

**WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, February 10, 2026**

Date: February 10, 2026

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
- Member Koleros

Items were taken out of order.

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 January 27, 2026 Minutes

Motion: To approve January 27, 2026 Minutes 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

II. Superintendent's Report

1. Personnel Update -

Retirement:	No retirements at this time.
New Hires:	No new hires at this time.
Resignations:	No resignations at this time.
Transfers:	No transfers at this time.

Vacancies:

SCHOOL	POSITION
PAE	2.0 FTE - Instructional Assistants
PAE	4.4 FTE - ABA
WMS	4.0 FTE - ABA
WMS	5.0 FTE - Instructional Assistants
BHS	2.0 FTE - Instructional Assistants

3. Instructional Update-

The Superintendent reported that the district had a half day of professional development (PD) on Friday, February 6, and that the professional development grids were included in the packets.

The Superintendent reported that the Middle School received the first of two reports from the CDSP visit conducted in January. The Superintendent also noted that Ms. Peterson will discuss the report at the next meeting.

Superintendent Pierangeli reported that she and Ms. Haire participated in a training with DESE on the upcoming TFM process for special education.

3. 2nd Quarter Report SWCEC-

The Superintendent reported that she attended the Southern Worcester County Educational Collaborative (SWCEC) monthly meeting on Thursday, February 5. The Superintendent stated that the SWCEC second quarter report was included in the packet for the Committee's information and review. The Superintendent reported that the SWCEC Board is closely monitoring enrollment. Current enrollment is 109 students, which is below the projected enrollment budgeted for FY2026. The SWCEC Board also reviewed the recommended budget for FY2027. The recommendation includes a small increase in tuition for member districts. The budget will be voted on at the next meeting.

4. Director of Student Support Services Report-

Ms. Shari Haire provided a brief update on the Special Education Department and introduced Ms. Katherine Houle, Director of the BRYT Program, who provided an overview of the program. Ms. Houle explained how the BRYT Program operates and reviewed the ongoing work of the program at Webster Public Schools.

The Superintendent and Chair Seddiki thanked Ms. Houle for her presentation and expressed appreciation for the BRYT Program's partnership.

5. Other Updates-

No other updates at this time.

B. Business Manager Report, Mrs. Lisa Kontoes -

Mrs. Lisa Kontoes shared a slide presentation with updates on the building project.

1- Bartlett High School Building Committee Update -

Phase I Milestone Dates:

- 2nd Floor Flooring Completion - 2/6
- HVAC Equipment Start Up - 2/20
- Punch List - 2/23 (20 days)
- 1st Floor Flooring Completion - 2/27
- Plumbing Final Sign Off - 2/27
- Electrical Final Sign Off - 2/27
- Final Cleaning - 3/2 (10 days)
- Commissioning Start Date - 3/2 (20 days)
- Back Punch & Final Sign offs
- Substantial Completion 4/15
- Move - April Break week of 4/20

2- Maintenance Updates-

PAE

- **Elevator:** The elevator has continued to be problematic again this year. It stopped functioning last week as a result of the failure of the selective board and the auxiliary selective board. These boards control the stop-selection and dispatch logic of the elevator. The boards have been replaced and the elevator is now functional.
- **Broken Windows:** Two windows are broken near the playground; currently getting quotes for labor. We have spare windows from the original build in attic stock so this is just labor.
- **Bleachers:** One set of the bleachers is not retracting fully using the automated feature requiring manual intervention. The bleachers are under warranty and the company came on site on 2/5/26 to assess/address.

WMS

- **Univent Motors:** A few classroom unit ventilator motors have malfunctioned and need to be replaced. The motor controls the fan/blower that supplies and circulates air into the classroom. We keep motors in stock and are scheduling the replacement.
- **Lighting Controls:** The building's original lighting control software is obsolete and now considered end of life. We are no longer able to manage the holiday schedule in the software and have to manually override lighting settings. We are exploring options for potential replacement.

BHS

- **Section A Leaks/Snow Removal:** Section A started leaking following the recent large snowstorm despite the frigid temperatures. To avoid significant leaks, we proactively had the snow removed from the roof.

