

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Date: June 7, 2022

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: School Committee Conference Room

77 Poland Street, Webster

The meeting was called to order by: Chair Seddiki

The following Committee Members were present

- Member Millet
- Member Adamopoulos
- Vice Chair Napierata
- Member Blythe
- 

The following Committee Members were absent:

**I. Call to Order: Pledge of allegiance**

Chair Seddiki reminded everyone that this meeting is being recorded both audio and visually and will be posted on the school website

**II. Approval of May 17, 2022 Minutes**

Motion: To approve May 17, 2022 Minutes as presented

The motion was made by Member Napierata

The motion was seconded by Member Millet

The following roll call vote was taken:

4 members having voted in the affirmative

   members having voted in the negative

1 members having abstained (Blythe)

The motion:   X   passed

       Failed

**III. Superintendent's Report**

**A. Superintendent Update/ District Wide Reports / Correspondence**

Moment of Silence for the Uvalde Texas community. Our deepest condolences and prayers for the families of the 19 students and 2 teachers who were killed, and for the 17 who were wounded. Dr. Goguen spoke about the tragedy and mental health issues and the information and supports given to students, staff and families.

## **1. Recognize Retirees:**

Maryann Hoenig – BHS Business Teacher  
Gina O’Halloran – ABA at WMS  
Linda Boisseau – Para at WMS  
Kathy Flibbert – Para at PAE (actual retirement date is 8/30/22)  
Robin Parmley – Principal at PAE  
Fran Thomas – Principal at BHS

A brief bio was given on the retirees that were present and they were each presented with potted flowers to enjoy over the summer – Gina, Robin Fran and Maryann

## **2. Bartlett High School Principal Search update**

On May 25<sup>th</sup> a press release was distributed to the school community with the announcement of the new BHS Principal, Mr. Ryan Collins. Dr. Goguen thanked the Preliminary Screening Committee, Dr. Patty Mackay, Gina Nieves, Heidi Peterson, Melissa Arseneault, Ben Jenness, Peter Carney, Colleen Nasis, Liz Smarra and Jessica Guerrero for their time and efforts in this process. Mr. Collins will begin his tenure on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

With Mrs. Parmley’s recent announcement we have hired NEASDEC to do a search – it will not be the full blown search like the one done for BHS. Mrs. Mackay and Mrs. Baris will co-chair this search.

## **3. Bartlett High School Renovation Update**

Dr. Goguen has been in contact with the MSBA and their letter dated May 31<sup>st</sup> has been shared with the School Committee and School Building Committee. The MSBA is waiting to hear the results of the vote before answering our request for an extension. As previously shared, an extension is not guaranteed until the 6/28 Town Meeting vote.

Collectively we have been working with the School Building Committee to get more information out to the community to ensure people are informed and have their questions answered on the proposed Bartlett High School Renovation Project. The School Building Committee put together a new FAQ sheet, and the Architect put together an update to the Selectman’s presentation. Our OPM John Bates was present to assist with the updated presentation.

Chair Seddiki asked for clarification; if the \$66 million would increase as the project moves along. Mr. Bates explained the ramifications on a no vote and the financial support MSBA has guaranteed. This building is in need of upgrades, there is nothing above and beyond, the updates that must be done to be in compliance. The \$101 million is the budget that will not change – even with the inflation and increase cost of supplies the amount will not change.

Member Adamopoulos said there seems to be a misconception in the Town that the building was not cared for over the years, was there a process that we had to demonstrate the care of the building? Mr. Bates said there was a process when the project began and the state came in and did not see this building in neglect, but in fact noted the well care that had been done.

Chair Seddiki is getting questions from viewers – Inquiry regarding money that was allocated for repairs that have been used for other things. Mrs. Pierangeli explained the process of budget line item maintenance, any type of movement in budget lines need school committee permission.

