

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, April 12 2022

Date: April 12, 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

II. Approval of March 22, 2022, 2022 Minutes

Motion: To approve March 22, 2022 Minutes 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

III. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent Update/ District Wide Reports / Correspondence

Moment of Silence for Mr. Van Constantine.

Van was loved by all that met him, as he was a gentle soul who truly cared about his students and Bartlett pride. He was a proud 1985 BHS graduate and began his teaching career in Webster in 1992. He will truly be missed by all. His love for journalism will live on through our students.

Taking items out of order:

WCSA (Worcester County Superintendents Assoc) Scholar

WCSA (Worcester County Superintendent Association) Scholar – Josephine Corridi – Dr. Goguen presented Josephine with flowers. Mr. Thomas provided her lengthy academic, athletic and personal bio. She has been accepted to 6 universities. Mr. Thomas said she always has a smile on herself

From **New Business** since we have Mrs. Doherty with us:

Approval of our of state field trip – Senior Class to High Meadow, Granby CT

Mrs. Doherty was present to provide any info related to this out of state field trip. This is the first event of the senior week. It's been a tradition for over 20 years. It's an opportunity to celebrate their Webster education career.

Motion: To approve the out of state field trip – Senior Class to High Meadow, Granby CT

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

Back to **Superintendent Update**

1. Personnel Updates

New Hires: Laurie Sullivan , PAE Caf Worker
Cassandra Taylor, PAE ELL Teacher
Amanda Smith – PAE ABA

Resignation: Ellen Nylen, Food Service Director - effective May 27th, 2022. She has focused on bringing homemade cooking, innovative and creative working with our students, will be missed. Mrs. Pierangeli said she focuses on healthy home cooked, locally grown meals for our students. Member Millet spoke of her brining biodegradable trays and having tasting days.

Open Positions:

PAE

Special Education Kindergarten

Paraprofessionals (4)

ABA (2)

WMS

Grade 7 Math

Grade 7 ELA

Paraprofessional (6)

Bartlett
EL Teacher
ABA (2)
Paraprofessional (3)

2. Sports Update

Dr. Goguen reached out to 6 districts. Two of them were interested in pursuing conversations. The district Superintendents and Athletic Directors, had 4 meetings with the two interested districts for a fall co-op for high school girls and boys soccer. One district backed out due to having more students than allowed per the MIAA minimum (18 for soccer /30 for football), and because of the costs of transportation. It is anticipated to cost approximately \$41K for busing. We are permitted to access ESSER funds for transportation to ensure sports programs are available to our students.

Southbridge has agreed to co-op with us girls' and boys' soccer. The paperwork is underway. Southbridge willing to split transportation costs if we alternate practices/games. Still working on the details

Mr. Paranto said Southbridge has agreed, working on bringing the cost of transportation down. We've had great conversations and is confident this will be successful. We need league approval (meeting tomorrow). This is a one year co-op agreement. There is an 8 game home schedule – we will have 4 at BHS and 4 in Southbridge. We will not have to go up a division – will remain Division IV.

The spring sports and Real Madrid Basketball are currently running. We had a zoom meeting with our Real Madrid colleagues this past week to discuss the program and ways to initiate more involvement from our EL students. They are working on a video that Mr. Paranto can use when he goes to the EL classes. The soccer Real Madrid program will begin after April vacation.

Member A asked about football – will we have enough players. Mr. Paranto said we are confident we will have enough. We would not be able to co-op with Southbridge – they have enough players.

3. Finance Committee Meeting Update

Dr. Goguen and Mrs. Pierangeli attended the Finance Meeting on April 4th to review the school budget with them.

4. Behavior Incidents Summary

March -State Reportable Incidents:

BHS – 13 reportable incidents/ 1 bully allegation/ 1 exclusion (April)

WMS- 10 in-school suspensions/ 10 out of school suspensions / 1 exclusion

PAE- 2 Emergency Removals/8 suspensions/ 1 bully investigation

As requested by SC Members, information about all behavior incidents and consequences at each school is included in your SC packet. As you can see there is not one consistent district-wide manner to collect this behavior/ consequence data. We are working on having clear expectations for students and staff across each school. We take safety as a #1 priority. We have communicated with transparency, and things do need to be addressed. A parent/ guardian survey was sent out to find out how families feel about the learning environments at their child/children's school. We are working to bring SWIS data collection into all three schools. This system will be in addition to using PowerSchool to log information, but it will provide us the opportunity to produce dashboards and track consistent data. At our April 27th DLT meeting we will be discussing expectations across all three schools.

Chair Seddiki stated that not only are the administrators struggling with these challenging behaviors, the students are acutely feeling unsure with safety and security. Want to acknowledge that it is challenging for adults and children as well.

Member Millet asked for data on student physical behavior towards staff. Dr. Goguen responded that some of this is confidential but general data will be shared

Member Blythe asked for clarification on state reportable offenses and “other “ (i.e. teacher detention). There was discussion on the high need students in our district (71%) and what is needed for behavior to improve.