3- Other Updates-

MASBO Bi-Monthly Meeting:

Mrs. Kontoes attended the most recent bi-weekly meeting which included two presentations related to the governor's budget as follows:

- Robert O'Donnell - DESE Director of School Finance
Presentation: DESE Governor's Budget
- Doug Howgate - President Mass Taxpayers Foundation
Presentation: New Fiscal Reality

HIGHLIGHTS

DESE Governor's Budget

- We will cover the Chapter 70 related highlights during the FY27 Budget agenda topic.
- Circuit Breaker:
 - House 2 is funding the program at \$652.7 million which is an increase of \$167.8 million over FY26.
 - The Governor filed a supplemental request to add \$150 million of Fair Share funding. Note, this is supplemental for the FY26 budget using the millionaire's tax revenue.
 - The funding level is projected to reimburse 100% of the entitlements and traditional earmarks provided for under the Circuit Breaker Program (i.e. 75% reimbursement over the threshold for out-of district tuition)
 - The reimbursement projection for out-of-district transportation cost is funded at the statutory maximum.

New Fiscal Reality

- FY26 Annual Operating Budget ~\$61 Billion (Healthcare is 48% followed by Education at 20%) K-12 education and Chapter 70 are the key drivers in Education spending
- State Revenue Sources:
 - Tax Revenue 60%
 - Income Tax 35%
 - Sales Tax 14%
 - Corporate Tax 7%
 - Other Taxes 4% (Surtax is 3%)
- Surtax:
 - Earmarked for Education & Transportation fund (both operating & capital)
 - Began collecting at the beginning of 2023
 - For FY26 & 27, the operating spending equals the surtax revenue projection
 - Spending to date: Education 59%(K-12 27%) and Transportation 41%
- MTF has identified three primary threats to the state's long-term fiscal stability:
 - Persistent stagnation or declines in state tax revenue collections, exacerbated by a larger economic downturn.

- New and existing pressures on state budget spending growth.
- Increased reliance on volatile revenue sources to support state spending, including the surtax and one-time revenue solutions.

These factors are a combination of external events and considerations. Combined, they present Governor Healey and the Legislature with an unmistakable message: failure to prepare for adverse events could jeopardize the state's ability to respond effectively and mitigate fiscal risk.

- MRT estimates an initial budget gap of \$3B to produce a balanced budget
- The Governor's budget estimated the census revenue grown over FY26 at 2.4% this includes a \$2.7 billion cap on surtax supported spending. This is \$300M over the FY26 cap – 64% planned for Education and 36% for transportation
- Key FY27 Spending Drivers are composed of 10 programs that make up 85% of the total increase in spending. The programs with the largest cost pressures are:
 - Healthcare – MassHealth and Group Insurance Commission (GIC)
 - Education – Chapter 70 state aid, Special Education Circuit Breaker, and Child Care Financial Assistance.
 - Support Services – Human Services Transportation.

Chair Seddiki asked for clarification about Mrs. Kontoes' statement that transportation is fully funded. Superintendent Pierangeli explained that this refers to Circuit Breaker funding for Special Education, not regular transportation.

Chair Seddiki asked if Special Education transportation will be fully funded. Superintendent Pierangeli responded that only a portion will be funded, and only for some Special Education students who receive transportation services.

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

1- PBIS Update -

Ms. Puliafico reported that Park Avenue Elementary has a strong PBIS team that works diligently to evaluate and improve PBIS systems and structures. Ms. Puliafico reviewed some of the structures currently in place.

Ms. Puliafico reported that a PBIS event was held today to recognize students from each grade level who demonstrated teamwork.

2- Events -

December:

- Wizard of Oz play.
- Middle School and High School chorus performed for students.

January:

- Winter Literacy Math event.
- Winter Carnival has been postponed due to inclement weather; no new date has been set.
- The Gladys Library ~ Read-Aloud.

February:

- Blackstone Valley Education Foundation: Provided virtual reality headsets for teachers before vacation.
- Spirit of Valentine's Day: Ms. Puliafico explained that families were given an opportunity to give a "shoutout" to teachers in the Principal's newsletter. Ms. Puliafico shared some positive comments submitted.

IV. Student Representative Update**Positives:**

- February break is near.

Student Engagement/Events Opportunities:

- Bartlett joined the American Heart Association encouraging everyone to wear red on Friday
- Congratulations to all members of the Bartlett High Schools Big Brother Big Sister community! Bartlett High Schools chapter was recipient of Cornerstone's in Your Corner Award of 2026.

