

**WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, July 22, 2025**

Date: July 22, 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 Adamopoulos
- Member Sgariglia

The following Committee Members were absent:

- Member Koleros

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 June 10, 2025 Minutes

Motion: To approve June 10, 2025 as presented

The motion was made by: Member Millet

The motion was seconded by: Member Sgariglia

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. Superintendent's Report

1. Personnel Update -

Retirement: Leslie Kwasniewski - Teacher at Park Ave Elementary

Superintendent Pierangeli and Chair Seddiki thanked Ms. Kwasniewski for her dedication to Webster Public Schools. Member Millet expressed appreciation for her many years of service.

1. New Hires:

Park Ave -

- Nicole Suarez-Brackett - Family Liaison
- Rebekah Conley - Paraprofessional
- Alexandra Balducci - Paraprofessional
- Lori Trahan - ELL Teacher
- Aliya Zubi - School Psychologist
- Emma McGrillen - ELA Teacher
- Sophie Morel - Grade 3 Teacher
- Jacob Bond - Grade 2 Teacher
- Annalise Sherman - Grade 3 Teacher

Webster Middle School -

- Randall Stewart - Grade 7 ELA Teacher
- Haley Drezek - Grade 5 Math and Science Teacher

Bartlett High School -

- Cheryl Gelfand - Math Teacher
- Lucas Correia-Covert - School Adjustment Counselor
- Emma McGrillen - ELA Teacher

District -

- Carol Cohen - Assistant Director of Student Support Services

Resignations -

- Lindsay Markaham - Paraprofessional at PAE
- Daniel Gutierrez - Teacher at BHS
- Nicole Coderre - Special Education Teacher at WMS

Transfers: No transfers at this time.

Vacancies:

SCHOOL	POSITION
PAE	ABA (.4 and 2 position available)
PAE	Instructional Assistant (2 position available)
PAE	Grade 4 Teacher
PAE	Special Education Teacher
WMS	1.0 ABA
WMS	Special Education Teacher
BHS	Instructional Assistants (1 position available)
BHS	1.0 ABA
BHS	1.0 Math

2. Instructional Update -

The Superintendent reported that the Instructional Priority was submitted on June 30, 2025, and added that they are eagerly awaiting feedback from our DESE partners. The Superintendent hopes to receive feedback by mid-August.

Superintendent Pierangeli reported that on Monday, July 14, and Friday, July 18; the district held two full-day Summer Administrative Retreats. The Superintendent explained that during these sessions, the team reviewed many district expectations and spent time discussing changes in the law, as well as updates in special education and English Language Learner (ELL) services.

The Superintendent explained that during these sessions they kicked off the work for the new strategic plan. Superintendent Pierangeli explained that the district's plan expired in June of 2025 and they are currently working on creating a new plan.

The Superintendent reported that grant funding is currently on hold and noted concerns regarding several key funding sources. Recently, the district was notified that funding for the 21st Century, Title II, Title III, and Title IV programs is being withheld. For Webster, this represents a potential shortfall of approximately \$400,000.

The impact of this pause is significant. The 21st Century grant supports our after-school programming. Title II funding provides stipends for both Instructional Leadership and Mentoring. Title III supports our Flashlight Program for ELL students and includes stipend funding for teachers. Title IV contributes to our PBIS initiatives and has funded our Saturday School.

The Superintendent emphasized that this is an area requiring close attention, as the loss of these funds could have a substantial effect on several important programs we offer.

Member Sgariglia asked if a timeline had been provided regarding whether the district will receive these federal funds. Superintendent Pierangeli reported that no timeline has been given to the district.

3. Other updates-

The Superintendent noted that, as shown above, the district has been busy with hiring. The Superintendent was pleased to report that staff turnover appears to be lower than in recent years and emphasized that she is working hard to foster a positive culture and climate that supports staff retention.

Superintendent Pierangeli reported that she attended the Superintendent Conference on Tuesday and Wednesday down the Cape. The Superintendent noted that, as always, the conference was well attended and shared that participants had the opportunity to meet the new Commissioner of Education, who expressed excitement about his role in Massachusetts.

Superintendent Pierangeli highlighted several valuable sessions, including those focused on artificial intelligence and strategic planning tips. The Superintendent added that the conference was a great opportunity for networking and for recognizing that Superintendents across the state share many of the same concerns.

B. Business Manager Report, Lisa Kontoes -

1- School Building Update-

- **Phase I Substantial Completion:** Partial certificate has been signed after processing a no cost change order to adjust the completion date to April 25 (Friday of April Break).
- **Window Lintel Remediation:** During window performance testing in Phase I in Section C, new windows in existing window openings failed testing. It was discovered that the existing window conditions were not installed in the field according to the original building as-built design drawing. This unforeseen condition revealed that the existing lintel was absent of end dams. After consultation with the state regarding abatement of asbestos, a remediation approach that aligns with the Brick Institute recommendations has been approved by the SBC and is beginning in Section C this week to be completed before the start of school.

