WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, March 11, 2025

Date: March 11, 2025 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 February 25, 2025 Minutes

Motion: To approve February 11, 2025 as presented
The motion was made by: Member Sgariglia
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

III. Superintendent's Report

1. Personnel Update -

Retirement-	Kathy Nedoroscik - Instructional Assistant at Park Ave Elementary
New Hires -	Tara Shea - Special Education Teacher at Bartlett High School
Resignations -	No resignations at this time.
Transfers -	No transfers at this time.

Vacancies:

SCHOOL	POSITION
PAE	ABA (.4 and 2 positions available)
PAE	Instructional Assistant (1 position)
WMS	1.0 ABA
BHS	Instructional Assistants (2 positions available)
BHS	1.0 ABA
District	School Psychologist

2. Instructional Update -

Superintendent Pirangeli reported that on Tuesday, March 4, and Wednesday, March 5, the Central Admin Team, along with building principals, attended a Virtual Instructional Prioritization session from 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM. The Superintendent explained that this was an opportunity for the team to collaborate and be guided through the process by a facilitator to prepare the instructional priorities for the next year. Prior to the session, the team had completed some pre-work, reviewing various data sources. Superintendent Pirangeli noted that they are working together to develop the FY 26 instructional priority and still have some work to complete, which they hope to finalize at the upcoming DILT meeting this week.

Superintendent Pierangeli reported that the DILT team also conducted walk-throughs on February 27 and has additional walk-throughs scheduled for March 13.

Superintendent Pierangeli reported that March 14 is a district-wide professional development day, so there will be no school for students.

3. SWCEC Annual Report -

Superintendent Pierangeli noted that the 2024 SWCEC Annual Report is enclosed in the packet. The Superintendent explained that, by law, we are required to present the annual report to the school committee in accordance with collaborative requirements.

4. Other updates-

The Superintendent reported that she and Ms. Kontoes will be participating in an MSBA assessment. Superintendent Pierangeli explained that there is an extensive questionnaire that will be completed and reviewed. Superintendent Pierangeli added that she and Ms. Kontoes will take part in a 2.5-hour virtual

assessment on March 13th, followed by a site visit on March 20th to Park Avenue and Webster Middle School. The MSBA has engaged STV Inc. to conduct the 2025 Statewide School Survey. Superintendent Pierangeli noted that this initiative aims to evaluate and support the ongoing needs of schools across the state.

The Superintendent said that, in addition to the SWCEC annual report mentioned above, you will also find the Quarter 2 report.

The Superintendent reported that she is pleased to announce that Bartlett High School has recently been awarded a $21,900 grant from the One8 Foundation for the PLTW High School Biomedical Science program. The Superintendent explained that the grant will cover staff training and the purchase of durable equipment, including a microcentrifuge, a classroom thermal cycler, and other items. Superintendent Pierangeli also thanked Michele Bigelow for her efforts in actively seeking funds to support the programs offered at Bartlett High School.

The Superintendent added that, in addition to the One8 grant, we were also awarded the FY2025 Promoting Safe and Healthy Learning Environments grant. Dr. MacKay provided a brief explanation, stating that they have decided to use this opportunity for student internships, including a student teacher in the afterschool program, and will compensate them for the internship. Dr. MacKay also mentioned that they are working on developing a future teaching class as part of this initiative.

Chair Seddicki stated that this internship is a great opportunity for our students.

Dr. Mackay provided a brief update on the vacation camps, reporting that they will be offering an April vacation camp focused on Math and Science.

Superintendent Pierangeli stated that on March 11th and 12th, some high school students and teachers will visit the parochial schools to present to the 8th grade students the wonderful offerings at Bartlett High School. The Superintendent explained that this is an opportunity to showcase what we can offer to the 8th grade students who will be transitioning from the private schools.

The Superintendent reported that this past Sunday, she attended the Gridiron Banquet to celebrate our football students who had a great season. Superintendent Pierangeli thanked all the organizations and parents who support our students, making events like this possible.

Superintendent Pierangeli reported that she will be attending a CMC board meeting on Thursday, March 13th.

The Superintendent reported that she and Ms. Konteos attended the Selectmen's meeting on Monday, March 10th. Superintendent Pierangeli provided an update.

