – it was determined we do not have enough time to publicize a public hearing. Will present findings of survey at the next meeting. The plan is due to the state April 1st.

- Breakfast in the Classroom

We are one of 48 districts being recognized for achieving the school breakfast challenge. That is in thanks to Park Avenue Elementary School that reached 87.59% participation

- Flu Season

Guideline for when to keep your child home have been sent out to parents in the last weekly newsletter

- Bullying Prevention

Working on the Bullying Intervention / Prevention Plan. It is on the website and open for feedback until March 1st. Will bring to SC for approval.

- EL Parent Advisory Group

Continue to hold meetings, more parents joining

- Upcoming Events

- Kindergarten Concerts – Feb. 12 and Feb. 13 @ 9:30 a.m.
- Kindergarten Registration – Feb. 27th @ 6:30 p.m.
- Mapfre employees coming to read to students on Dr. Seuss Birthday, March 1st
- Grade 1 concerts - March 18th and 19th

- Recognitions:

- Impressions Show Choir – 2nd place at Central Mass Show Choir Festival
- National Counseling Week – Thank you to all our Counselors
- MCAS Night at PAE – Shout out to our Academic Interventionists, Teachers, & Administrators
- Webster Middle School Cheerleaders came in First Place in their first ever competition

➤ **B. Student Update – Logan Paranto**

- 1st annual Winter Pep Rally held Friday, February 14th to honor the winter athletic programs
- Ms. Sanborn held a Valentine's Day card day to create cards
- Officer Whiting and other Webster police officers held a Hoops 4 Hope program at PAE during winter break
- Signups Medical Careers Club will hold a CPR class on 2/27
- Rex Gutierrez medina won 1st place in the sculpture category at the Anna Maria Art and Design Competition
- Signups for Mr. Bartlett have begun
- The pit band and show choir had a clean sweep at the Tantasqua competition winning every award as well as Grand Champs
- Sports update given – Boys Basketball participated in the 81st annual Clark Tournament and defeated Millbury in the quarter final round

- Winter Cheer Team won the SWCL cheer competition and won Grand Champs. They will compete in the Regionals on Sunday 3/8
- Girls basketball had their season come to an end with a record of 7-2
- Boys and girls track season ended with boys finishing with a 7-6 record and girls with a 7-7 record
- Spring signups start tomorrow

B. Business Manager Report – Monique Pierangeli

1. School Building Committee Update

Spoke with Jennifer Flynn, MSBA representative. Things are progressing, they are hoping to send enrollment report out next week. We have 21 days to respond. Also looking to receive the Feasibility Study shortly. The reimbursement rate will be outlined in the enrollment report.

2. Capital Improvement Plan

The Capital Improvement Plan is updated annually, although it is a 5 year report. Every year it is reviewed and a set increase is determined for all items, suggesting we have a professional assessment of all items be confirm accuracy of amounts. Looking to file an insurance claim for repairs to PAE Library. It's been determined that a lightning strike is the cause of the issues

Motion: To approve the FY21 Capital Plan as presented

The motion was made by Member Blythe

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

3. FY19 End of Year Audit

The Audit went very well, there were two findings. One was on the Town side the other was a technical “oops”. Mrs. Pierangeli explained that she inadvertently placed in the wrong column. Amendments have been made

4. Other Updates

The District has had the following audits this year; Town’s End of Year, food services program review, procurement audit, student activities and we will have an onsite monitoring visit in June to review the FY20 ESSA Grants.

C. Principal Report – Michael Zajac, Webster Middle School

Ms. Heidi Peterson, Assistant Principal was present this evening to give the report

1. Turnaround Plan Process

Working with the SSOS (DESE) committee. We currently have five committees:

1. School Climate Committee comprised of staff, students and parents. Currently working on a survey
2. BPIS Committee
3. Scheduling Committee
4. Unpacking Committee
5. Writing Committee (Sustainability Plan)

Over vacation Mr. Zajac and Ms. Peterson were interviewed by the AIR representative

2. PBIS Update

Focusing on school climate. Students have the ability to earn “wildcat tickets” and turn them in for events. On Thursday, 2/13 we held an event for students ~ From 2:30-4:00pm 5th and 6th grade students and from 4:30-6:00pm 7th and 8th grade students came for open gym, board games, movie, and dance. It was well attended and enjoyed by all. Shout out to Megan Lazaroski for organizing this event.

