

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, March 22, 2022

Date: March 22, 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 8, 2022 Minutes**

Motion: To approve March 8, 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

**Approval of March 14, 2022 Minutes**

Motion: To approve March 14, 2022 Multi Board Meeting 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

##### 1. Personnel Updates

**New Hires:** Gloria Rivera – Adult Education part time Teacher  
Amanda Gomes- ABA @ PAE

**Resignation:** Matthew Koslowski – Gr 7 ELA  
Brandon Wade – BHS para  
Amy Scott – Adult Education Lead Education and Employment Advisor

##### 2. Sports Update

We received a letter from a BHS student that expressed concerns with girls' soccer next year. Dr. Goguen and Mr. Paranto met with that student and one other. We are in the process of finding another district to Co-op with.

To ensure there are enough students to field high school girls' and boys' soccer and football for the fall, I have reach out to 6 different districts in process - two are interested. We are in the process of figuring out logistics. Anticipate we will have more news at next meeting

Mr. Paranto presented an update on the sports outreach he has planned and the updates on projected numbers for the fall of 2022. It's not just our district, southern Worcester County league is struggling to get students to make up the teams. To remedy the situation will be discussed at athletic directors meetings. We are going to run a intermural program for the younger students. We will promo on Facebook, flyer, etc. Pandemic hurt some of the programs. Middle School programs are thriving.

Member Napierata thanked Mr. Paranto for addressing the concerns. Thankful we are not pulling up the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students up to the high school level.

MIAA did grant waivers for us to allow a few skilled 8<sup>th</sup> grade students to play spring sports. This is the first time we have applied for a waiver. Mr. Paranto explained what other smaller schools in our district are doing to field teams. The 8<sup>th</sup> graders that are being selected must have parent sign off. We do have some on the tennis team – which is good since it isn't offered at middle school. Track is the other sport with 8<sup>th</sup> graders on their roster.

Mr. Adamopoulos questioned the MIAA process. Mr. Paranto explained the steps and that we combine the school enrollments and it could effect the division we play in. He also asked about the commitment a co=-op would be. Mr. Paranto said that is part of the discussion with the other districts– we can select what program we want to be part of a co-op.

Member Blythe expressed her hopes of having a JV team – she does not like the prospect of middle school athletes going from middle school team to varsity teams. She asked if we have considered lacrosse program – Mr. Paranto said it is a very expensive sport and when we surveyed students a few years ago there was no interest.

There was further discussion on the decline of student athletics.

Member Millet said her greatest concern is the letter received from a student. She feels all students, parents and staff should come to the School Committee for any problems.

Chair Seddiki spoke of the uniqueness Webster has in not having any fees for student athletes. She asked about the possibility of holding a sport clinic, similarly to towns near us, over the summer to promote upcoming athletes. She asked Mr. Paranto to explain how he is recruiting coaches and students to participate. Mr. Paranto said it is difficult to find coaches. We advertise within the district and also outside as well as personally asking individuals to coach. As a parent she would like additional communication to families.

### **3. Bartlett High School Renovation Update – Presentation will be given.**

Our OPM, John Bates and Designer, Kent Kovacs provided School Committee the most up to date information on the proposed Bartlett High School Renovation Project. Mr. Kovacs led the presentation, a short video was shown. He stressed that WPS submitted to the MSBA six times (8 years) before being invited in. A second video was shown on the educational vision.

Upcoming event: Parent / Community Forum March 30<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 p.m.

### **4. Other Updates**

#### **a. DECA Conference –**

Specifics on this event were shared with SC Members in a memo included in the packet

#### **b. Bartlett High School Student Council Annual Conference -**

Specifics on this event were shared with SC Members in a memo included in the packet

#### **c. Negotiation Updates –**

**WEA** - Second meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup> went very well. We came to five tentative agreements and our next meeting is scheduled for March 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Paraprofessionals** – Meetings scheduled for April 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **B. Business Manager Report**

### **1. School Building Committee Update**

On March 14<sup>th</sup> we had a four board meeting to be sure all information is presented with accuracy. We discuss the tax impact. The local boards are very supportive of this project. May 2<sup>nd</sup> is the ballot Town Vote and May 9<sup>th</sup> is the Town Meeting where the article will be voted on.

### **2. Single Audit Update**

Mrs. Pierangeli provided federal grant audit update. This past year the focus was on COVID relief grants, SPED and Title I. There were no findings.

### **3. Maintenance Update – BHS Boiler, WMS HVAC**

The BHS Boiler is currently off line – providing 20% of heat to the building. The WMS HVAC had to go out to bid – estimating \$12,000 in repairs. Many leaks at the high school that need to be addressed. The high school is showing it's age – there are many repairs that need to be addressed.