Shout out to the custodians for their hard work in all the buildings

#### **4. Personnel Updates**

##### **New Hires:**

Lyndsay Morello – PAE para

Lisa Daab – School year Admin Assist in Special Education

Kelsey Sanders – Food Service Director

##### **Contract Renewals:**

Anne Thompson – Dean at PAE

Melissa Bergeron – Dean at WMS

Judi Brauns – Assistant Principal at WMS

Jenna Gouin- Adult Education Director

Ava Landry- Adult Education Director of Curriculum and Instruction

#### **5. Other Updates**

##### **a. Adult Education Summer Programming**

Jenna Gouin and Ava Landry were present. An outline of the current program was given. Ms. Gouin said there was a slow start to the year, in collaboration with Dr. Goguen we have designed one month summer boot camp. It is designed with intensive advising services to move forward to their next steps. Ava spoke about the individualized curriculum that will be provided for each student. Dr. Goguen said having a summer adult ed program is not common, but hoping to engage our adult learners.

There was explanation about the enrollment process, placement testing, and goal setting. The program now has rolling enrollment. Ms. Landry was happy to report that we just had our first student with a college enrollment.

##### **b. Webster Public School Summer Programming Updates**

Patty Mackay and Kathy Baris provided an overview on all the extended year summer programs for the district.

Dr. Mackay explained that we are offering for the first time a Jump into Kindergarten Program, it will be 3 sessions – 1 week – 4 days – 2.5 hours for incoming kindergarten students. At PAE we will run 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC program, with a focus on literacy, 180 students have been invited. Example of some programs: community garden, study on butterfly, with a release of butterflies at the end of the program. At WMS, we are having week long camps some topics are: intramural sports, intro to innovation pathways for grade 8 students only, digital game design (stem), wellness week or colonial days kids, Cricut design, surgical technical (CSI class), create a book (be an author). All those programs are being offered to all WMS students that are not recommended for the summer school programs (due to failure grades). Actively looking for WMS teachers so we don't have to use an on-line course. BHS will offer the traditional credit recovery program.

Mrs. Baris provided info on the Special Education Extended Year Program. Letters of invite went out today (approx. 85 students). Programs run 4days/week across all three buildings. Also running a compensatory service program (approx. 25 students). This program will run more service specific.

Transportation will be provided for all the programs

##### **c. Sports Update**

Athletic Director Paranto was with the boy's tennis program in Lynnfield MA. The Southbridge/ Webster Co-

op for boys and girls soccer has been approved by MIAA. We are looking into getting new uniforms for the co-op team

Fall 2022 sign-ups for Webster Middle and Bartlett High School have begun. High school sports: football, boys and girls soccer, girls and boys cross country, volleyball, golf, and cheerleading. Middle School sports: football, girls and boys soccer, and girls and boys cross country.

There will be an Athletic Field Day for students in grades K-8 on Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup> at the Bartlett High School Fields from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

#### **d. District Safety Meeting**

This month's District Safety meeting participants discussed school safety and the recent tragedy in Uvalde Texas at the Robb Elementary School and the impact in our schools. Discussions also included safety preparedness for summer school programming and planning for the 22-23 school year. Fire Chief Hickey, EMS David Majorowski, SRO Whiting, School Principals, and Central Office team will be meeting again in July to plan for our ongoing training and drills. It is our plan moving forward to include the Town, community, and families in the safety preparedness planning and training.

#### **e. Park Avenue – Going to Kindergarten Story Time and School Tour**

This was a huge success. Incoming families and students were delighted to be able to take participate in an interactive story time with Ms. Wojnarowicz, visit the school gymnasium, bathrooms, and classrooms, and take a bus ride with their parents! The summer transition program will help with getting these students used to coming to school

#### **f. Student Opportunity Amendment Feedback**

Dr. Goguen received the Student Opportunity Plan Amendment Feedback and I am pleased to say we are on target and we have met all statutory requirements for the elements in the plan. Many areas have been rated with the highest mark- well-developed!

Dr. Mackay provided information on the Family Needs Assessment / Survey that helps with writing the ESSER/Title 1 Grant. Families said they were interested in programs to help students succeed in school, support emotion stress, additional programs for after school tutoring. For HS families they asked for career and college informational workshops, advance notice on programs. Families expressed their preferred method of communication is class dojo (we don't currently do this at the high school).

Member Millet said that it has been brought to her attention about the concern for safety for our students and staff during school time. They are concerned with the public on school grounds during school time. We are not prohibiting use, but perhaps posting signs. Dr. Goguen said this is certainly something we can discuss further at another time.

