

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, January 14, 2020

Date: January 14, 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

The following Committee Members were absent:

- Member Makara

I. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Hurton announced that we unfortunately are experiencing technical difficulties. This meeting is not being recorded.

II. Approval of November 26, 2019 Minutes

Motion: Approve November 26, 2019 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

Approval of December 10, 2019 Minutes

Motion: Approve December 10, 2019 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

Superintendent Goguen wished everyone a Happy New Year. She thanked the Administrative Team for attending this evenings meeting

Dr. Goguen welcomed Heidi Peterson the new Assistant Principal at Webster Middle School. Heidi has been with us for about a month now. This afternoon was a Meet and Greet for families. A short bio was read.

Ms. Peterson said she is happy to be here. There's a great team at Webster Middle School and she is excited to work on academic turnaround.

Chairman Hurton welcomed Ms. Peterson and said he is hearing good things from the community.

1. Personnel Update

New Hires: Britlin Chapman – ELL teacher at WMS
Tammie Richards – Special Education Teacher at WMS
Danielle Gemme – Grade 7/8 Math Teacher at WMS
Cara Smick – Paraprofessional at WMS
Samantha Robinson – ABA at PAE
Callan Catron – Art Teacher at PAE
Retirement: Pamela Benton – PE Teacher at PAE
Sheryl Niemiec – ABA at PAE
Resignations: Amy Nasis – School Year Administrative Assist at BHS

2. Other Updates

- Dr. Goguen publically thanked all our community partners, students and staff for helping to make our families have a better holiday. In addition to Jill St. Cyr and Linda Johnson at Mapfre, Farther Luke Veronis and his parishioner's for donating food baskets.
- We are in the process of working on a new schedule at Webster Middle School. Shout out to Laurie Foley, patty Cormier, Lynn Gingras, Jon Dyson, Shari Haire and Meg Lazaroski for their collaborative work over the past few months. The new schedule has a strong emphasis on core content.
- Our ELL Parent Advisory Group met on January 9th along with the Park Avenue Elementary ELL teachers. Next Tuesday we will have a Webster Middle School ELL Parent meeting
- Margarita Nieves, our Community Liaison has accepted a new position at YOU, Inc. She will now work with as a family liaison through YOU, Inc.
- Webster Middle and Bartlett holiday concerts were amazing. Thank you to our dedicated music teachers, Bari Baggett, Glen Wright, Peter Carney and Peter Twiraga. Our Park Avenue concerts are arranged by Valerie Howes, Grade 2 is January 16th, Kindergarten is February 13th, Grade 3 is March 6th, Grade 1 is March 26th and Grade is will be held in May
- SSOS team from DESE were here this week and will return tomorrow for the first Learning Walk at all 3 schools
- We surprised all staff with T-Shirts showing a connection to all three schools. Everyone wore their T-shirt on our first Friday after break, we will pick certain days for all staff to wear again showing unity and pride.
- New art work here on display, Thank You to WMS art teacher, Denise Portrais

B. Student Update – Logan Paranto

Not present this evening

B. Business Manager Report – Monique Pierangeli

1. School Building Committee Update

Mrs. Pierangeli said this committee has been actively meeting; looking at feasibility study and ways to market the project to the community.

2. Town Meeting Update

Happy to report that the BHS Building Project was fully supported at Town Meeting last night. Thank you to the Webster voters. This morning an email was sent to MSBA to notify them of the approval. We will be placed on the April MSBA Board Meeting agenda. Will send certified Town Meeting Minutes to MSBA.

Chairman Hurton publically thanked Town voters for their support

C. Principal Report – Michael Zajac, Webster Middle School

Mr. Zajac said it has been a pleasure working with Ms. Peterson, she is a valued addition to the team.

1. Turnaround School Visit Update (TSV)

Met with SSOS last week. We will be participating in a faculty survey, phone interview and classrooms visits. The Instructional Leadership Team (ILT) is doing route cause analysis of MSAS results

2. PBIS Update

This was presented to students on January 3rd by Ms. Lazaroski. Introducing Wildcat Tickets as incentives that students can collect. We are planning an event for February, perhaps a dance or open gym time. Students that have 5 tickets can attend.

