

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, March 9, 2021

Date: March 9, 2021

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Remote ZOOM

The meeting was called to order by: Chair Seddiki

The following Committee Members were present

- Member Millet
- Member Blythe
- Member Napierata
- Member Adamopoulos

The following Committee Members were absent:

Chair Seddiki stated as a reminder the changes in Open Meeting Law issued by Governor Baker on March 12, 2020 given the COVID19 outbreak and the Executive Order modifying Open Meetings. The meeting is posted on the district website with the zoom link allowing the public to join in the meeting. As another reminder this meeting is being recorded both audio and video and will be posted on the district website.

I. Call to Order:

II. Approval of February 23, 2021 Minutes

Motion: To approve February 23, 2021 Minutes

The motion was made by Member Napierata

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

1 members having abstained (Member Millet)

The motion: X passed

 Failed

III. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent Update/ District Wide Reports / Correspondence

1. Personnel Updates

New Hires: Valerie Krogul – Speech and Language Pathologist
Nicole Fortin – WMS Paraprofessional

2. Hybrid Update

COVID Dashboards included in you packet – there were 5 cases this week

Last Friday Commissioner Riley received approval to have the authority when to determine models that district have for time on learning. This afternoon received guidance – the notification was read. Grades K-5 must return by April 5th, Grades 6-8 must return by April 28th and High School. Today we met with union leaders to discuss this. Our model has been consistent with 5.5 hours of learning. We have a strategic plan in place; we are going to survey every parent to see what their choice will be for the remainder of the school year, we will assess space in the classrooms, starting at PAE with 3 ft distancing. We will determine if all students can fit, if now what next steps will occur. Eating requires 6ft distancing. Will work with DESE on other questions. Representative from DESE coming next week to walk through the schools.

a. DESE Updates

On March 1st, DESE updated the Guidance for Courses Requiring Additional Safety Considerations for Fall 2020. This information has been shared out and will be implemented. These guidelines are for singing, theater and instruments.

3. Extended Day and Saturday School at WMS & BHS and Extended ELL at PAE

WMS and BHS Extended Day – After school and Saturday supports are being made available to students. Goal of with March 15th start date / 6 week program. Funded through Title One

PAE Extended Day ELL Program – This will be before school and for the grade 3 & 4 ELL students. Goal of with March 15th start date / 6 week program. Funded through Title III.

In addition to these programs we are working with Counselors at WMS / BHS to offer some afterschool fun workshops for students to participate in (preferably in person). Funded with State Wide Coronavirus Funds for these programs.

4. Bartlett High School Renovation Project – Educational Visioning Committee Update

Have had multiple meetings. David Stephens facilitated four Educational Visioning meetings. Dr. Goguen shared a PowerPoint presentation from a recent meeting. Looking to expand educational opportunities and have equitable access for our students.

In addition to the Educational Visioning Meetings, the Educational Leadership has been meeting weekly. On March 2nd, BHS ILT meeting was held at Central office to share all the brainstorming that has been taking place with Educational Leadership committee, to discuss the importance of having teacher voice in this process, and to explain the deadlines coming up.

We will have parent and student forums for feedback

5. Other updates

A. March 5th ½ Professional Development Day

PAE: MCAS training - just notified this was pushed back to May/June

WMS: MCAS training and Revisiting Middle School Workshop

BHS Innovative Pathways and Innovative Programming

B. Total Site Visits (TSV) by American Institute for Research for WMS and BHS. This will all be virtual this year.

Principal Interviews:

WMS – March 11

BHS – March 19

Instructional Staff Surveys for both schools

March 15 thru March 26

Virtual Classroom Observations:

WMS- March 30

BHS – March 31

C. Learning Walks at WMS

In person learning was with the Administrative team, ILT members and SSOS members. Combination of virtual and in-person observations. Saw some incredible things.

D. Tiered Focus Monitoring Administrative Orientation

Had a meeting today with Director of Student Support Services, Team Chairs and a member of the SSOS team. During this orientation, we will be prepped on the details for our onsite visit May 10th. There will be a parent meeting on March 25th at 6:30, it will be a zoom meeting. There will be virtual interviews on May 12th.

B. Business Manager Report

1. School Building Committee Update

The last meeting was February 18th. Will meet next on March 18th to review the Education Plan. Once done architects will come back with three plans.

2. State Coronavirus Prevention Fund Grant

Additional State grant based on \$25 of foundation enrollment. We received an additional \$135,925. They must be spent by June 30th and we will report on the End of Year Report.

Dr. Goguen outlined where the funds are being spent. Proposing to hire an adjustment counselor at WMS and Academic Interventionist at BHS for additional supports for our students. Both positions are in the FY22 budget. Looking to hire a consultant to assist with tracking compensatory services for Special Education. Adding afterschool counseling programs at WMS and BHS. Looking to purchase chrome books, additional furniture and PPE supplies.

3. Webster Middle School Telephone System Update

Upgrading the system with CARES funds. Will have the ability to get voicemails sent to email, direct 911 from classrooms. Will be installed March 18 & 19.

