The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met in Open Session at 9:15 a.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room at Worcester Technical High School on Friday, January 20, 2017.

There were present at the Call to Order:

Ms. Colorio, Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo and Vice-chairman Blancheria

The following Legislators were present:

Senator Chandler, Representative Donahue, Representative Keefe, Senator Moore and Representative O’Day

Others in attendance:

Dante Camparetto, Kim Davenport, Eve Gilmore, Joanne Gravell, Beth Kaake, Laurie Kuczka, Charlene Mara and Roger Nugent

1. **gb #6-375** - Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio/
   Mr. Foley/Mr. O’Connell/
   Miss Blancheria/Miss McCullough
   (January 11, 2017)

To meet with the Legislative Delegation to:

- **provide a status report on the MSBA projects**

  Mr. Allen provided an update on the MSBA projects.

- **support a Compact to prioritize public education and coordinate efforts to firmly establish the Worcester Public Schools as the best urban school system in New England and beyond**
Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration seek the support of other school systems for the Compact of the Worcester Public Schools.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved to request that the Legislative Delegation support the Compact for the Worcester Public Schools.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

- discuss the status of the Foundation Budget Commission's recommendations (gb #6-152.1)

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Mayor develop two resolutions immediately to increase state funding for the Foundation Budget Commission's recommendations to benefit students in the Worcester Public Schools, one for approval by the School Committee and the other for approval by the City Council.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the School Committee seek the support of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees to implement the Foundation Budget Commission's recommendations.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Worcester Public Schools work with other Gateway Cities to get the foundation formula changed.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

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Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Worcester Public Schools band together with the Boston and Springfield public schools, in a unified effort, to seek changes to the foundation budget formula.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the local delegation support the Foundation Budget and move it forward.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

- provide funding for a full day pre-school program

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration invite the Early Childhood Committee to make a presentation regarding the need for funding for its program at the Chamber of Commerce to the business organizations and invite them to a School Committee Meeting.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration convene a committee to develop responses to the motions and ideas of this meeting.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

- seek funding for the costs to take Advanced Placement Exams

Senator Chandler stated that this issue of seeking funding for the costs to take Advanced Placement Exams be brought before the business community.

Miss McCullough left the meeting at 10:35 p.m.
- discuss the implication of the loss of the Kindergarten Grant

Senator Chandler indicated that the Administration should forward a letter to the Commissioner of Education regarding a need to reinstitute the Kindergarten Grant.

- discuss the need for more computers for testing

The School Committee voted in favor of a multi-pronged campaign intended to pressure state government to change the way it funds public schools. It included such topics as:

- state funding for Kindergarten Instructional Assistants
- a full-day preschool program
- more computers for schools to accommodate the new on-line MCAS exam

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Helen A. Friel, Ed.D.
Clerk of the School Committee