- **Auditorium Update:** Steel connections have not yet been resolved. The steel sub contractor has been attempting to resolve the connections using engineering calculations but has not been successful in getting sign off from Architectural Engineer (the engineer of record for the project). The General Contractor agreed to a deduct change order in the amount of \$27K to have the Architectural Engineer perform the calculations on behalf of the steel subcontractor. The outcome of the calculations is expected this week. As of Friday, July 18 9 connections have been cleared through the calculations. The remaining 12 connections need additional as-built information from the General Contractor. If any of the connections fail, the GC and steel subcontractor will be expected to immediately remediate.
- **Phase II Status:** Demolition is nearing completion, Roof work continue and rough plumbing and electrical have started.

2- End of Year Financial Update:

- **Special Education Transportation Update:** Earlier in the year, the District had been projecting that SPED transportation actual costs would exceed the budget by approximately 46%. As a result, an LEA budget freeze was implemented, and as a contingency, an article was included in the May 2025 Town Meeting for an amount not to exceed \$400K. I am happy to report that the School will not need to use the article funds because we were able to cover the additional costs in the LEA budget due to the budget freeze and recouping some funds from tuition encumbrances that were not needed due to changes in student placements/needs.
- **Year-End Closing Activities:** The Business Office has been working diligently to process all year-end invoices and to encumber monies appropriately for outstanding purchases for goods or services where invoices have not yet been received.

Member Millet expressed frustration over the delay of the auditorium, noting that it has significantly impacted the students of Webster Public Schools. Both the Superintendent and the Business Manager agreed with Member Millet about the frustrating nature of the situation and added that they have expressed these concerns to the construction team.

IV. Old Business

A. Monthly Report on Fundraising Applications-

- 1- Class of 2026 - Homecoming Dance
 - Selling Butterbraids and cookie dough
 - Holiday Craft Fair
 - Dodgeball Tournament
 - Junior and Senior Prom selling tickets
- 2- PBIS -
 - Trunk or Treat
 - Meat Raffle/Tickets
 - Breakfast / Brunch with Santa
 - Community Bingo
 - Community Egg Hunt
- 3- Student Council - Selling Turkey Feather's

Collection of food pantry items - Webster Dudley Food Share

4- WMS Football - Snacks Table to sell at the games

B. Approval of Update of Bartlett High School Program of Studies

Motion: To approve of Bartlett High School Program of Studies

The motion was made by: Member Millet

The motion was seconded by: Member Sgariglia

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

Ms. Nives explained that a few changes needed to be made to the Program of Studies and then reviewed the list of updates.

V. New Business

A. Approval of Fundraising Organization - The Gridiron Club

Motion: To approve the Fundraising Organization - The Gridiron Club

The motion was made by: Member Millet

The motion was seconded by: Member Sgariglia

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

Superintendent Pierangeli thanked the Gridiron Club for organizing these fundraisers in support of our students.

B. Approval of transfer of ELL position from Bartlett High School to Park Ave Elementary

Motion: To approve the transfer of ELL position from Bartlett High School to Park Ave Elementary

The motion was made by: Member Millet

The motion was seconded by: Member Sgariglia

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 transfer of Academic Interventionist position from Webster Middle School to Park Ave Elementary

Motion: To approve the transfer of Academic Interventionist position from Webster Middle School to Park Ave Elementary

The motion was made by: Member Millet
The motion was seconded by: Member Sgariglia
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 Surplus Items Science scales and Social Studies Student Edition Textbooks from Webster Middle School

Motion: To approve Surplus Items and books from the Webster Middle School

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

- E. Acceptance of donation in the amount of \$173.38 from Jane Molina to Webster Public Schools

Motion: To accept donation in the amount of \$173.38 from Jane Molina to Webster Public School

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

Superintendent Pierangeli and Chair Seddiki expressed her gratitude for the generous donation.

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

A. Approval of transfer request in the amount of \$9,905.69 from Webster Middle School Activity

Motion: To approve transfer request in the amount of \$9,905.69 from Webster Middle School Activity

The motion was made by: Member Millet

The motion was seconded by: Member Sgariglia

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. Signing of Warrant

VII. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:09 P.M.

The motion was made by: Member Millet

The motion was seconded by: Member Sgariglia

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:

- School Committee Agenda - 7/22/2025
- Superintendent Notes
- Minutes for 6/10/25
- Fundraising applications

- Bartlett Program of Studies
- Warrant Report

Upcoming Events / Dates:

June 11, 2025	WMS Field Day	All Day	WMS
June 11, 2025	Incoming Grade 5 Parent Information Session	6pm - 7pm	WMS Library
June 12, 2025	Adult Graduation	TBD	WMS
June 16, 2025	Grade 8 BBQ	10:45 am	WMS
June 17, 2025	Grade 8 Ceremony	12:30 pm	WMS - Basketball Court
June 18, 2025	Last Day of School	Half a day	
June 18, 2025	PBIS Block Party and Barbecue	TBD	Outside Cafeteria