Happening now :

- For the month of February, we are highlighting kindness. Happening now!
- We have spirit wear days each day and ongoing activities throughout the week.
- Initial CPM Assessment Testing for all Semester 2 Math Classes is happening now
- Initial StudySync Benchmark 1 Assessment Testing for all Semester 2 ELA Classes is happening now.

Family Events:

- Community Bingo Night on Thursday, February 12th from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.
- Community Egg Hunt and Breakfast Saturday, March 28th from 8:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.

Sports:

- Congratulations to the members of the Bartlett Indoor Track Team for their efforts during the Week 5 CMAC performance highlighted by multiple personal bests and finishes. In the 50 yard dash, Cam Forsythe and Annabelle Reed recorded their personal-best times. Britney Jubin achieved a personal best in the 300 meter run, while Alexis Benito posted a personal best time in the 600 meter run securing him a top-ten finish. Top ten finishes in the 50 meter dash were earned by Hunter Claypool, Deborah Lamptey, and

Brittney Jubin. In the 300 meters, Eryk Piwowarczyk and Deborah Lamptey both secured top ten placements. Ben Horan finished in the top ten in the mile, while Cam Forsythe placed top ten in the shot put. Rounding out the meet, Eryk Piwowarczyk captured a top five finish in the boys high jump.

- Polar Park presents regional high school baseball, with a major tripleheader scheduled for April 13, 2026!
- Boys JV and Varsity game at BVT February 6, 2026 (JV- 5:00, Varsity-6:30)
- Indoor Track team competes at New Balance Center in Boston Sunday February 8, 2026 at 12:30

Senior Class Updates:

- More Scholarships
- Papa Gino's Fundraiser Coming Soon! (20% of sales from Papa Gino's on February 26 will be going to the class of 2026 when mentioning the fundraiser in the order)

Member Sgariglia welcomed Eric, Student Representative, to the School Committee.

Superintendent Pierangeli thanked Eric for his accomplishments.

Chair Seddiki also thanked Eric and congratulated him on his accomplishments.

V. Old Business

A. Monthly Fundraising Update -

- Class of 2026 - Papa Gino's Fundraiser
- Class of 2026 - Baked goods Fundraiser
- Class of 2028 - Video Game Night
- Student Council - Krispy Kreme's Donuts Fundraiser
- PBIS PAE - Popcorn Selling Fundraiser
- Bartlett Gridiron Club - Raffle at Football Team Banquet
- Bartlett Gridiron Club - Alumni and Coaches Bartender Night at Sinni's Pub in Dudley
- WMS Music & PBIS - Selling tickets and snacks at the event

Superintendent Pierangeli thanked everyone for their hard work in organizing these fundraisers.

B. FY 27 Budget - Budget Update -

A presentation was included in the packet. Superintendent Pierangeli and Mrs. Kontoes provided an update of the budget. Superintendent Pierangeli stated that the goal is to have the budget approved at the next meeting.

Mrs. Kontoes expressed her appreciation to Ms. Debbie Rivera for her diligent efforts in contacting curriculum vendors and exploring all available options to identify potential cost savings. Mrs. Kontoes also thanked Mr. Jon O'Neil for his assistance on the software side of the project. Mrs. Kontoes noted that the collaborative work of the entire group has been extremely beneficial.

The Superintendent expressed appreciation for the team's hard work and dedication and acknowledged that although the work is not easy, the team will continue to move forward collaboratively.

Chair Seddiki thanked Mrs. Kontoes and the Superintendent for their hard work.

Chair Seddiki inquired about the anticipated percentage of Circuit Breaker funds that would be carried over to the next fiscal year. The Superintendent provided an estimated amount, noting that she did not have the exact information available at that time.

Chair Seddiki expressed concern regarding the Circuit Breaker figures. The Superintendent stated that the matter will continue to be reviewed and they will know more information once they meet with the town.

Superintendent Pierangeli asked the Committee if there were any items they would like her to bring forward or focus on for the next School Committee meeting.

Chair Seddiki stated that the Committee would like to see 50 percent of the Circuit Breaker funds preserved but acknowledged that achieving this may be difficult.

