

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, September 12, 2023

Date: September 12, 2023

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

The following Committee Members were absent:

- Member Blythe

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 June 13, 2023 and August 22, 2023 Minutes

Motion: To approve June 13, 2023 and August 22, 2023 Minutes as presented

The motion was made by Member Millet

The motion was seconded by Member Napierata

The following roll call vote was taken:

4 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed

 Failed

III. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Update/ District Wide Reports / Correspondence

1. School Opening Update

Ms. Pierangeli provided an overview of the start of the school year. The new year started off on Monday, August 28th will 3 days of PD. An overview of the three days was given. We had an inspirational speaker,

Michael Bonner, who spoke about changing mindsets. Special shout out to staff and students at the high school; they came back to modulars, new schedule, many adjustments. It came down to the wire to receive the occupancy permit with the modular at BHS. New traffic pattern at WMS and BHS is working out well. Asking for parents to follow the pickup procedure and not wait in the roads around the school.

2. Personnel Update:

Ms. Pierangeli recognized Betty Hejwosz – long time cafeteria employee – retired in August. She started in 1992, working at all three schools. Betty said she misses the kids, but is enjoying retirement. Betty was presented with flowers and a card.

To continue, Ms. Pierangeli introduced Lisa Kontoes, the new Business Manager – today was her first day. A review of new hires, transfers, resignations was provided.

3. Family and Community Engagement Update

Looking to form a Family and Community Engagement Committee – a review of the representatives that would make up the committee was provided. Hoping to start within next month. Reaching out to Town Stakeholders to be a part of the committee. Member Millet said she would be interested.

4. Instructional Leadership Update

Ms. Pierangeli said the Central Office Admin team will be meeting with SSOS Team on 9/14 to review feedback from our Instructional Priority that was developed over the summer. Will also be meeting with Michael McDonald who is the point person for our Tier Focus Monitoring Review. Focus on Civil Rights and Special Education (Part B). We have submitted a self-assessment.

5. Other Updates

a. An enrollment update was given. These are preliminary numbers – schools are contacting students that did not come in for the start of the year, there are still enrollments coming in. There was a comparison of the out of district enrollment provided.

b. School Calendar Update – a correction has been made to the 23-24 school calendar. The third quarter should have been April 5th and not April 2nd. The number of days in the quarter are correct.

A picture of the new book vending machine, part of the PBIS Program at PAE. This was purchased from donations from the Elks of Auburn and the Webster Car Wash

Mrs. Pierangeli gave an update on the library at PAE & WMS – new librarians at each school.

B. Business Manager Report

1. School Building Committee Update

The Building Committee is scheduled to meet on September 19th. The architects are in the final phase of putting together the Construction Bid Packet. We are on schedule so far. Mrs. Kontoes said there was a meeting today to address “punch line” items on the modulars.

2. Maintenance Update

BHS ~ Nothing new to report

WMS ~ Mulch and grounds were done before the start of school. Only 1 classroom did not have air conditioning because of a bad valve which will be repaired.

PAE ~ Roof leak – has been repaired under warranty. The library roof-top unit is not working. Waiting for a part. Grounds were cleaned before start of school – much and bushes trimmed

3. FY23 Budget Closeout

We are giving approx. \$20,000 back to the Town. There was surplus in salary savings, utilities. The modular came in over budget, The Town Accountant agreed to use some of the excess towards that overage.

4. Transportation Update

Smoothest start of the year so far. Busses running on time.

5. Other Updates

a. Food Service Grant- New England Dairy in the amount of \$2,304.40 For BHS and WMS to purchase smoothie maker

b. MUNIS upgrade - been working the past year on this upgrade. Over Labor Day weekend the update was complete. Transition went smoothly.

C. Principal Report – Ryan Collins, Bartlett High School

1. Opening of a new school year

377 students entered BHS this year – new traffic patterns, new dismissal plan, new traffic pattern, new block scheduling.

2. Mobile Classroom Information

14 new mobile classrooms - still a few items to be completed. 13 teachers using 14 classrooms. There is an admin space. Each student has at least one class in the modular. There are no safety concerns with the transition from modular to building.

3. Adjusting to Block Scheduling

This change came about after deep review of data. Big adjustment ~ 85 minute block classes.

4. Preparation for Beginning of Year Benchmark Testing

With a block schedule some students will not participate in the benchmark until spring ~ we will present data twice.

BHS Open House is tomorrow

Ms. Millet asked about PE classes without having a gym. Mr. Collins said it is a challenge, still learning curriculum even though they can't apply those skills. Also added new curriculum (i.e. table tennis that can be set up in the cafeteria). Has been a challenge, but Ms. Granger and Ms. Grande are doing an amazing job.

IV. Student Rep Update – Muhammad Aslam

A. Opening of a new school year

Muhammad gave a review of his summer and apprehension about starting the new year. Thank the teachers for their support with a new school year.

B. Sports Update

Big jump in sports participation. A review of the upcoming games was given

V. Old Business

Monthly Fundraising Update

As a reminder it is not the role of the School Committee to approve fundraisers, only to review them.

- Webster Middle School PBIS - sell candy & spirit wear at basketball games
- BHS Cheerleaders - pizza, snacks and drinks at football games
- PAE PTO - Car Wash - August
- PAE PTO - Coin Drive - Sept 11 - Oct 19
- PAE PTO - Book Fair - Sept 11- 22
- PAE PTO - Meadow Farms - Oct. 2 - 24
- PAE PTO - Book Bingo - Oct 20
- PAE PTO - Winter Literacy Night - Dec 8
- PAE PTO - Bulb Sale - January
- PAE PTO - Winter Carnival - Feb 3
- PAE PTO - Spring Book Fair - March 8-9
- PAE PTO - Cookies & Canvas - March 8-9
- PAE PTO - Me & Someone Special Dance - May 18

IV. New Business

A. Approval of Surplus items – Misc. textbooks. Teacher edition books, workbooks. Old items that have been removed from WMS and BHS

There was an extensive list – there were no questions

Motion: To declare surplus items of misc. textbooks, teacher edition books, workbooks, old items that have been removed from Webster Middle School and Bartlett High School and to direct the Superintendent or Business Manager to auction off, donate or otherwise recycle/dispose of these materials in conjunction with provisions for MGL 30B

The motion was made by Member Millet

The motion was seconded by Member Napierata

The following roll call vote was taken:

4 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed

 Failed

B. Approval of 1.0FTE Bilingual ELL Paraprofessional at Park Avenue Elementary School

Ms. Pierangeli said the numbers of ELL students has increased and we are in need of support to service the students – the numbers provided do not include kindergarten students

Motion: To approve 1.0 FTE Bilingual ELL Paraprofessional staff at PAE

The motion was made by Member Millet

The motion was seconded by Member Napierata

The following roll call vote was taken:

4 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:

VIII. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:05 PM

The motion was made by Member Millet

The motion was seconded by Member Napierata

The following roll call vote was taken:

4 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:

- June 13, 2023 Minutes
- August 22, 2023 Minutes
- FY23 Final budget
- Fundraising Applications
- Surplus items
- Justification for 1.0FTE ELL para
- Warrants