3. Washington, DC Trip Update

To date approx. 50 students (out of 125) 8th grade students have signed up and 10 chaperones. Want to give every student an opportunity to attend. The students that do stay back will have learning experiences and project to expose them to our history, possibly a field trip to Boston.

IV. Old Business

A. Monthly Report on Fundraising Applications

Chairman Hurton said it is school committee policy to review, not approve fundraising applications.

This month – Girls Basketball team – on-line sale of apparel

- National Junior Honor Society – sale of candy cane reindeers

B. FY 21 Budget Presentation

Superintendent Goguen said the first draft of the FY21 budget was created with our District vision and mission statement as the foundation. A PowerPoint presentation was given (included in packet). The Turnaround Grant we received provided an additional \$50,000.00 for WMS & BHS – this stipend will be used for staff to work on writing/planning (WMS) and implementing/sustaining (BHS) the plan. A review of all the student supports was presented showing prior and new programs in place for our students. Highlights of the professional development the curriculum was given. A snapshot of the budget process was shown along with the budget calendar. The first draft of the budget is a 3.75%

increase over last year. Staffing, MSCAS results, class size, graduation and dropout rates were all reviewed.

Mrs. Pierangeli gave an FY21 Budget breakdown. She anticipates a lower out of district tuition cost next year which aids in the total budget being decreased.

Member Napierata asked for clarification of the athletic director position and where the funding is reflected in the FY21 Budget. Dr. Goguen said the proposed change is due to the increase in middle school sports as well as high school athletics. Mrs. Pierangeli stated that \$37,000 is in the athletic budget and \$18,000 has been budgeted in the District Grounds for his work overseeing the grounds at the High School and handling the School Rentals for the high school.

Member Napierata said there has been much discussion about Career Pathways, but the budget does not reflect increases in those areas. BHS Principal, Mr. Thomas, said that would come from grant funding. Dr. Goguen added that they are working on course selection and expanding career pathways classes that are offered.

Member Seddiki reflected on the high school dropout rate and the possibility of having local businesses coming in to entice students to graduate. Possibly looking into a work study program. Both Mr. Thomas and Dr. Goguen are interest in continuing this conversation at another time.

Chairman Hurton thanked everyone for their hard work. He said we still struggle to get the word out about all the good that is happening in our schools, especially Bartlett High Schools. Parents continue to have concerns about educational environment.

V. New Business

A. Approval of additional 0.5 FTE Administrative Assistant for Centralized Registration

Dr. Goguen said this is an addition in the FY21 budget, but we currently have Title I funds that could be used to start this position now. This new centralized registration would help to regulate families residing in Webster.

Motion: To approve additional 0.5FTE Administrative Assistant for Centralized Registration

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 (member Hurton)

The motion: X passed

 Failed

B. Approval of additional 2.0 FTE ABA positions at Park Avenue Elementary School

Kathleen Baris, Director of Student Support Services explained the need for two additional ABA positions at Park Avenue Elementary School. There are two students (one new move in, one new IEP) requiring services to remain in compliance. Salary will be covered by LEA budget.

Motion: To approve additional 2.0 FTE ABA positions at Park Avenue Elementary School

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 (member Hurton
The motion: X passed
 _____Failed

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

A. Approval of transfer from Webster Middle School student activity savings account to the checking account

Motion: To approve transfer request in the amount of \$3,184.54 from Webster Middle School student activity savings account to the checking account

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 (member Hurton
The motion: X passed
 _____Failed

X. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8:09 PM

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Marrasso

Documents included in the packet:

- November 26, 2019 Minutes
- December 10, 2019 Minutes
- Girls Basketball fundraiser – apparel
- NJHS – candy canes
- FY21 Budget Powerpoint presentation
- FY21 Budget
- Letter from K. Baris requesting two ABA positions
- Webster Middle School Transfer request