B. **Business Manager Report -** Mrs. Lisa Kontoes reported-

1- School Building Committee Update -

3-Week Look Ahead→

Kitchen: Install bi-fold doors,move kitchen equipment (that can move early) from the existing kitchen and complete the final connections to equipment. Once completed, the inspection will be scheduled.
Auditorium: Install chair lift, paint walls & ceilings, install railings, lights and wood panels, install flooring. The seating and stage floor is planned for the 3rd week of March.
Basement: Install lockers and final touch ups; flooring, doors, hardware and bathroom finishes are complete.
First Floor: Install ceiling grid, wood paneling, window sills,tile bathrooms, hallways and cafe, install flooring in cafe, install bathroom partitions and paint bathroom walls & ceilings.
Second Floor: Install ceiling grid, flooring in classrooms and hallways, install wood panels and window sills, and install ceiling tiles.
Logistics: Move planning is ongoing, communication planning is underway and intense schedule planning and coordination to ensure all life/safety items are completed, that commissioning and inspections are lined up as we approach substantial completion and seek approval for occupancy.

Member Millet asked about the progress of the cafeteria. Mrs. Konotes reported that when the kids return from April vacation, they will be able to eat in the new cafeteria.

The Superintendent also expressed excitement for this day to come, noting that the auditorium is also coming along well and they are very excited.

2- Maintenance Update -

BHS: We experienced more significant leaks in the building; predominantly in A section, however, there was some leaking in the library. The short-term solution that was implemented in section A was not sufficient so we hired a roofing company to address small cracks in the roof that allowed water to seep in. As of this writing, we did not experience any leaking as a result of the rain on Wednesday night (3/5) and Thursday (3/6).

PAE: The Bleacher install is completed. Pictures are included in your packet. The bleachers will be used to support student and staff assemblies.

3- Other Updates -

FY25 SPED Transportation Projected Deficit - for a second year we are projecting a deficit of $786,000. We have a budget freeze in place for non-essential spending and intend to cover the cost from the LEA budget.

Mrs. Kontoes said that as a reminder, we had a town meeting article last May (Article #5 for $550K) for a projected SPED Transportation deficit. That article was approved. The deficit ended up being higher than projected and the District ended up covering an additional $326,754 from the LEA budget for a total deficit of $876,754.

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

A. Events-

Ms. Puliafico reported that their winter carnival was a big success, featuring face painting and games.

Ms. Puliafico said that in February, the school leadership sponsored the Medieval Manners event, which was also a great success. This event included a chicken dinner and focused on cafeteria manners.

Ms. Puliafico shared that the Students of the Month event was held, with the administration making it extra special for the kids by decorating a lunch table just for them.

Additionally, Ms. Puliafico reported that this past Friday, the PTO sponsored a "Cookies and Canvas" event. This was a family night with cookies and painting.

Ms. Puliafico also mentioned that the Girls on the Run program has started and expressed her gratitude for the generous donations.

Ms. Puliafico said that Real Madrid Soccer will be starting this month.

Ms. Puliafico reported that the MCAS will begin on April 7, starting with the ELA MCAS.

Ms. Puliafico also shared that Community Reader Day is coming up.

Ms. Puliafico emphasized that despite the illnesses, the daily attendance rate is still lower than last year's.

B. Attendance Update-

Ms. Puliafico reported that the absenteeism rate is down by 8 percent compared to last year, showing improvement.

Ms. Puliafico also added that tardies have decreased by 22 percent from last year.

Ms. Puliafico explained that the daily attendance percentage did drop, but this was due to the illnesses that affected students in February.

Ms. Puliafico said that Open Architects has been a very successful tool to use.

C. Building Update-

Ms. Puliafico is happy to announce that the bleachers have been installed, and she’s very excited. Ms. Puliafico gave a big thank you to Mr. Aaronian and Mrs. Kontoes for making this happen for our students.

Member Sgarglia commented that the Winter Carnival was a lot of fun.

Ms. Puliafico gave a big thank you to all the volunteers from the Middle School and High School.

Chair Seddicki said that the bleachers looked great.