### **B. Business Manager Report**

#### **C. Principal Report, Fran Thomas, Bartlett High School**

Mr. Thomas said the Girls Softball teams reached the state level. Colin and the boys tennis team are playing in the state tournament.

#### **1. May / June Events Update**

- Super Team
- Spring concert
- Prom

- Theater
- Scholarship night – unprecedented generosity of the community

## **2. MCAS and Assessment Testing Update**

Started biology today for freshman and a few sophomores. This is a big group, had 8 proctors for the testing, hope to finish up tomorrow

## **3. Senior Events**

Trip to High Meadows last Friday – great reports on our student’s behavior from our chaperones and High Meadow staff.

Monday – senior awards – mostly athletic awards, gave out our stools and cords.  
Followed by the senior BBQ

Grades on Parade – Thursday Starting at PAE to WMS, conclude at BHS

Friday at 6:00 graduation

Members thanked Mr. Thomas for his engagement with all students and activities at BHS

## **IV. Student Rep Update – Colin Minarik**

Not present this evening.

## **V. Old Business**

### **A. COVID Protocols Update**

Have seen a slight decrease in COVID cases

Week ending 5/24/22 - 20 students/ 5 staff

Week ending 5/31/2022- 10 students/ 6 staff

Week ending 6/7/2022 3 students / 7 staff

The State run K-12 testing program will end at the end of the summer. In the fall, the State will NO longer supply self-tests or other COVID testing services to school.

We recently updated our COVID protocols to align with the recent changes: Quarantining is no longer needed for closed contacts in any setting as long as the person is asymptomatic. We will continue to test symptomatic individuals through the summer.

Covid Dashboard Aug. 30 to Sept. 7 = 20 students/ 2 staff with Covid.

Covid Dashboard Sept. 8 to Sept. 14 = 8 students/ 1 staff

Covid Dashboard Sept. 15 -21 = 11 students/ 0 staff

Covid Dashboard Sept. 21-28= 12 students/ 0 staff

Covid Dashboard Sept. 29-Oct.5 = 8 students/ 2 staff

Covid Dashboard Oct.6 – 12 = 2 students/ 1 staff

Covid Dashboard Oct.13 -Oct.19 = 5 students/ 1 staff  
Covid Dashboard Oct. 20-Oct. 26 = 1 student/ 2 staff  
Covid Dashboard Oct. 27- Nov. 2 = 2 students/ 1 staff  
Covid Dashboard Nov. 3 – Nov. 9 = 8 students / 0 staff  
Covid Dashboard Nov. 10-16 = 8 students/ 1 staff  
Covid Dashboard Nov. 17-24 = 13 students/ 3 staff  
Covid Dashboard Nov. 25-30= 8 students / 1 staff  
Covid Dashboard Dec. 1-7= 21 students/ 1 staff  
Covid Dashboard Dec. 8-14 = 12 students/ 1 staff  
Covid Dashboard Dec. 15-Jan 4 = 68 students/ 23  
Covid Dashboard Jan. 5- 11= 111 students/ 25 staff  
Covid Dashboard Jan. 12-18= 113 students/20 staff  
Covid Dashboard Jan. 12-18= 113 students/20 staff  
Covid Dashboard Jan. 19- 25 = 99 students/ 9 staff  
Covid Dashboard Jan. 26-Feb 1 = 19 students/ 4 staff  
Covid Dashboard Feb 2 – 8 = 13 students/ 1 staff  
Covid Dashboard Feb 9 – 12 = 11students/ 2 staff  
Covid Dashboard Feb 13 – Mar 1 = 11 students/ 4 staff  
Covid Dashboard March 2 – 8 = 3 students/ 2 staff  
Covid Dashboard Mar. 9-Mar. 15 = 1 student / 0 staff

## **B. Monthly Report on Fundraising Applications**

Chair Seddiki said as a reminder the School Committee reviews but does not approve Fundraisers

\* Concession Stand for Spring Concert at WMS – June 9<sup>th</sup> – NJHS

\* 88's Restaurant (will donate a % of proceeds) – June 2<sup>nd</sup> and June 16<sup>th</sup> – NJHS

## **C. Superintendent Evaluation – Presentation of Annual Goals**

Dr. Goguen provided a written, detailed report of the evidence of her 21-22 school year goals to the School Committee members. She has binders that members can come in to review. Dr. Goguen summarized the year, she said it has been the toughest year in her education administrative career. Throughout these challenging times she focused on student and staff safety. Goals have been focused on being a strong instructional leader. Without the support of the Central Office team it would be difficult. Start the school year with a District Leadership Summit to collaboratively come up with goals for the year. This year the goal is Literacy Reset. Proud of the work we accomplished with obtaining grants, moving Innovative Pathways into BHS, many great things on the cusp for this district. This year hours have been spent on the BHS Renovation Project. The community partnerships in Webster is overwhelming.

