

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Date: March 8, 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 February 15, 2022 Minutes

Motion: To approve February 15, 2022 Minutes 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

III. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent Update/ District Wide Reports / Correspondence

1. Personnel Updates

New Hires: Deborah Langlois – Grade 8 ELA
Stephanie LaVenture – Adjustment Counselor at PAE

Webster Police Officer Dan Melhouse will be shadowing Detective Whiting a few days a week and will become our new SRO for the 22-23 School year

Resignation: John Unoh – ABA at PAE
Danielle Mitchell – ABA at PAE

2. MSBA Meeting and Vote on Bartlett High School Renovation Project Funding

On March 2nd the MSBA Board voted to approve the funding (estimated amount \$51-53 million) for the proposed BHS Renovation project. This is all for reimbursable items. This is fantastic news for the Webster Community. The Town will vote by ballot on May 2nd and May 9th

Informational sessions continue to provide the community the post up to date information on this project.

We held an assembly for grades 7 & 8 and HS students to go over the Innovation Pathways and the proposed renovated learning spaces

3. Bartlett High School Principal Search Update

NESDEC posted this position. Consultant Donald Beaudette from NESDEC is facilitating needs assessment forums with district leaders, teachers, staff and parents/community members.

March 7th – District Leaders

March 14th – BHS Teachers / Staff

March 14th – Parents / Guardians / Community members

The Preliminary Screening Committee will be meeting for a training session with consultant Donald Beaudette on April 7th to review protocols, develop interview questions and review the confidentiality of access of information in application packets. The committee will meet again on April 12th to identify candidates to be interviewed (between 8-10), finalize questions and establish the interview schedule

The Preliminary Screening Committee is:

Dr. Patty Mackay – Lead

Gina Nieves – BHS Assistant Principal

Colleen Nasis – BHS ELA teacher & WEA Union President

Melissa Arsenault - BHS SPED Teacher

Ben Jenness – BHS Marketing/Business Teacher

Peter Carney – BHS Chorus / One Goal Teacher

Elizabeth Smarra – BHS Re-engagement Specialist

Heidi Peterson – WMS Principal

Jessica Guerrero – parent of incoming BHS student

Maria Monserra – parent of two BHS students

Working with NESDEC on this project is also allowing us a Special Education trend report based on our data and a 10 year enrollment projection.

4. Other Updates

a. Good news – Jill Chapdelaine and Abigail Callahan (Project Manager for Innovation Pathways) received \$7,200 from Blackstone Valley Education Foundation. These funds will be used to support training for teachers for the Project Lead the Way courses they are teaching and to purchase equipment needed for both the Health and Humanities and Advanced Manufacturing Pathway. Continuing to apply for additional grants to fund equipment for these programs.

Project Based Learning Grant through Project 18 we had two teachers that were interested, we did not get the grant. But the Project Based Learning group reached out and offered to pay for 5 BHS teachers to participate in the 1:1 summer learning.

b. Early Talent Program - Met with representatives from Mapfre regarding partnering with them on an Early Talent Program. This program is designed to assist students who are interested in starting a career at Mapfre. On March 30th there will be an assembly for seniors interested in learning more about the program. Students will then visit Mapfre on April 6th and be given support to in the application process. The mentoring and support could take place during the school day. Fantastic opportunity for students to learn about interviewing skills, preparing resume and what types of jobs Mapfre had. The benefits that Mapfre offers students includes course reimbursement so student interesting in furthering their education should consider this opportunity.

c. March 4th – ½ day Professional Development – schedules attached for review

d. Reportable incidents to the state of the month of February

BHS - 7

WMS – 16

PAE – 14

e. Upcoming Events

March 9th – BHS Renovation Project Parent / Community Forum at BHS Auditorium at 6:00pm

March 9th – PAE Kindergarten Information Night @ 6:00pm

March 10th – BHS Showcase Night at 6:00pm for Grade 8 and 9 students and families to learn more about BHS

March 11th – WMS Semi Formal Dance for grades 7 & 8

Ms. Millet thanked Mapfre –they do a lot for our schools and our towns. This is a great opportunity.

B. Business Manager Report

1. School Building Committee Update

Dr. Goguen provided update.

2. Food Services Report

Mrs. Pierangeli provided a financial update on food servicers. We are receiving the highest reimbursement from federal funds - \$4.56/meal. We are running short staffed so the salary line is smaller than expected. There is less interest in these positions. Currently running short in two kitchens. We are no longer preparing lunch on Fridays, we have three local pizza vendors that supply is with lunch on Friday's.

Increase in our Department of Defense Fresh Fruits and Veggies, we are receiving \$40,000 Received pandemic funds (\$44,000) to offset increase in pricing. Applied for the supper program. We currently offer a late snack to some of the after school programs, but we are not able to receive full reimbursement because we are missing a vegetables.

Shout out to Ellen Nylen and all the women in the cafeteria

3. Bartlett High School Boiler Update

Recently had a boiler leak, boiler is currently shut down. Can be repaired, but the parts are obsolete and must be made. We are lucky with warmer weather. If renovation project does not go forward we will be looking at major repairs.