IV. Student Representative Update - Ms. Hope Cooper reported-

Recent Events and Updates:

- Saturday School this Saturday 2/8/25
- Need two more students for school council
- Poetry Contest for Spanish speaking students is still open, See Mrs. Nieves weekly letter for details
- Varsity softball is doing a T-shirt fundraiser, Shirts say “It’s Indians game day!”
- MCA’s information night will be April 13th 9-11 for the community. More details on the in-school Egg Hunt coming soon
- PBIS Egg Hunt will be April 13th 9-11 for the community. More details on the in school egg hunt coming soon

Upcoming Events and Updates:

- Seal of Biliteracy test was held last week 02/03 and 02/04
- Student Council went on their annual MASC field trip to Cape Cod
- Selected DECA members attended competition in Boston
- Senior Overnight Details have been sent out in Mrs. Nives weekly letter

V. Old Business

A. Monthly Report on Fundraising Applications

- PAE

- PTO Spring Book Fair

- BHS

- St. Patricks Coin War Grades 9-12
- Softball Program - Selling T-Shirts
- Sweet Treat Delivery Service - Selling whoopie pies, cookies and brownies
- Class 2025 - Junior/Senior Prom tickets
- PBIS - Egg Hunt and Continental Breakfast and Raffle Tickets

- WMS

- Band/Chorus - Selling candy bars to raise money

B. FY 26 - Budget Update - Update the committee on a 6% Budget

Mrs. Kontoes announced that the public hearing will take place on April 8. An announcement has been sent to the *Webster Times* and is included in your packet for reference.

V. New Business

A. Acceptance of the following donations:

5,000.00 for the Girls on the Run at Park Ave from Central Breaker & Control in Dudley, MA
5,000.00 for the Sports Department from the Fels Family Webster, MA
100 boxes of tissues to PAE from Worcester County Sheriff, Lew Evangeledis's Office
20 Random Acts of Kindness bags to PAE from Worcester County Sheriff, Lew Evangeledis's Office

Superintendent Pierangeli thanked all the people who have donated and continue to support our students.

Chair Seddicki also expressed gratitude for the generous donations.

Motion: To accept the donations 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
_ members having abstained
The motion X Passed
_ Failed

B. Approval of the Bartlett High School Program of Studies SY 2025-2026

Mrs. Nieves reported that the Program of Studies has been updated and reviewed the changes. Ms. Nieves added a principal's message, new courses, electives, a four-year math sequence, and a "Future Teachers" program. Mrs. Nieves said that the goal is to provide students with more opportunities.

Motion: To approve the Bartlett High School courses outlined in the Program of Studies 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
_ members having abstained
The motion X Passed
_ Failed

C. Approval of Bartlett High School MCAS Competency Determination

Ms. Nieves said the information is included in the packet. Ms. Nieves explained that they will post this information, expectations and communicate it to staff, students, and families.
Chair Seddicki asked if they have compared this information to other districts. Superintendent Pierangeli explained that all other districts are doing the same and we are aligned with meeting the standards of 2023.

Chair Seddicki made some suggestions on the first paragraph to make the language easier to follow.

Motion: To approved the Bartlett High School MCAS Competency Determination

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
The motion X Passed
_ Failed

D. Approval of FY25 School Calendar change

Ms. Nieves explained that, for this year only, they are considering changing the third night that teachers are required to attend from parent-teacher conferences to graduation day.

Chair Seddicki stated that she understands conferences are not always well-attended. However, if a parent missed the first parent-teacher conference at the beginning of the year and is planning to attend the second one, how are you communicating this with families, and is there another option for them?
Ms. Nieves explained that she will have all teachers communicate this information with families.
Ms. Nieves also added that parents are welcome to set up a meeting with a teacher at any time.

Motion: To approved the FY25 School Calendar change 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
_ members having abstained
The motion X Passed
_ Failed

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

A. Approval of signing of warrant in the amount of $512,837.64

VII. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:04 pm

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
The motion: X Passed
_ Failed

Respectfully submitted,
Desiree A. Moniz

Documents included in the packet:

- School Committee Agenda - 3/11/2025
- Superintendent Notes
- Minutes for 2/25/25
- Public Announcement
- Donations
- New Competency Determination Guidelines
- Warrant Report

Upcoming Events / Dates:

February 14, 2025	**Valentine's Day Dance**	**BHS**	**BHS Cafeteria 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm**
February 17, 2025	**No School ; President's Day**	**All Schools**	
February 18, 2025 to February 21, 2025	**Winter Vacation ; No School**	**All Schools**	
February 26, 2025	**PBIS Community Bingo**	**BHS**	**BHS Cafeteria 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**
March 4, 2025	**Building Committee**	**District**	**Conference Room**

March 5, 2025	**Leadership Academy Field Trip**	**BHS**	**Nichols College 9:30 am to 1:30 pm**
March 7, 2025	**Career Day**	**WMS**	**Webster Middle School**
March 14, 2025	**Full Day PD**	**No School**	**All students**
March 21, 2025	**PBIS Family Feud**	**BHS**	**Cafeteria 9am to 10am**