

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, May 28, 2024

Date: May 28, 2024

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
- Member Blythe
- Member Sgariglia

The following Committee Members were absent:

I. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Seddiki stated as a reminder this meeting is being taped both audio and video and will be put on the district website

II. Approval of May 14, 2024 Minutes

Motion: To approve the May 14, 2024 Minutes

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 Update

New Hires Alicia Bowes – PAE Float Nurse
 Herica Alvarez – Admin Assist to the Superintendent and Central Registrar

Resignation Paula Malone – ELL Teacher at WMS

2. Instructional Leadership Update

Superintendent Pierangeli said that on May 22nd and 23rd the District ILT (DILT) met with the Staewide System of Support (SSoS) partners to develop a new instructional priority for next year. This is submitted on an annual basis. This priority is a focus area that we believe will show the maximum improvement and gains.

3. Other Updates

- On Friday May 24th attended the SWCEC Meeting. The Q3 report is in the packet for review
- Shout out to WMS for the performance of Law & Order, C-Rhyme and Pun-ishment
- Been very busy with the building project – attending multiple meetings a week

B. Business Manager Report - Lisa Kontoes

1. School Building Committee Update

- Construction continues ranging from saw cutting, excavation, footings and forming foundation walls
- Current focus areas for the team are related to establishing a new power source with National Grid for the renovated building and with evaluating the drainage design for the basement.
- Discussion continues on color selection, FFE (fixtures, furniture & equipment) and IT
- Since the inception of this project back in 2020, we have submitted 16 payment requests from the MSBA totaling \$13.9M and the MSBA has reimbursed \$4.5M. Reimbursement for two submissions are still pending.
- Project financials were included in the packet

2. Maintenance Update

BHS ~ Will be reported via the School Building Project unless something significant in section B and A is experienced.

WMS ~

- One of three rooftop units on the gymnasium has been shut down because the energy wheel is not functioning properly and we are awaiting replacement. These 3 units are used to heat the gymnasium and circulate fresh air.
- Air conditioning has been turned on and 4 classrooms are running a little warm. Initial investigation indicates that it is related to either valves or the damper actuators.

PAE ~ No updates at this time

3. MASBO Conference Update

Attended the Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials Annual Institute Conference the week of May 13th. Over 220 business professionals were in attendance. Approx. 50 sessions across 4 days was offered, Ms. Kontoes attended 16 sessions. There were 3 keynote speakers. The highlight of the event was being able to network and collaborate with other Business Managers across the state.

C. Principal Report – Heidi Peterson – Webster Middle School

1. Unified Sports Update

Assistant Principal Mary DeCoursey, Coach Bonnie Czernicki, Coach Bonnie Juliano were present with some students that participated in the Unified Sports Program. Mrs. Czernicki gave an overview of this experience as a parent of a unified athlete. Student, Zion Colon Maldonado and his mother spoke of the positive experience. Bonnie Juliano, WMS SPED teacher spoke of her experience and the inclusivity that this has provided for the students.

2. Robotics Team

STEM Teacher Kate Berti was present with students that participated in the afterschool Robotics Team. They joined Project Lead the Way (PLTW) project based, student lead. Three of the four (Ava Reed, Angela Sardo, Madisyn Derie and AJ Perron) students in the group presented their project ~ a robotic comfort duck. Each student explained their role in the creation of the comfort duck. Two weeks ago the group attended a Robotics trip in Boston and were given a challenge to create a more efficient medical device. The group said the trip provided insight for opportunities for college and employment

3. Project 351

Ms. Peterson gave an overview of the Project 351. Every fall an 8th grader is chosen from staff recommendations. This year Brianna LaForest. The big project is Cradles to Crayons.

**Some items were taken out of order*

(Old Business) D. Seal of Biliteracy Program Presentation – Dr. Patricia Mackay

Dr. Mackay said it is with great pride she presents the 9 students that have passed this complex test in proficiency in listening, writing and speaking. One student passed in the language of Twi. The remainder of the students are in Spanish. The Seal of Biliteracy will be a seal on their diploma.

(New Business) A. Southern Worcester County Education Collaborative (SWCEC) -- Arnold Lundwall, Executive Director

Arnold Lundwall, Executive Director of SWCEC provided an overview of the program and presented information regarding the need to establish a Capital Fund. This would provide a reserve fund to set aside money for future growth or an unplanned event. SWCEC provides services for 15 towns. Participating districts must vote approval to establish this fund.

