WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Date: November 12, 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 Sgariglia

The following Committee Members were absent:
Member Blythe

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 October 22, 2024 Minutes

Motion: To Approve October 22, 2024 as presented

The motion was made by: Member Millet
The motion was seconded by: Member Adamopoulos
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

1. Personnel Update: Superintendent Pierangeli

Retirement: **Deborah Puishys - Teacher at Park Ave Elementary**
Retiring on January 31, 2025

Superintendent Pierangeli announced the retirement of Deborah Puishys and expressed gratitude for her many years of dedicated service, wishing Ms. Puishys all the best in her future endeavors.

New Hires -

Park Ave Elementary:
Gloria Rodriguez - ABA at Park Ave Elementary

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 - 3 positions
PAE	Paraprofessionals - 2 positions
WMS	Paraprofessionals - 2 positions
BHS	Paraprofessionals - 4 positions
District	School Psychologist

2. Instructional Leadership Update

Superintendent's Report on SSoS (Statewide Systems of Support) - The Superintendent reported that since the last school committee meeting, there have been several meetings with state partners. The Superintendent shared that SSoS has restructured and refined its process. In the past, SSoS participated in all walkthroughs with the DILT team.

Walkthroughs

Superintendent Pierangeli congratulated Kate Berti who received the Rookie of the Year MA PLTW Bright Light Award at a recent PLTW conference on October 8th. The Superintendent shared the nomination Ms. Berti received, stating “Kate is an active participant in community events and brings creativity and excitement to the new AR curriculum. Her student’s projects are exemplary and a testament to her dedication and delivery of quality STEM education.”

BHS Principal Search

Superintendent Pierangeli provided an update on the Bartlett High School Principal search. The Superintendent reported that the first meeting was held on Thursday night and expressed hope that interviews will take place during the week of November 25th.

3. Management and Operations

Budget Meetings - Initial Budget meetings are underway. Ms. Kontoes and the Superintendent have met with most groups individually and will be consolidating a first draft budget for the team to review and discuss.

4. Other Updates

Veterans Ceremony - .On Thursday, November 7th, Ms. Peterson held a ceremony honoring veterans in our community. The Superintendent thanked Ms. Peterson for organizing the event and emphasized the importance of remembering and honoring all those who serve.

Member Millet thanked the music band department from Bartlett High School for a great event and expressed appreciation for the veterans.

B. Business Manager Report - Ms. Kontoes reported on the following items:

Ms. Kontoes announced that updated pictures of the project are posted every two weeks.

1- Building Committee Update

Technology Procurement RFP bids have been received and are being reviewed. The contract will be awarded in early December.

Color Selection: Paint colors for the gymnasium and the entire building have been selected and finalized. Painting has begun in the gymnasium.

Site Work: The majority of curbing and sidewalk work has been completed for Phase I. Sidewalks around the front of the building are now accessible for staff to use when walking from the Parking Lot by the WMS Basketball Courts. Curbing by the parking area near the High School Basketball courts is planned to be completed by the week of Thanksgiving.

Construction:

- Masonry for loading dock is completed and the foundation for the loading dock has been formed.
- All underground plumbing is complete in the kitchen and the slab is ready to be poured.
- Windows are expected to arrive in late November so installation can begin in December. The interior has been protected from external elements.
- The majority of the roof membrane is in and they have started setting up some of the major mechanical units on the roof.
- The sump pumps in the basement are operational using a temporary pump. One basin is dry and the other has some water that the pump is extracting.
- Cafeteria furniture and classroom lecterns have been ordered and will be placed in storage until needed.
- The steel for the balcony in the Auditorium has been installed and electrical is being run in the Auditorium floor.
- The second floor has been framed, boarded, taped and some ceilings have been installed. On the first floor, they have started pouring slabs and putting in all of the conduits.
- Keying schedule definition is in progress.

Progress Pictures: The website is being updated regularly with pictures showing progress.
Project Schedule: Overall the project is 28% complete and roughly 50% - 60% completed for Phase I. The work effort of the overall project is broken down as follows:

- Phase I - 50%
- Phase II - 30%
- Phase III - 20%

2- Maintenance Update -

BHS:

- Pump on the primary boiler has failed. We need the boiler to be functional until April when we transition from Phase I to Phase II of the BHS Renovation Project. We are scheduling for the motor to be cleaned in hopes that it resolves the malfunction. If not, then the motor will need to be replaced.
- The thermostat sensor in the School Committee Conference Room has malfunctioned. The sensor has been ordered and is covered under warranty. It will be replaced as soon as the part comes in.

WMS:

- Sound System Upgrade installation complete; training is planned.
- HVAC Controller Upgrade Project is completed but additional tuning of the software continues.
- Window Glass Replacement is 98% complete; the remaining windows are being scheduled.

PAE:

- The mixing valve (used to regulate constant water temperature) has corroded and was replaced on Monday, 11/11.

FY26 Budget Planning Update:

Ms. Kontoes reported that planning has been underway by departments since October. Department review meetings have taken place and the DLT reviews are planned for this month and next month in advance of presenting to the School Committee in January.

