

**WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, October 08, 2024**

Date: October 08, 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 Blythe
- Member Adamopoulos
- 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 September 24, 2024 Minutes

Motion: To approve September 24, 2024 as presented

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

1 members having abstained

The motion: X Passed

_ Failed

1. Personnel Update: Superintendent Pierangeli

Retirements -

No retirements at this time

New Hires -

Park Ave Elementary:

No new hires at this time

Webster Middle School:

No new hires at this time

Bartlett High School:
No new hires at this time

Resignations - No resignations at this time.

Transfers - No Transfers at this time.

Vacant positions:

SCHOOL	POSITION
PAE	ABA - 5.4 positions
PAE	Paraprofessionals - 2 position
WMS	Paraprofessionals - 3 positions
BHS	Paraprofessionals (4 positions)
District	School Psychologist

The Superintendent reported that the request for additional positions might be coming to the school committee soon.

2. Instructional Leadership Update

- A.** Superintendent Pierangeli reported on the MCAS scores, which were released on Tuesday, September 24, 2024. The Superintendent is currently reviewing the data and will present a high-level overview of the results and the work the team has already begun at the next meeting.
- B.** Superintendent reported - During the 23-24 school year, Webster participated in a Special Education & Civil Rights Monitory Review called the TFM or Tier Focus Monitoring Review. Each school district undergoes a monitoring review every 3 years. The purpose of the Monitoring review is to monitor compliance with regulatory requirements focusing on special education and civil rights. Ms. Shari Haire will present on the TFM Report and the findings which are in your packet.

Ms. Haire was pleased to share that out of the 15 areas reviewed by the Department of Education, the district is in compliance with the requirements, and no corrective action is needed. She reported that among the 18 areas concerning civil rights, 14 were rated in compliance. One area was compliant with comments, and three were partially implemented. For these three areas, corrective action is needed, and the district is

already working on it. Ms. Haire added that a meeting will be scheduled with the Department of Education to discuss the corrective actions.

Superintendent Pierangeli thanked the Special Education team for their hard work in executing this process effectively.

Superintendent Pierangeli reported that the high school principal position has been posted both internally and on School Springs.

3. Management and Operations

A. Superintendent Pierangeli reported that the district is operating smoothly and that meetings have been scheduled for the entire year. The central office team is working on becoming more visible in schools across the district. Additionally, the district and each school have met to discuss improvements to the enrollment process after completing a full year of online registration.

B. The Superintendent reported on school safety, which is a top priority for everyone. Over the past few years, the school has undergone A.L.I.C.E. training, which stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate. The safety committee has discussed expanding this training to include our student body. The district will explore how to implement this across different schools and age groups. Any communication regarding this will be sent to families first to keep them informed about what will be shared with students. The district's ultimate goal is to ensure that both staff and students are equipped to make informed decisions.

C. Superintendent Pirangeli reported that the budget season is starting. Initial templates have been sent out to our Administrative team.

4. Other updates

A. The district received the Webster 5 Grant in the amount of \$7,500.00 This grant pays students at Park Ave Elementary & Webster Middle School to attend Old Sturbridge Village.

B. The Superintendent attended the Mash-up on Wednesday, September 25th with Ms. Bigelow and her Advanced Manufacturing students which was held at Gillette stadium. The Superintendent added that it was a great day for our students who got to network with companies and take part in some innovation challenges across the conference.

C. On Thursday, the 26th, the full leadership team had a 1.5 hour training session on the new Title IX regulations that went into effect on August 1, 2024.

D. The Superintendent explained that The Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents have designed an award for academic excellence. This award is given to a high school student who has distinguished themselves in the pursuit of excellence during their high school careers. MASS has chosen to give this award in the beginning of the year so students who receive the award may include it in his/her credential package when applying to colleges. The number of certificates awarded is based on the size of our graduating class. For 0 - 250 graduates you are allowed 1 certificate. The criteria for selection is the Three year cumulative average, Rank in class, personal selection by the Superintendent and the Superintendent has

leeway among the top 5% for their selection. I am happy and proud to announce that this year's award for Academic Excellence is Adam Phillips. Currently, Adam is first in his class with a GPA of 4.62. He is currently enrolled in 4 AP courses and has maintained his GPA while playing sports (Soccer & Baseball) through his career at BHS.