Superintendent Pierangeli said all the superintendents are on board for this plan.

Motion: To approve the creation of a Capital Fund for the Southern Worcester County Education Collaborative in the amount of 2 million.

The motion was made by Member Blythe

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 (Member Sgariglia)

The motion: X passed

 Failed

IV. Student Rep Update – Muhammad Aslam

1. Upcoming Senior Events

Senior BBQ on May 31st
Senior Lock in
Senior trip June 3
Grad on Parade June 6
Graduation June 7

2. Testing Update

Math MCAS on May 21st and 22nd

3. Prom Update

Prom was amazing – it was for the Juniors and Seniors - fun night

4. Sports Update

This was Muhammad’s last meeting. Members of the Committee and Superintendent Pierangeli thanked Muhammad for his role as student rep this year.

V Old Business

A. Policy AD – Mission Statement – Third and Final Reading

B. Policy ADC – Tobacco Products on School Premises Prohibited – Third and Final Reading

C. Policy AE – Commitment to Accomplishment – Third and Final Reading

There were no questions or comments on these policies

Motion: To approve Policy AD – Mission Statement

Policy ADC – Tobacco Products on School Premises Prohibited

Policy AE – Commitment to Accomplishment

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

D. Seal of Biliteracy Program Presentation – Dr. Patricia Mackay (presented earlier in meeting)

E. Superintendent Evaluation – Presentation of Goals

Chair Seddiki said this is one of the responsibilities of the School Committee – to evaluate the superintendent. Ms. Pierangeli gave a summary of her goals and provided evidence to support the goals.

There was discussion on timing of completing the evaluation. Member Millet is recommending the evaluation be presented in the July meeting. The committee agreed to present at the July 9th meeting

VI. New Business

A. Southern Worcester County Education Collaborative (SWCEC) Update – Arnold Lundwall, Executive Director *(presented earlier in meeting)*

B. Acceptance of donations to Webster Middle School – cleaning supplies from Shield Packaging

Ms. Peterson said this company is a parent of WMS. They donated various cleaning supplies to WMS.

Motion: To accept the donation of cleaning products from Shield Packaging to Webster Middle School

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

C. Approval of Year End Transfers

Ms. Kontoes said as standard past practice we are asking approval to allow us to transfer between multiple accounts to expedite and close out the fiscal year.

Motion: To approve the Year End Transfers

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. Enter into Executive Session to conduct strategy in preparation for negotiations with union personnel (Memorandum of Agreement with the Webster Educators Association) and to reconvene in Open Session

Motion: To Enter into Executive Session to conduct strategy in preparation for negotiations with union personnel (Memorandum of Agreement with the Webster Educators Association) and to reconvene in Open Session

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

VIII. New Business (Continued)

Items will be taken out of order

A. Webster Educators Association - Memorandum of Agreement

This MOA is regarding the ILT and Dept. Heads for the 24-25 school year.

Motion: To approve the Webster Educators Association – Memorandum of Agreement pending ratification of the WEA

The motion was made by Member Blythe

The motion was seconded by Member Millet

The following roll call vote was taken:

 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed

 Failed

B. Approval of Job Description – Instructional Leadership Team

Motion: To approve the Job Description – Instructional Leadership Team

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

C. Approval of Job Description – Department Chair / Grade Level Leader

Motion: To approve the Job Description – Department Chair / Grade Level Leader

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

D. Webster Educators Association - Memorandum of Agreement

This is for a change in the ILT and Department Head / Grade Level positions for the 2024-2025 school year

Motion: To approve the Webster Educators Association – Memorandum of Agreement pending ratification of the WEA

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 request from Webster Middle School Student Activity Savings Account to Checking Account in the amount of \$8,334.94

Motion: To approve the transfer request for Webster Middle School in the amount of \$8,334.94

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

VIII. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:58 PM

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:

- May 14, 2024 Minutes
- FY24 Quarter 3 SWCEC Report
- BHS Renovation Project Financial Statement
- Policy AD – Mission Statement
- Policy AE – Commitment to Accomplishment
- Policy ADC – Tobacco Products on School Premises Prohibited
- DESE Evaluating Superintendents guideline
- 2023-2024 Superintendent Goals
- SWCEC Capital Improvement Plan Details
- End of Year Transfer Request
- Job Description – Department Chair / Grade Level Leader
- Job Description – Instructional Leadership Team
- Memorandum of Agreement – WEA
- WMS Student Activity Transfer Request
- Warrant