Member Adamopoulos stated that the Circuit Breaker numbers should be reviewed from multiple perspectives and that they should work collaboratively with the Town.

Chair Seddiki expressed appreciation to all members for their efforts throughout the budget season.

VII. Enter into Executive Session: According to M.G.L. chapter 30A, Section 21 (a) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares;

Motion: To go into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares

The motion was made by: Member Adamopoulos

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

VI. New Business

- A. Review and Approval of 2026-2027 Calendar - The WEA is in agreement to have an MOA to start the school year on August 26th.

The Superintendent stated that, contractually, the school year cannot begin more than one week before Labor Day. Superintendent Pierangeli noted that the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) provides one-time approval to do so.

Motion: To approve MOA between the Webster School Committee and the Webster Educators Association to start the school year on August 26, 2026

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

Review and Approval of the 2026-2027 School Calendar.

Superintendent Pierangeli stated that, due to approval from the Webster Educators Association, school will begin for staff on August 26, 2026, and for students on August 31, 2026. The Superintendent noted that no other changes have been made to the calendar since the version presented last week.

Motion: To approve the 2026-2027 School Calendar 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

Chair Seddiki stated that it is great to be ending the school year as usual, rather than having to extend it later in the year. The Superintendent agreed, noting that it is reassuring to have a few days before June 19 available for potential snow days.

B. Approval of Overnight Field Trip - BHS Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) State Competition in Boston, MA

Superintendent Pierangeli provided a brief explanation of the annual overnight DECA field trip in March, which is a recurring request submitted to the School Committee each year.

Chair Seddiki inquired about the number of students attending the field trip. Ms. Nieves reported that three students will be participating.

Motion: To approve the overnight field trip for the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) State Competition in Boston, MA, 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

- A. Policy CBD - Superintendent's Contract - First Reading
- B. Policy ECAF - Security Cameras in Schools - First Reading
- C. Policy GBGB - Staff Personal Security and Safety - First Reading
- D. Policy JL - Student Welfare - First Reading

Superintendent Pierangeli reviewed the policies and explained the updates for each one.

Acceptance of Donation of 47 pairs of Sneakers from the 365 Foundation.

Motion: To accept the 47 pairs of Sneaker donation 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

Superintendent Pierangeli and Chair Seddiki thanked the 365 Foundation for their generous donations and continued support of the students.

A. Signing of Warrants in the amount of \$ 561,035.38

X. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8:28 P.M.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Desiree A. Moniz

Documents included in the packet:

- School Committee Agenda - 2/10/2026
- Superintendent Notes
- Minutes for 1/27/26
- FY 27 Budget Update
- Policies
- Donations
- Warrant Reports

Upcoming Events / Dates:

February 10, 2026	ELPAC Meeting	TBD	
February 12, 2026	PBIS Bingo Night	6:00pm - 8:00pm	Cafeteria
February 17, 2026 to February 21, 2026	Winter Break	All Schools	
February 24, 2026	Big Brother Big Sister	3:00pm - 4:00pm	PAE
February 25, 2026	SEPAC	6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	

March 3, 2026	Big Brother Big Sister	3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	PAE
March 4, 2026	MASC Student Council Conference	All Day	Hyannis, MA
March 5, 2026	MASC Student Council Conference	All Day	Hyannis, MA
March 6, 2026	MASC Student Council Conference	All Day	Hyannis, MA
March 10, 2026	School Committee Meeting	6:00 pm	Central Office
March 12, 2026	BHS Pi Day Event	1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Cafeteria
March 12, 2026	BHS PBIS Dodgeball Tournament	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Gym
March 12, 2026 - March 14 - 2026	BHS DECA States Competition	All Day	Boston Convention Center
March 13, 2026	Full PD Day	All Day	
March 17, 2026	BHS Big Brother Big Sister	3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	PAE
March 21, 2026	PAE PTO Cookies and Canvas	10:00 am - 11:30 pm	PAE
March 24, 2026	SC Meeting	6:00 pm	Central Office
March 25, 2026	SEPAC - OT and Sensory	6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	
March 27, 2026	BHS - PBIS Egg Hunt / Breakfast	8:00 am - 10:00 am	Cafeteria/Sports Fields
March 31, 2026	Big Brother & Big Sister	3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	PAE