3. Around the World Tournament

This is an annual event at WMS – this year’s theme was Harry Potter. Shout out to Penny Barrell

C. Principal Report – Fran Thomas, Bartlett High School

1. Update on Attendance

Attendance is 1-2% better than last year at this time. The newly implemented 10 point deduction seems to have made an effect. There has been a dramatic drop in tardys.

2. College Readiness Kick Off

Gabby Piwowarczyk and Talya Binienda came to speak about the College Readiness Program at Nichols College. They are both juniors at BHS. They said it was an interactive program giving students knowledge about all aspects of college. Very informative event. Mr. Thomas said this was a great experience for students to walk onto a college campus for the first time, be inspired.

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 -Park Avenue PTO – Dance January 22nd

- Park Avenue PTO – Polar Plunge
- NJHS – Semi-formal dance February 28th
- BHS Drama – Dinner Theater – March 1st
- WMS Washington DC Trip – Dine out calendar
- BHS Student Council – Mr. Bartlett – March 12

B. Approval of FY21 Budget

Dr. Goguen is asking School committee to approve \$22,633,533.00 FY21 Budget. This is a 3.75% increase over FY20 budget. Mr. Pierangeli and Dr. Goguen met with Town Administrator and Town Accountant to discuss the budget, they were supportive. Additional funds for Ch70 Student Opportunity Act are included in the budget.

Motion: To approve FY21 Budget as presented

The motion was made by Member Seddiki

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

 members having abstained (Chairman Hurton)

The motion: X passed

 Failed

V. New Business

A. Approval of out of state field trip – Webster Middle School Grade 5 to Hyde Cultural Center.

Dr. Goguen explained that this is an annual trip for grade 5 students. They will travel to the Hyde Cultural Center in Woodstock CT on April 7, 2020. Ms. Peters explained that the Salt Marsh Opera Company will come to WMS for a pre-program event explaining the performance they will be seeing. This is a great experience for our students, they dress up nice too attend the opera

Motion: To approve out of state field trip – Webster Middle School Grade 5 to Hyde Cultural Center in Woodstock CT.

The motion was made by Member Blythe

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. Approval of overnight field trip – Bartlett High School DECA to State Competition

Mrs. Hoenig was present to request permission for the overnight field trip. She said 7 students have qualified to attend the state competition (3 juniors and 4 seniors. Will be leaving this Thursday.

Dr. Goguen thanks Mrs. Hoenig for her continued encouragement of this program

Motion: To approve overnight field trip – Bartlett High School DECA to State Competition

The motion was made by Member Blythe

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. Approval of overnight field trip – Bartlett High School student to All-State Choir Conference

Mr. Carney was present to request an overnight field trip for Hannah Picchioni to participate in this years all state choir conference in Boston March 5th-7th, 2020. This is Hannah's second year being selected. While there, Mr. Carney will be participating in workshops and professional development. Hannah's parents will be transporting her both ways.

Motion: To approve overnight field trip – Bartlett High School student to All-State Choir Conference

The motion was made by Member Blythe

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

D. Discussion and Approval of 2020-2021 School Calendar

Dr. Goguen said the 2020-2021 calendar is designed per WEA contract guidelines, we are unable to start one week prior to Labor Day. We did present an earlier start but WEA Reps felt teachers would not support. A "cheat sheet" was given comparing current school year with the proposed new calendar.

