

**WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, June 9, 2026**

Date: June 9, 2026

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Bartlett High School
Media Center
52 Lake Parkway
Webster, MA 01570

The meeting was called to order by: Chair Seddiki

The following Committee Members were present

- Member Millet
- Member Koleros

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 May 26, 2026 Minutes

Motion: To approve May 26, 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:

- 3 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: Michele Bigelow - Teacher at Bartlett High School
Andrea Fitton - Teacher at Webster Middle School

New Hires: Melissa Vazquez - Paraprofessional at Park Ave Elementary

Resignations: Nicholas Fitton - Custodian at Webster Middle School

Michael Scott - Groundskeeper/Custodian at District

Transfers: No transfers at this time.

Vacancies:

SCHOOL	POSITION
PAE	2.0 FTE - Instructional Assistants
PAE	4.4 FTE - ABA
PAE	1.0 FTE Assistant Principal
PAE/WMS	1.0 FTE Speech Assistant
WMS	4.0 FTE - ABA
WMS	4.0 FTE - Instructional Assistants
WMS	1.0 FTE - Grade 6 Teacher
WMS	1.0 FTE - Custodian
BHS	2.0 FTE - Instructional Assistants
BHS	1.0 FTE - Special Ed Teacher
BHS	1.0 FTE - Assistant Principal
District	1.0 FTE - Groundskeeper/Custodian

2. Management and Operations-

The Superintendent reported that, as the school year comes to a close, it is an appropriate time to reflect on district processes, identifying what has worked well and areas needing improvement. This review will be a focus of the district's summer work.

Superintendent Pierangeli reported that, in addition to reviewing district processes and policies, the summer months are a period of increased recruitment and hiring as staff transitions occur. The Superintendent expressed optimism that any vacancies will be filled promptly to support a successful start to the upcoming school year.

Superintendent Pierangeli reported that district administration is working closely together to close out the fiscal year. The district remains on track financially.

Superintendent Pierangeli reported that Dr. Mackay and Ms. Lois Taylor are working closely together to submit the 21st Century Grant application. The Superintendent added that, as the fiscal year approaches, new grant opportunities are becoming available, and the district is pursuing applicable funding opportunities.

3. Other Updates-

The Superintendent extended congratulations and thanks to Ramona Kelly, who retired after 35 years with the Town of Webster. Superintendent noted that Ms. Kelly was a valuable support to the business office over her many years of service. Ms. Kontoes and the Superintendent attended a celebration in her honor on May 28.

The Superintendent reported that there have been many successful spring concerts. Superintendent Pierangeli noted that it is wonderful to see families in attendance and students showcasing their talents during their final performances of the school year.

In addition to the spring concerts, field days were held at Park Avenue. Appreciation was expressed to the Fire Department for assisting in cooling off students during the events.

The Superintendent and Ms. Kontoes also thanked Athletic Director Tony Paranto for organizing the field day held on May 30 for students in Webster. Appreciation was extended to Mr. Paranto and the coaches who supported the event.

Member Koleris thanked the Superintendent for consistently attending school events and expressed appreciation for his continued support of the school community.

Superintendent Pierangeli reported that senior awards were held on June 2, 2026. The Superintendent noted that it was a successful event, with over \$90,000 in scholarships awarded. Congratulations were extended to all recipients, and appreciation was expressed to the community for its continued support.

The Superintendent announced that Grads on Parade was held on June 4 and noted that it is a wonderful community event.

Superintendent Pierangeli attended the GROW graduation on Thursday, June 4, held at the Sturbridge Host. Webster had two graduates, Sam Ramos and Erin Costa. Ms. Costa delivered the student address and did an excellent job. The Superintendent noted that it was a positive event and extended congratulations and best wishes to both graduates for their future endeavors.

The Superintendent provided an update to the committee regarding Bartlett High School graduation

B. Business Manager, Lisa Kontoes -

Bartlett High School Building Committee Update-

1. Bartlett High School Building Project Update

- Project Completion Status: 84.5%
 - Phase 3: November 30, 2026 (move in over December break)

- Phase 4: June 30, 2027
- Working to advance hardscape site work from Phase 4 to this summer.
- Upcoming tasks:
 - Install Structural Steel
 - Install New Roofing
 - Frame Interior Walls
 - Sitework - Foundation Work Beginning
 - Ongoing Punch List Items
- Punch List:
 - Phase 1: 4 items open valued at \$19,000
 - Phase 2: 140 items open valued at \$330,000
- Continuous planning and scheduling for the disposal of existing furniture and receipt of the new furniture. The surplus items will be declared at the next School Committee Meeting

2. Maintenance Update

- A smoke detector at Webster Middle School activated in error, causing the fire alarm to sound and prompted a response from the fire department. This occurred on Monday, June 1 and caused a slight delay to the start of school around the morning drop-off timeframe. The faulty sensor was serviced and replaced by 10:30 on the same day.