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

### **1. Community Reading Day – March 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Had 38 reader volunteers this year. Shout out to all that joined. Deb Puishys and our Academic Interventionists organized this event. Shout out to Ellen Nysten and Stacey Easterling for putting together treats in the caf.

## **2. Kindergarten Information Night – March 9th**

Due to snow we did not get the attendance hoped. Explained the importance and expectations of attending kindergarten.

## **3. MCAS Family Supper and Information Night – March 24<sup>th</sup>**

We are able to hold a family spaghetti dinner night in thanks to Dr. Mackay for getting a grant that will pay for his. Thanks to Ellen Nysten and Stacey Easterling. The BHS NHS will help with babysitting. Grade 3 and 4 staff will present to the families. We have had over 200 people respond that they will be attending. We will have interpreters.

## **4. Character Trait - Perseverance**

## **5. Heartwarming Moment – “Ice” comes to PAE**

A 2<sup>nd</sup> grade student that hadn't see his father in over a year – he has been deployed. He came dressed as a polar bear “ICE” to surprise his son. A video was shown of this special visit.

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

Not present this evening

## **V. Old Business**

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

Dr. Goguen said there in the past two weeks there has only been 1 student and 0 staff and this week 3 students and 0 staff

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. Grant Update**

Jill Chapdelaine said one of the grants we are currently receiving is the Accelerating Math Instruction grant for \$14,000. It will pay for the annual fee (one year at PAE and three years at WMS).

Google for Education selected Webster to receive \$6,000 for 10 hours of professional development – we are already planning for this coming Friday professional development. We have joined with LogicWing. We surveyed the staff to see what their technology needs are.

## **C. Discussion and Approval of Revised FY23 Budget**

Mrs. Pierangeli said that she and Dr. Goguen met with Town Administrator and Town Accountant. After review of the state numbers and discussion it was determined that we had additional \$605,438 bringing the new budget to \$24,067,832 (7.17% increase). Recommendation is to add this to the SPED Collaborative Tuition line. There is a concern about the higher number of students that need to be placed at the collaborative

### Motion: To approve the revised FY23 Budget 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

Reminder there is a Tri Board meeting for April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Town Hall

## VI. New Business

### **A. Approval of Bartlett High School Program of Studies**

Dr. Goguen introduced Ms. Gina Nieves and Ms. Jill Chapdelaine who dug deep in this year's program of studies. Tremendous amount of work done with staff. Changes were outlines for the Committee. The committee was given the marked up copy and the final draft. The design now has a better flow Review of all the changes/updates was given.

Dr. Goguen asked how the new changes would be released to students and families. Ms. Nieves said Guidance has rolled out timeline to students. Guidance Counselors will start to go into classes starting tomorrow. Must make effort for more communication to parents and offering translated information. Chair Seddiki suggested perhaps having a parent evening. Great opportunity to get into the grade 8 families as they made the decision about where their child will attend next year. Dr. Mackay spoke about collective approach doing an exploration camp in the summer for grades 6 & 7 to also promote the programs we are offering.

Thank you to Lisa Fifield for her typing this document.

Member Napierata asked about the innovative pathways – she would like an update after the students select courses. Ms. Chapdelaine explained the entrance process and said she would certainly update the Committee.

Motion: To approve the Bartlett High School Program of Studies as presented with the revisions that were indicated

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

### **B. Corrective Action Plan Progress**

Dr. Mackay explained the indicators that we were found to not have is a proper process for monitoring student progress. All schools have created a Language Acquisition Team that meet monthly. The primary function is to provide ongoing monitoring the of progress of our EL students. We have seen an increase in incoming high school students. We have developed new EL curriculum and professional development. We have made many strides in translation and interpretation. PowerSchool alerts have been added indicating family has requested interpretation, as well as each school having a list of families.

### **C. Culturally Responsive Classroom Library**

Dr. Mackay said we purchased these libraries for each classroom PreK – grade 8. There are 50 books in each kit (25 titles/2 each).

### **D. Approval of Special Town Meeting Article for Bartlett High School Renovation Project**

Mrs. Pierangeli said the article does not have to be approved by SC - at the time of the agenda was not sure. Have found out it is the SBC, but feel it would be beneficial to have the SC support.

Chair Seddiki said we don't need a motion, but there was a roll taken in support of the Town Meeting Article. All members voted in support of this article

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

### VII. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8:20 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:

- Letter from C. Phillips
- DESE letter in support of BHS renovation
- BHS Renovation flyer
- March 8 Minutes
- March 14 Minutes
- Fall 2022 Athletic Participation Plan
- Single Audit Report
- COVID Dashboard
- FY23 Revised Budget
- 2022-2023 BHS Program of Studies
- Warrant