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

1. March 1-5 Events

100th day of School / Read Across America: Dr. Seuss Week. Students had a different Dr. Seuss focus each day. Mapfre participated in a Virtual Read Aloud Mapfre donated books to our school and recorded read alouds – thank you to Mapfre

2. March 5th Professional Development Update

MCAS Training For All PAE Staff to review all mandated information and required protocols for this statewide assessment to be conducted with fidelity by all staff involved

3. New Kindergarten Model

This new model went into place as of Monday, March 8th, so exciting to see students back.

4. March 11th Virtual Kindergarten Information Night

This event is to welcome our incoming K students and their families. This evening will provide pertinent information from various staff members with a Q/A time.

So proud of PAE teachers, confidence as we move into this new shift they will do an amazing job

IV. Student Rep Update – Vivian Poplawski

- Sports update given
- DECA began meeting on March 1st – they are looking for Senior T-shirt suggestions.
- Student Council is hosting a virtual Mr. Bartlett Pageant and is looking for Senior books to participate
- Yearbook Club held meeting for Senior Superlatives

V. Old Business

A. Monthly Fundraising Applications

Role of School Committee not to approve, but to review. Music Boosters will be selling cookie, dough, cakes, rolls, prepared cookies, tea, coffee, etc. through MCM Fundraising. This is an online fundraiser

B. FY 22 Budget Update

Mrs. Pierangeli presented an overview of a collaborative meeting that was held on 2/24/2021 with Doug Willardson, Town Administrator, Tim Bell, Town Finance Director, Dr. Goguen and herself. Dr. Goguen said there is a very collaborative effort between the town and the school. There was a breakdown of the town estimated revenue and how it effects the school. Requesting the school reduce their budget based on early budget determination to balance their budget. We are looking at grants and ESSER funds to offset some line items. Dr. Goguen said we are in the early phase of the budget process.

VI. New Business

The next two items were presented jointly:

A. Approval of Job Description – Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance

Dr. Goguen said the job description is to update the title for current Business Manager for her next 3 year contract.

B. Approval of Job Description – Adult Basic Education Linkages - Director

There has not been a clear job description for this job. We are in the process of screening applicants.

Motion: To approve the Job Description – of Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance and Adult Basic Education Linkages – Director as presented

The motion was made by Member Blythe

The motion was seconded by Member Adamopoulos

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. Approval of Adjustment Counselor at Webster Middle School – state funds

Would like to hire this position now using State Coronavirus Funds, this position is in the FY22 budget.

D. Approval of Academic Interventionist at Bartlett High School – state funds

This position is in the FY22 budget and with the new State Coronavirus Funds, we'd like to fill it now given the additional supports all students need. We would like this position to focus on struggling seniors to ensure they can graduate this year. We are thinking about April Vacation Schooling for those in need.

Motion: To approve the additional position of Adjustment Counselor at Webster Middle School and Academic Interventionist at Bartlett High School using state funds

The motion was made by Member Millet

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

E. Approval of updated Bartlett High School Building Committee Members

Mrs. Pierangeli explained that originally this committee was comprised of School Committee members, parents, community members and selectmen. Since Mr. Hurton is no longer a SC member that changes his role on the building Committee. He can remain, but as a community member. Must have School Committee approval of updated rooster.

Motion: To approve updated Bartlett High School Renovation Project Committee members

The motion was made by Member Blythe

The motion was seconded by Member Millet

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. Approval of Transportation Contract

Mrs. Pierangeli said our current contract is a three year with an additional two year option. Requesting to take advantage of the 2 year extension option. Pricing has increased so this is advantageous to accept the two year option.

Motion: To accept the two year contract extension 2018-2023 option for student transportation

The motion was made by Member Adamopoulos

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

G. Approval of Pro-rated Payment for Transportation for days within current contract of service not needed

Mrs. Pierangeli said that in May 2020 we negotiated an agreement for payment of 75% for days not in session. Asking for permission to continue this agreement. The first 10 days of this school year and Friday's we have not used transportation. Once we transport students 5 days/week this will change. Contract is for 180 days and students have not required transportation all those days.

Motion: To approve the prorated payment for transportation as presented

The motion was made by Member Blythe

The motion was seconded by Member Millet

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

H. Approval of School Rental Contract

Mrs. Pierangeli said this is being rental rates have been updated due to salary increases and additional work due to COVID (additional cleaning and cleaning products).

Motion: To approve the School Rental contract as presented

The motion was made by Member Blythe

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

VI. Review / Transfer / Signing of Bills, Payrolls and Vouchers:

There were no questions

X. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:08 PM

The motion was made by Member Blythe

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:

- 2-23-2021 Minutes
- Educational Visioning Process powerpoint
- COVID Dashboard
- DESE Guidance (dated 3-1-2021)
- March 5, 2021 Professional Development Grids
- Fundraising Application – Music Boosters -
- FY22 budget update powerpoint
- Job Description – Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance
- Job Description – Webster Adult Basic Education Linkages Director
- School Rental Contract
- Warrant