5. Other Updates

a. PAE PTO

The PAE PTO, while not up and running, will be working with us to distribute field trip funds this year. Thank you to Mr. and Mrs. White for their willingness to work with us as the school searches for a new PTO to form and to support the upcoming field trip requests.

b. Negotiation Updates

WEA - Things are moving along and we hope to finalize our agreements on May 2nd. Will bring to School Committee for ratification.

Paraprofessionals – We met on April 7th and will be meeting again on April 28th. Our first meeting went very well.

c. Student Opportunity Plan

The amended/updated **Student Opportunity Plan** was submitted to the state on March 25th. This report details our student achievement rates, our goals to close learning gaps and how we are utilizing ESSER / LEA/Grant funds to accomplish our goals. We first submitted the SOA plan for the district in 2020. We continue to focus on the discrepancies of achievement amongst subgroups, using evidence based programs to close learning gaps, drop-out prevention, extended day opportunities, family outreach/ engagement, professional development, and using data to inform our instructional practices and decisions.

d. April 8th Professional Development ~ 1/2 Day

Included in packet

e. New Opportunities

– **Earn to Learn Program for BHS Seniors.** Four local social service agencies are Ascentria Care Alliance, The Massachusetts Association for the Blind, Seven Hills, and the YMCA of Central Massachusetts are working with Quinsigmond to roll out a program where seniors are hired at one of these agencies and they work 35 hours after graduation and are provide 5 hours for remote schooling. Pay rates= \$15.00 to \$17.00 and student earn a Human Service Certificate for participating in this. Thank you to Chair Seddiki for sharing this with the high school.

- **Early Talent Program with Mapfre Update.** Six students participated in the field trip to Mapfre with Mrs. Granger. These students will be guided through the application with the goal of being able to launch a career pathway.

B. Business Manager Report

1. School Building Committee Update

Mrs. Pierangeli said on April 6th she and Dr. Goguen went to Book Loves Gourmet to answer questions about the project. Getting facts and info out to the community on April 27 at PAE at 6:00pm, Zoom event on Thursday April 28th. May 2nd is the Ballot Vote, May 9th is a Special Town Meeting – the only article is the BHS Renovation Project.

2. End of year Audit

Mrs. Pierangeli (included in packet) said there were no findings.

3. Third Quarter Budget Update

FY22 third quarter budget (included in packet) – in good shape. We saw some significant savings in the beginning of the year. Keeping an eye on SPED Tuition.

C. Principal Report, Fran Thomas, Bartlett High School

1. MCAS Testing

~February bio retest

~March both ELA and Math re-test

~April Grade 10 ELA MCAS This was held in the gym and was scheduled so each student had their subject teacher monitor the test

~ May – Math

~June - Biology

2. John and Abigail Adams Scholarship Recipients

The current seniors did not have to take MCAS in their sophomore year because of the COVID pandemic. There were 12 seniors that took the MCAS in the fall and 9 of them scored high enough to receive the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship. The student's names were read. Congratulations to them all.

3. Inspiring Women Essay Contest

Ms. Argentireri organized an Aspiring Woman essay contest. The 5 student winners and their subject of the essay attended a breakfast with the essay being read.

4. May Events Update

May 3 – Super Team Celebration

May 31 - Junior Senior Prom

Member Blythe asked when the last day of school is for the Seniors. Mr. Thomas said the last day of finals is June 2nd. They go on their Senior Trip on June 3rd

Motion: To move into Public Hearing for the FY23 Budget

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

Dr. Goguen reviewed the Vision and Mission statements. She highlighted the goals of the district and the supports that are in place for our students and families. A review of the curriculum and community partnerships was given. Mrs. Pierangeli gave the historical view of the WPS Budget. The FY23 Budget was presented beginning with additional positions and where funding will come for these positions.

Motion: To return to Open Meeting

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

IV. Student Rep Update – Colin Minarik

- Sports update given
- Last day of school for students in June 2nd. The week of June 6-10 is rehearsal’s and Senior events. Graduation is Friday June 10th

There was discussion about class grade and getting a waiver to take final exam. Mr. Thomas clarified it was a class average.

V. Old Business

A. COVID Protocols Update

Dr. Goguen said there in the past two weeks there have been 3 staff members and 3 students.

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
COVID Dashboard March 29th= 3 students/ 1 staff
COVID Dashboard April 5th=- 0 students/ 2 staff

B. Monthly Report of Fundraising Applications

Chair Seddiki stated as a reminder, it is the School Committees role to review not approve

*Senior Community Service Project. Students will be collecting pet supplies for the Webster Community Cat Shelter.

VI. New Business

A. Approval of Job Description – Food Service Director

The updated job description has highlighted items. There were no comments or questions.

Motion: To approve the Food Service Manager Job Description 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

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

VII. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:23PM

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:

- March 22, 2022 Minutes
- PAE, WMS & BHS Student Incidents
- Student Opportunity Grant
- April 8th PD Grids
- BHS Renovation Flyer
- April 6th Superintendent Newsletter
- End of Year Audit
- Quarter 3 Report
- John and Abigail Adams Recipients
- FY23 School Budget
- COVID Dashboards
- Monthly Fundraising Application – Cat Connection
- Out of State Field Trip Request
- Job Description – Food Service Director