

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, November 28, 2023

Date: November 28, 2023

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: School Committee Conference Room

77 Poland Street, Webster, MA 01570

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

II. Approval of November 14, 2023 Minutes

Motion: To approve November 14, 2023 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

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed

 Failed

III. Approval and Release of Executive Session Minutes from February 28, 2023, March 14, 2023, March 17, 2023, March 28, 2023, August 22, 2023 and November 7, 2022

Motion: To approve and release Executive Session minutes from 2/28/2023, 3/14/2023, 3/28/2023, 8/22/2023 and 11/7/2022 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

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed

 Failed

IV. Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Update/ District Wide Reports / Correspondence

1. Personnel Update

New Hires Shawna McNeeley – ABA at PAE

Retirement Sean Harrington ~ BHS Art Teacher (end of this school year)

Jill Hickey ~ Physical Therapist(effective 12/31/2023)

Recognize retiree Ellen Jeffers – Ms. Pierangeli read a bio of Ms. Jeffers' work history at Webster Public School. She has worked at WPS for 33 years and will retire November 30, 2023. Ms. Millet spoke of her years working with Ms. Jeffers on the union board, she used the word "special" to describe Ms. Jeffers. She was presented with flowers and best wishes on her retirement.

2. Family and Community Engagement Update

Parent Conferences were held on November 15th (afternoon and November 16th (evening)

There have been a number of family events over the past couple of weeks. The Thanksgiving Day football game had a large turnout – BHS had the win. Wonderful to have our band students and cheerleaders there. Ms. Pierangeli publically thanked all students, families, alumni that came to the game.

Grandparents raising grandchildren meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Community room of Oxford High School at 9:30. (flyer included in packet) Working to make arrangements to hold future meetings in Webster

3. Other Updates

A. End of Year Report has been submitted. A copy is included in the packet.

B. Dr. MacKay, Kathy Baris, Shari Haire and Jill Chapdelaine will be attending the Cace conference this week. The conference from November 29 - December 1. The conference focuses on Literacy and is a great way to collaborate and connect with colleagues across the state.

C. Ms. Pierangeli continues to have monthly meetings with the WEA Union and Paraprofessionals Unions to connect and share any concerns or positives so we on the same page and we can work together collaboratively.

D. We are reviewing our ESSER Grants. All ESSER grants will be ending this year. Over a year ago we went out to bid and awarded a RFP for 2 multifunction vans which were backordered because of the lack of availability of parts. We had to file a special liquidation with DESE to use the funds by the end of December. We recently learned that one of the vehicles is close to being ready for shipment, but the second is taking additional time. We have reached out to the state to see what we can do about funding, if they will allow us additional time.

B. Business Manager Report

The vacancy in the business office will be filled tomorrow – Lisa Fifield will be transferring over from BHS tomorrow

1. School Building Committee Update

~ Last meeting was November 20th, the Town Planner and Building inspector were in attendance to provide next steps related to permits and preparation. Planning Board met November 27th

~ Due to technical finding in the bidding process the project needs to go out to bid again. Ms. Kontoes provided a timeline of events that led to this discovery and the new timeline.

2. Maintenance Update

BHS ~ At the SC last meeting it was reported that the boiler/heat was not working. Options to address the failed boiler include renting or purchasing a boiler. Work is in progress to determine specifications, estimates, funding and bidding. The renovation project includes the installation of two new boilers during Phase I. The goal is to find the most cost effective solution given that it will be temporary.

WMS ~ No updates at this time

PAE ~ No updates at this time

3. Food Services Update

~ On Thursday Nov 16th, 3rd and 4th graders participated in a Farm-to-School Harvest of the Month taste test of kale chips during lunch. Students gave feedback after lunch in their classrooms, and the PAE News Team reported on it the next morning. Many students really enjoyed the chips, and all were given the recipe to take home. Kale was also featured all month on the BHS and WMS salad bar lines.

~ Minor repairs were done on the combi oven at WMS due to a leak and repairs to the kettle at Park Ave due to electrical issues. Both pieces of equipment are now back up and running.

~ First post-COVID Wellness Committee meeting will take place virtually via zoom on Dec 13th at 3:30 PM. All are welcome to join.

~ The Food Service Department is still looking for a Breakfast in the Classroom worker, hours 7:15 to 10:15 AM M-F, and Cafeteria Substitutes to work on an as needed basis as fill-ins. Please call the Central Office if you are interested.

C. Principal Report – Amy Puliafico, Park Avenue Elementary School

1. Climate and Culture

- ~ Worcester Academy presented Sound of Music– PAE hosted this production for our 3rd and 4th graders
- ~ Merit winners for PBIS participated in Minute to Win it ~ 3rd grade came to view – it was zoomed to the entire school. Fun event
- ~ Candlelight Vigil held for Omar Cedeno Nunez, the 3rd grade student that passed away was held November 20th. It was well attended.
- ~ Real Madrid Basketball Program ~ will also host soccer in the spring. Had 4 staff members be trained, so far 45 students are signed up. There is a wait list. We were also able to obtain a late bus from a grant for these students.

2. Student of the Month Celebration

Fun event – well attended

3. Family / Community Engagement

- ~ Book Bingo
- ~ Girls on the Run
- ~ Veteran’s Wall
- ~ Conferences
- ~ Fall Festival

4. Report Card Update

Moved to on-line using the PowerSchool system.

V. Student Rep Update – Muhammad Aslam

A. Spirit Week ~ Before Thanksgiving break this was held with a theme each day

B. Pep Rally ~ day before Thanksgiving break

C. Student Field Trips ~Student Council went to Tantasqua HS for a leadership conference. There were workshops

D. Sports Update ~ BHS won the Thanksgiving Football Game

VI. Old Business

VII. New Business

- A. Acceptance of donations: 25 turkey meals from Greek Church to WMS Families
15 Thanksgiving Baskets from Greek Church to PAE Families
Misc. items to PAE Families (list included in packet)**

In the packet there is a list of items that were donated to the Family Liaison at PAE. Thank you to Ms. DeOliveira.

Public Thank You to the Greek Church and many other individuals/organizations providing donations to our families

Motion: To accept donations 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

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed
 Failed

- B. Approval of out of state field trip – BHS Art Students to New York City**

This is an annual trip for our students. This is funded by the Janet Malser grant.

Motion: To approve the BHS Art Students to New York City

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

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed
 Failed

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

IX. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 6:59 PM

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

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed

 Failed

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Marrazzo

Documents included in the packet:

- 11-14-23 Minutes
- 2-28-23, 3-14-2023, 3-17-2023, 3-28-2023, 8-22-2023, 11-17-2022 Executive Session Minutes
- FY23 End of Year Report
- Flyer – Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Support Group
- List of donations to PAE
- NYC Field Trip request on 4/26/24
- Warrant