There were no questions or comments

Motion: To approve 2020-2021 School Calendar as presented

The motion was made by Member Blythe

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. Approval of 2020-2021 Bartlett High School Program of Studies

Dr. Goguen explained the Central Office and Bartlett staff have been working on the Program of Studies since November. Mr. Thomas is working to create different pathways for students. Looking to frontload many required courses, add college readiness programs. Ms. Cousland said there was a review of other district's program of studies, determined that our grading level was not in line with other local districts – changes made. This is more user friendly, updated course descriptions, trying to standardize language. Dr. Goguen said they will be combining college / honor courses, this will allow a full course syllabus (same is for honors/ accelerated classes). Nichols College and Quinsigamond Community College will offer college classes for our junior and senior students ~ this is not included in the Program of Studies.

Member Blythe opened a conversation regarding History class requirements. Currently there is a 3 class (15 credit) requirement. Member Blythe and Member Napierata expressed a concern with current students that have taken two years of World History in their freshman and junior year, curious what their path would be. Mr. Thomas said there is a change in the state requirements, they will address that cohort.

French classes are being eliminated. We are offering other classes that would satisfy college foreign language requirements.

Mr. Thomas said a goal is to have guidance and teachers review course selection to guide students in choosing their classes. Will open communication with 8th grade students and parents.

Chairman Hurton questioned all the Journalism classes – all course descriptions have the class tied to school newspaper and school TV / broadcasting. Mr. Thomas said we currently don't have school newspaper and TV station, there has been discussion and it is an area of concern with the possibility that the courses will not be offered.

School Committee members expressed a concern about approving this Program of Studies knowing all the journalism classes may not be offered. Dr. Goguen recommended approving knowing this is a snapshot and we will ask teachers to provide detailed syllabi with clear expectations. Approving this evening will allow time for students / faculty / families to have communication,

Motion: To approve 2020-2021 Bartlett High School Program of Studies as presented

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. Acceptance of donation from Real Madrid/Mapfre

Mr. Paranto and Dr. Goguen have been working with Real Madrid / Mapfre on a grant to provide second language learners with an after school athletic program, starting this April with soccer. Next year would incorporate basketball and soccer. They are willing to donate funds for all sessions, will send coaches from Spain to train our coaches. Mr. Paranto will be overseeing this opportunity.

Motion: To accept \$15,800.00 from Real Madrid/Mapfre for this current fiscal year

The motion was made by Member Blythe

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

AMMENDED MOTION: To accept \$47,400 donation from Real Madrid/Mapfre per agreement

The motion was made by Member Blythe

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

Dr. Goguen said the following four policies have been recommended by the MASC. We do not have these policies, Dr. Goguen is recommending we adopt all four policies.

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

G. Equal Education Opportunities Policy – JBB – Second Reading

H. Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights and Services Policy – JFABD – Second Reading

I. Educational Opportunities for Military Children Policy – JFABE – Second Reading

J. Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care Policy – JFABF – Second Reading

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

A. Approve transfer in the amount of \$23,529.67 from the Bartlett High School Student Activity Savings to Checking account

Motion: To approve \$23,529.67 transfer from the Bartlett High School Student Activity Savings account to Checking account

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

X. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8:06 PM

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Marrazzo

Documents included in the packet:

- January 28, 2020 Minutes
- Adult Education – ABE Linkages Program Quality Review Report
- Adult Education grant amendment increase award letter
- FY21 Capital Improvement Plan
- End of year audit
- Monthly Fundraising Applications – Park Avenue Elem PTO – January 22nd Dance
 - Park Avenue Elem PTO – Polar Plunge
 - NJHS / Student Council – Feb 28th Semi formal dance
 - BHS Drama – March 1st Dinner Theater
 - WMS – Dine Out Calendar raffle
 - BHS Student Council – Mr. Bartlett Competition
- Out of State field trip request – WMS grade 5 to Woodstock CT
- Overnight field trip request – BHS DECA to State Competition February 27 – 29, 2020
- Overnight field trip request – BHS All State Choir March 5-7. 2020
- Proposed 2020-2021 school calendar
- 2020-2021 Bartlett Program of Studies
- Donation from Real Madrid / Mapfre
- Policy JFABD - Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights and Services
- Policy JFABE - Educational opportunities for Military Children
- Policy JFABF – Educational opportunities for Children in Foster Care
- Bartlett High School transfer request