The Superintendent presented this award to Mr. Adam Phillip, congratulating him on this achievement and wishing him much success in his future endeavors.

Chair Seddiki congratulated Mr. Phillip on his accomplishments.

B. Business Manager Report - Ms. Kontoes

1- Building Committee Update -

Ms. Kontoes reported that there are no new updates at this time.

2- Maintenance Update -

Ms. Kontoes reported that there are no new updates at this time.

3- FY25 Q1 Budget Update

Ms. Kontoes reported on the Year-to-Date budget for Quarter 1 of the fiscal year 2025. Relevant items were included in the packet. She explained that special education tuition for new enrollments is higher this year because many new students with special education needs have enrolled, requiring the district to address these needs.

Chair Seddiki clarified that the district is on track with the current budget, but uncontrollable situations, such as new students with special needs, are not planned for, and the district must provide these accommodations.

Ms. Kontoes noted that we are on track with all other areas in regards to the budget.

C. Principal Report - Ms. Gina Nieves, Interim Principal at Bartlett High School -

New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) -

Ms. Nieves reported that their next visit will be this coming December. She contacted the school liaison in September to assess their status and learned that the entire self-reflection process needs to begin immediately. Ms. Nieves explained that they encouraged her to apply for an extension, which she did right away. The Director for Accreditation and School Improvement granted a one-year extension.

School Improvement Plan -

Ms. Nieves explained that the focus for the 2024-2025 school year will continue to align with the district's strategic plan in its final year, emphasizing the creation of a safe and supportive environment. This includes increasing student engagement through grade-level instruction and materials, as well as enhancing two-way communication with families in culturally responsive ways.

Documents are included in the packet.

Chair Seddiki stated that Class Dojo will serve as a form of communication across all three schools.

Member Miranda inquired whether this information is available in different languages. Ms. Nieves clarified that a message has been sent to all families detailing how to translate the information into their preferred language.

Bryt Program Introduction -

Ms. Nieves explained that the BRYT program supports students and families who have experienced a mental health disruption. Ms. Nieves added that staff members have been trained and the team has set guidelines and processes for students. Ms. Nieves reported that currently there are three students enrolled in this program.

Journey Program Update -

Ms. Nieves reported on the Tier 1 Program, which is available to all students. This program is utilized when students are tardy; they will report immediately to Journey. A staff member will make a phone call to the parent or guardian, after which the student will receive a pass to go to their classroom. Ms. Nieves explained that a Tier 2 program will involve collaboration with the school's BCBA and the Central Office to develop a check-in and check-out system for students who may need additional social, emotional, and behavioral interventions.

Securely Pass System -

Ms. Nieves explained that this is an electronic hall pass system designed to collect data on the amount of time students spend out of class compared to their time engaged in learning. The system can impose restrictions on specific students who frequently leave the classroom.

Guidance Lead Social Emotional Learning Lessons -

Ms. Nieves reported that they will begin implementing the High School Second Step Curriculum once a month, starting in October. The lessons will be planned by counselors, communicated to teachers, and introduced to students in their homerooms. Ms. Nieves added that the hope is to integrate elements of the curriculum into the academic classes.

Unified Sports Update -

Ms. Nieves shared that they have joined Oxford in a co-op for Unified Basketball. The students have been participating and had their first game today against Millbury High School. They will play a total of four games, with the first home game scheduled for October 17, 2024, at Oxford High School.

Upcoming Events -

Ms. Nieves announced all upcoming events.