3. Other Updates

Massachusetts RetirementPlus Legislation

The Massachusetts Legislature has advanced legislation to address a longstanding RetirementPlus enrollment issue affecting teachers. The Massachusetts House of Representatives unanimously passed the bill on July 30, 2025, and the Massachusetts Senate unanimously passed its version on June 4, 2026. The legislation would provide a one-time opportunity for eligible teachers who missed the original 2001 enrollment window to enroll in RetirementPlus and receive enhanced retirement benefits. Legislative estimates indicate that approximately 6,500 to 8,500 educators statewide could be affected by the change. Teachers who elect to participate would be required to make the necessary catch-up contributions, including interest, to receive the enhanced benefit.

Next Steps

The House and Senate must reconcile any differences between their versions of the legislation before a final bill can be sent to Governor Maura Healey for signature. While the legislation has broad support, the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (MASS) has expressed disappointment that neither version addresses the post-retirement employment “waiting period” that the organization advocated for in December and that was included in an earlier Senate proposal. If enacted, eligible teachers would have a limited enrollment window, expected to extend into mid-2027, to elect participation and complete the required contribution process. The state retirement systems would then implement the enrollment process and communicate eligibility requirements to affected educators.

Note: The “waiting period” that MASS has been advocating for refers to the required separation period before a retired educator can return to work for the same public employer. Under current Massachusetts law, a retiree who returns to work for the same public employer is generally required to wait 60 days after retirement before being rehired. This is one of several post-retirement employment restrictions under Chapter 32, Section 91.

V. Old Business

A. Monthly Report on Fundraising Applications

B. Review and Approval of Strategic Plan

Superintendent Pierangeli provided a brief update on the Strategic Plan and presented it to the committee for approval. A committee member expressed concerns that the plan required further development. The majority of the committee supported moving forward with approval of the Strategic Plan.

Motion: To approve the Strategic Plan for 2025 - 2028

The motion was made by: Member Kleros

The motion was seconded by: Member Seddiki

The following roll call vote was taken:

2 members having voted in the affirmative

1 members having voted in the negative

_ members having abstained

The motion: X Passed

_ Failed

VI. New Business

A. Approval of the Director of Finance and Operations Job Description

The Superintendent reported that Ms. Kontoes has served in the role for three years and noted that the position encompasses responsibilities beyond those of a Business Manager. The Superintendent explained that Ms. Kontoes oversees multiple departments and district operations and stated that the title "Director of Finance and Operations" is more appropriate. The Superintendent requested committee approval of the title change.

Member Kleros and Chair Seddiki expressed appreciation for Ms. Kontoes, noting her strong performance and thanking her for her hard work and dedication to the district.

Ms. Kontoes expressed her appreciation for the title change and thanked the Superintendent and the committee.

Motion: To approve of the Director of Finance and Operations job description

The motion was made by: Member Millet

The motion was seconded by: Member Kleros

The following roll call vote was taken:

3 members having voted in the affirmative

_ members having voted in the negative

_ members having abstained

The motion: X Passed

_ Failed

B. Approval of Groundskeeper/Custodian Job Description

Ms. Kontoes reported that the packet included both the original and updated job descriptions. Ms. Kontoes explained that, due to recent vacancies, this was an appropriate opportunity to revise the job description and reviewed the updates with the committee. Ms. Kontoes requested committee approval.

Motion: To approve the Groundskeeper/Custodian Job Description

The motion was made by: Member Millet

The motion was seconded by: Member Koleros

The following roll call vote was taken:

3 members having voted in the affirmative

_ members having voted in the negative

_ members having abstained

The motion: X Passed

_ Failed

C. Donations-

1- \$500.00 to BHS PBIS

2- Hygiene Products from Dudley Women's Club to Webster Middle School

Superintendent Pierangeli reported that a donation was received in memory of Barbara Jourdanais, who served as an administrative assistant in the Special Education Department. The Superintendent thanked the family for their generous donation.

Motion: To accept the donation of \$500 to Bartlett High School and hygiene products to Webster Middle School

The motion was made by: Member Millet

The motion was seconded by: Member Sgariglia

The following roll call vote was taken:

3 members having voted in the affirmative

_ members having voted in the negative

_ members having abstained

The motion: X Passed

_ Failed

D. Approval of Surplus

1- Miscellaneous Books

The Superintendent reported that the packet included a list of outdated books from the former building, which are being presented as surplus.

Motion: To approve the Surplus of miscellaneous books

The motion was made by: Member Millet

The motion was seconded by: Member Koleros

The following roll call vote was taken:

3 members having voted in the affirmative

_ members having voted in the negative

_ members having abstained

The motion: X Passed

_ Failed

VII. Review / Transfer / signing of Warrants, Bills, Payroll

A. Signing of Warrant in the amount of \$ 592,308.65

X. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 6:56 P.M.

The motion was made by: Member Millet

The motion was seconded by: Member Koleros

The following roll call vote was taken:

3 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 - 6/09/2026
- Minutes for 6/09/26
- Fundraising Applications
- Surplus
- Donations
- Superintendent Notes
- Strategic Plan
- Warrant Reports

Upcoming Events / Dates:

June 5, 2026	BHS Graduation	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	Indian Ranch
June 9, 2026	SC Meeting	6:00 pm	
June 19, 2026	Juneteeth / No School	All Schools	
June 23, 2026	Last Day of School / Half Day	All Schools	