Dr. Goguen also notified the committee that we are having many leaks from the roof – many buckets in the hall

4. Webster Middle School HVAC Update

One of the two network systems broke. Cannot be repaired. Currently receiving quotes. We have a temporary fix, but not well regulated. This system is 17 years old.

C. Principal Report, Heidi Peterson – Webster Middle School

Ms. Peterson said it is nice to see people without masks. Still have a fair number of staff and students still wearing masks – everyone is being respectful.

1. Administrative Team

Ms. Peterson said we finally have a full administrative team – going well.

2. BHS Visits

Already discussed by Dr. Goguen

3. Public Library Collaboration

Have a program with the Webster Public Library and the book Orphan Train Girl. They have offered to purchase books to have a book club. Mrs. Tucker will be starting the club

4. NJHS Food Drive

Last Saturday held a food and hygiene drive. Collected over 600 items. This benefits local people through the Southbridge Center of Hope.

5. Parent Events

Held 4 events for parents on various topics. We are cancelling the March event as we have only had 2-4 families attend. We sent our survey's asking parents what is best – we followed their responses, but have not had more attend. Next even is April focusing on 8th grade parents and the transition to high school.

Before vacation some 5th grade families held a Math Night – good response. Looking to expand to all of grade 5 students.

6. MCAS Update

First test is March 29th – ELA – two week event. Followed by math and stem for grades 5 & 8 on May 17th.

Other WMS Happenings:

Have some students that have initiated some clubs. Group of 5th graders are collecting trash on their way to school. Calling themselves “trash collectors”. Some 7th grade students looking at food recycling club ~ trying to minimize food waste. Also running a conspiracy club (names by the students) for 8th grade students – solving unsolved mysteries. Working with Officer Whiting. Another group want to be counselor kids...working to see how best to utilize those students.

Member Napierata asked about the semi-formal. Parents have been notified by class dojo last week. Tickets are \$7.00 on sale at lunch.

IV. Student Rep Update – Colin Minarik

- Winter sports update given
- Spring sports signups begin tomorrow
- The National Honor Society is holding a March Madness Spirit month – every Friday a different theme
- Progress Reports go out soon

V. Old Business

A. COVID Protocols Update

Dr. Goguen said there is a decline in cases

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 Dashborad 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

B. Monthly Report on Fundraising Applications

This month we have: BHS Athletics Food Drive at the 3-15 Co-ed Volleyball Game
BHS Art Dept. – 4-29 Empty Bowls

C. Webster Middle School Improvement Plan Update

Ms. Peterson said we have three goals this year. The first goal is *Student Achievement and Tier 1 Instruction*. Ms. Peterson provided 7 items that are ongoing to support that goal. Our MCAS data is reviewed along with classroom data to ensure Tier 1 instruction. The second goal is *Responding to Evidence of Student Learning*. Use the IReady data and StudySync assessments. Our third goal is *Sense of Belonging*. Continue to work with PBIS, updated expectations, weekly attendance review, working on updating website. Weekly family updates via dojo along with the monthly principal newsletter and translation for all families.

Member Blythe asked for further explanation of how WMS uses Naviance. Ms. Peter explained that it is used to start students to begin to look at what they may want to do in the future. There are surveys on likes/dislikes
Member Millet asked about the parent events not being attended. We have offered food (pizza, coffee, treat bags)
The last one we offered babysitting.

Dr. Goguen complimented Ms. Peterson and her team for holding parent nights.

She also complimented Mrs. Peterson and her ILT team. The learning walks have been receptive. The SSOS team is impressed with the Learning Walks.

Chair Seddiki asked about the grade level communication. Ms Peterson said it is being done through class dojo with classroom updates.

VI. New Business

A. Approval of out of state field trip – Bartlett High School Art Students to Storm king Art Center in New Windsor, NY

Art Teachers Sean Harrington and Brittany Gyllenhammar will be taking approximately 50 students to the Storm King Art Center in New Windsor NY. This is an open air museum / sculpture park. They will be going April 14th

Motion: To approve the out of state field trip – BHS Art Students to Storm King Art Center in New Windsor, NY

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. Acceptance of donation of school supplies

Dr. Goguen said that WMS parent, Ryan Ditullio donated a large box of staples supplies to WMS

Motion: To accept the donation of school supplies from a WMS parent

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

A transfer request in the amount of \$16,849.61 from the BHS student activity savings to checking account

Motion: To approve the transfer from the Bartlett High School student savings account to checking account in the amount of \$16,849.61

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 7:07 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:

- 2-15-2022 Minutes
- NESDEC Bartlett Principal Search info
- Early Talent Grant flyer
- March 4th – ½ day Professional Development Schedule
- Food Services Financial report
- COVID Dashboards
- Fundraiser applications – BHS Athletic food Drive at the 3/15/2022 co-ed volleyball game
- BHS Art Dept 4/29/2022 Empty Bowls
- Webster Middle School Improvement Plan update
- Out of state field trip – BHS Art students to New Windsor NY
- Picture of donation of supplies
- BHS student activity transfer request
- warrant