IV. Student Representative Update

The Student Representative, Hope Cooper, reported on the following updates:

- Unified Basketball - Game day today
- Parking passes are needed for student drivers
- Mr. Jenness is selling homecoming shirts for \$10.00
- Senior Breakfast was held on October 3, 2024
- Senior Group photo taken on October 3, 2024
- The Bartlett High School sports teams have had a large amount of games
- The Bartlett High School volleyball team held a Pink Out game at Webster Middle School where they sold bake goods and gave proceeds to Harrington Cancer Center
- Bartlett High School Homecoming spirit week is the week of October 7, 2024
- Class dues must be paid to attend Homecoming Dance
- Cap and Gown sizes were sent out to the class of 2025
- Seniors had a College Fair on October 2, 2024
- Sophomores are selling pies for the class fundraiser from September 30, 2024 to October 21, 2024

V. Old Business

A. Monthly Fundraising Report -

- Class of 2027 - Thanksgiving Fruit Pies being sold
- Class of 2026 - Concessions at the Homecoming Dance
- Class of 2025 - Homecoming Dance Tickets for sale
- DECA - Homecoming Tie Dye T-shirts for sale
- Class of 2025 - Baked goods Fundraiser
- Class of 2028 - Papa Gino's Fundraiser
- Haunted Hallways Walk and bake sale at BHS
- Cheerleading - Bake sales, T-shirts and Pink Ribbons
- PBIS - Tacos and Talking with Teachers
- PBIS - Trunk or Treat Event
- Boys Varsity Soccer - Buck Hill BBQ

B. Policy ACA - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex - Second Reading

C. Policy ACAB- Sexual and Sex-Based Harassment and Retaliation - Second Reading

- D. Policy ACA-R Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex under Title IX Including Sex-Based Harassment - Second Reading
- E. Policy ACGA - Civil Rights Grievance Procedure - Second Reading
- F. Policy ACGB - Title IX Sexual Discrimination Grievance Procedure - Second Reading

The Superintendent thanked everyone for their generous donations.

VI. New Business

A. Discussion and Approval of Superintendent 2024-2025 Goals

The Superintendent explained that this is an ongoing work in progress. Superintendent Pierangeli noted that last year focused on establishing an overarching system for collaboration and data review to guide instruction. This foundation has been built, and now the emphasis is on taking the existing systems and developing concrete action steps based on the data. These steps will be monitored regularly, allowing for adjustments as needed.

Documents are included in the packet.

Motion: To Approval of Superintendent 2024-2025 Goals

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 - \$500 Donation for PBIS from the John Dowd Family to the Webster Middle School in memory of Jenn Dowd

Motion: To Accept the donation of \$500 for PBIS to the 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

VI. Review / Transfer / signing of Warrants, Bills, Payroll and Vouchers

A. Warrant for the amount of \$720,500.97

B. Approval of Transfer Request from the Webster Middle school from the Student Activity Account for the amount of \$9,425.46

Motion: To Approval of Transfer Request from the Webster Middle School from the Student Activity Account for the amount of \$9,425.46

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 6:53 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,

Desiree A. Moniz

Documents included in the packet:

- September 24,2024 Minutes
- Superintendent Notes
- Fundraising Applications
- Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex Policy
- Sexual & Sex-Based Harassment and Retaliation Policy
- Nondiscrimination of the Basis of Sex under Title IX Policy
- Civil Rights Grievance Procedure Policy
- Title IX Sexual Discrimination Grievance Procedure Policy

- TFM Report
- MASH-UP Flyer
- Superintendent Goals
- Warrant Report

Upcoming Events / Dates:

October 12, 2024	Homecoming Dance	BHS	6:30 PM to 9:00 PM
October 14, 2024	Holiday	All Schools	Closed
October 17, 2024	BHS Basketball Game	Oxford Gym	4:00 PM
October 19, 2024	TBD	WMS	WMS Chorus - Worc Railers
October 20, 2024	PBIS Community Trunk or Treat	BHS	WMS Parking Lot 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM
October 22, 2024	6:00 PM	District	School Committee Meeting
October 24, 2024	Nichols Leadership Academy Field Trip	BHS	Nichols College 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM
October 24, 2024	Masked the Teacher	WMS	6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
October 30, 2024	National Honor Society Induction	BHS	Cafeteria 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM
November 7, 2024	BHS Basketball Game	Oxford Gym	4:00 PM