C. Principal Report - Ms. Amy Puliafico, Principal at Park Ave Elementary

A. Professional Development Offerings -

Ms. Puliafico reported that professional development opportunities have been provided to the staff during the scheduled half-day sessions as well as at other times throughout the school year. Principal Puliafico shared that these efforts have been very successful. Additionally, Ms. Puliafico noted that a professional development day in October featured discussions and learning on a variety of programs.

B. Events

Ms. Puliafico shared that October was Fire Safety Month, and Park Avenue hosted four visits from the Fire Department. The Fire Department conducted two separate sessions for Kindergarten through 4th-grade students and returned on another day to hold sessions for the preschool students, covering both the morning and afternoon groups.

Ms. Puliafico reported that the PTO organized an event for the preschool featuring the Marionette Puppet Show, which performed *Sleeping Beauty*. The students thoroughly enjoyed the performance, and the event was very successful.

Ms. Puliafico reported that the Girls on the Run program held its first practice on November 2, 2024. The students will participate in their 5K event at Holy Cross on November 24, 2024, at 9am.

Ms. Puliafico announced that Worcester Academy returned this year, bringing *Matilda the Musical* for students in grades 1 through 4. Last year, they performed *The Sound of Music*. Ms. Puliafico added that this annual visit has become a cherished tradition for the students at Park Avenue Elementary.

Ms. Puliafico shared that this Saturday, the PTO will host its Fall Festival at Park Avenue Elementary School from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Ms. Puliafico added that the event will feature many games, activities, and a bake sale.

C. Family Engagement

Ms. Puliafico reported that she held her first family listening session in October. Ms. Puliafico invited all families to participate and provided two topics for discussion, encouraging them to share their thoughts and input. The first topic was, Does your child enjoy coming to school? Why or why not? The second was, How can we help you better understand what your child is learning in school? These topics were selected based on responses to a survey sent out to families earlier in the year.

Ms. Puliafico shared that this Thursday, the ELL Parent Breakfast will include a Conversation Circle. Ms. Puliafico also announced that Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on November 20, 2024.

Member Sgariglia asked how the ELL Parent Breakfast is being communicated to families. Ms. Puliafico replied that information is being shared through ClassDojo, with the school liaison and ELL teachers also communicating with families.

Member Sgariglia asked if a ZPAC event has been held, and Ms. Haire replied that the district has not held a ZPAC event for some time. However, the district is working on recruiting for a new ZPAC event, which is expected to begin in early December.

IV. Student Representative Update - Hope Cooper

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

A. Quarter 1 has ended, November 1st, 2024
B. Marketing class is selling cookies
C. Parent Teacher Conferences
D. Tacos talking with Teachers event held at Parent Teacher Conferences
E. Class of 2028 Pizza Fundraiser with Papa Gino's November 8th, 2024
F. National Honor Society has their induction on October 30,2024
G. MCAS Make Up testing as of right now will be from dates between November 6 to December 1st
H. Winter Sports Signs Ups Released

Member Millet said that the National Honor Society speaker was wonderful and described the event as a great success.

V. Old Business

A. Park Ave PTO ~ Winter Literacy Night on 12/6/24
~ Book Bingo on 1/10/25
~ Winter Carnival 2/8/25
~ Paint Night 3/7/25
~ Pi Day 3/13/25
~ Someone Special Dance 5/17/25

Bartlett Student Council ~ Selling Turkey Feather November 13 to 25th
Senior Class of 2025 ~ Valentine Sales, Dance and Concessions
Bartlett Cheer ~ Fill My Bow

Superintendent Pierangeli thanked everyone for organizing these fundraisers.

VI. New Business

A. Acceptance of donation of $157.00 for the Bartlett High School Soccer Team

Motion: To Acceptance of donation for $157.00 for the Bartlett High School Soccer Team

The motion was made by: Member Millet
The motion was seconded by: Member Adamopoulos
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. Instructional Assistants Request to Intent to Bargain

Superintendent Pierangeli explained that the document is included in the packet and noted that the School Committee has a representative present to handle negotiations.

Motion: To enter into bargaining with the Instructional Assistants and to nominate a representative from the School Committee

The motion was made by: Member Millet
The motion was seconded by: Member Adamopoulos
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

Chair Seddiki has been nominated to be the School Committee Representative for the Instructional Assistants Bargaining.

E. Approval of 1.0 FTE additional LPN School Year ESY at Park Ave Elementary

Ms. Haire asked the committee to approve a full-time nurse for a student who enrolled last year and requires assistance throughout the day.

Motion: To Approve of 1.0 FTE additional LPN School Year

The motion was made by: Member Millet
The motion was seconded by: Member Adamopulos

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. Signing of Warrant in the amount of $294,741.00

VII. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 6:50 PM

The motion was made by: Member Millet
The motion was seconded by: Member Adamopulos
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:

- October 22, 2024 Minutes
- Superintendent Notes
- Agenda
- FY 26 Budget Report
- Staffing Request
- Fundraising Applications
- DESE Guidance Document
- 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**