Chair Seddiki thanked her for her tireless leadership, always slightly ahead of the trends keeping our students and staff safe. Your vision and strategy has been impactful.

## **VI. New Business**

### **A. Request for additional 2.0 FTE paraprofessionals and 1.0 FTE ABA positions at Park Avenue Elementary School**

Mrs. Baris said this has been an unprecedented year. To date we have had 170 initial evaluations – typical year is about 110. Taken a toll on our resources. Just at the middle school we had 25 new students move into Webster that have IEP's. This request additional positions is due to two new students that moved to Webster with support needs in their IEP's. As well as two new preschool students who will transition to kindergarten. These positions will be grant funded.

Motion: To approve the additional 2.0 FTE paraprofessionals and 1.0 FTE ABA at PAE

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

### **B. Acceptance of donation from Doug Flute Jr Foundation for Autism – Playground Communication Board at PAE**

Lisa Cotter, our Speech and Language Pathologist applied and was granted a big playground communication board from the Dou Flutie Foundation. This came in May and May is Better Speech and Hearing Month! Thank you to Lisa Cotter for going above and beyond for our students!

Motion: To accept the donation from Doug Flute Jr Foundation for Autism – Playground Communication Board at PAE

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

### **C. Approval of Webster Educators Association 2022-2025 Contract**

Ms. Nasis the WEA President said the interest based bargaining was over a couple of months. This was very collaborative. Came to a consensus over most of the items. It was ratified last week with a 76% in favor vote. Dr. Goguen said the negotiations went very well. She said the conversations helped each group see the perspective of both sides.

Member Adamopoulos was the member for this negotiations, he said it was a great experience. Mrs. Pierangeli said this was a collaborative effort. Mrs. Baris said there were important conversations that were respectful and productive.

Dr. Goguen gave a summary of the changes. Shout out to staff across the district as we negotiate 5 union contracts. This year has been challenging and hope that employees see that we have tried to support staff – together we are a much stronger team

Motion: To approve the Webster Educators Association 2022-2025 Contract 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

#### **D. Approval of Coordinator of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Job Description**

Dr. Goguen said this position was approved in the FY23budget and needed to assist us with closing the gap and overseeing the implementation of equity and inclusion at all of our schools. This position is being added in many districts, DESE is running a professional development program for this role. This will be funded with ESSER funds

There was discussion regarding candidate diversity. Dr. Goguen said parent involvement piece is key, opening our door to families.

Motion: To approval the Coordinator of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Job Description a 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

### **VII. Review / Transfer / Signing of Bills, Payrolls and Vouchers:**

#### **A. Approval of transfer from the Bartlett High School student activity savings account to the checking account**

\$12,776.50 from student activity savings to student activity checking account

Motion: To approve the transfer from the Bartlett High School student activity savings account to the checking account in the amount of \$12,776.50

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

## **VII. Adjournment**

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8:23 PM

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Marrazzo

Documents included in the packet:

- May 17, 2022 Minutes
- BHS Principal Announcement
- MSBA Letter regarding BHS Renovation
- Flyer for upcoming events on BHS Renovation
- Summer Program schedule
- Athletic Field Day Flyer
- District Safety Meeting Agenda
- Student Opportunity Amendment Feedback
- COVID19 Protocol changes for 22-23 school year
- COVID Dashboard
- Fundraising applications
- Superintendent Goguen Evidence of Goals
- Request from Mrs. Baris for additional para and ABA staff
- Doug Flutie Jr Foundation for Autism donation
- Summary of WEA contract changes
- Job Description – Coordinator of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- BHS Transfer Request
- Warrant