

IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
Worcester, Massachusetts  
Thursday, July 19, 2018  
Agenda #17

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met in Open Session at 4:20 p.m. in the Esther Howland Chamber at City Hall on Thursday, July 19, 2019.

The invocation was given by Reverend Jonathan Slavinkas of St. Bernard's Church of Our Lady of Providence.

The Pledge of Allegiance was offered and the National Anthem was played.

There were present at the Call to Order:

Mr. Comparetto, Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell and Mayor Petty

There were absent: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley

1. ROS #8-10 - Administration  
(June 25, 2018)

SUPERINTENDENT'S MID-CYCLE REPORT BASED  
ON HER GOALS

Report of the  
Superintendent/  
Superintendent's  
Mid-Cycle Report  
Based on Her  
Goals

Superintendent Binienda presented an excellent PowerPoint relative to her Mid-Cycle Report, based on her Goals and received positive feedback from the School Committee.

Mr. Monfredo praised Superintendent Binienda on her work ethic and eagerness to reach out to all parents and for always having the best interest of the students first and foremost. He suggested an expanded summer school program be offered next year.

Miss Biancheria arrived at 5:04 p.m.

Mr. O'Connell highly commended Superintendent Binienda for her outreach to the community and for the outstanding accomplishments as contained in the PowerPoint.

Mr. Comparetto expressed his hope for transparency in the hiring of principals and a continued dialogue between the Superintendent and the Mayor's Task Force on Latino Education.

Miss Biancheria was happy that all schools are internet ready and she praised the Superintendent for her work in projecting the system from STEM to STEAM.

Miss McCullough suggested that the K-2 literacy stays consistent across the board.

It was moved and voice voted to accept the report and file the item.

#### REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

2. The Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports met at 3:45 p.m. on Thursday, July 19, 2018 in the Esther Howland Chamber at City Hall.

#### Courses

#### gb #8-201 - Administration (June 11, 2018)

To consider approval of the following courses:

- Business Technology Seminar
- Database Administration
- Spreadsheet Development
- Technical Theater and Design
- Introduction to Life Sciences

On a roll call of 2-0-1 (absent Miss McCullough) the item was approved.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration schedule a meeting of Teaching, Learning and Student Supports prior to the start of the school year.

On a voice voted, the motion was approved.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration consider approving new courses earlier in the academic year.

On a roll call of 2-0-1 (absent Miss McCullough) the motion was approved.

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACTION**

The School Committee approved the action of the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports as amended.

gb #8-201 - Administration (June 11, 2018)

Courses

To consider approval of the following courses:

- Business Technology Seminar
- Database Administration
- Spreadsheet Development
- Technical Theater and Design
- Introduction to Life Sciences

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto, Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell, Mayor Petty	6
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Against the motion:	0
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Absent: Mr. Foley	$\frac{1}{7}$
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The motion carried.

PERSONNEL

3. It was moved and voice voted to file Personnel Item 8-29 and 8-30.

8-29	The Superintendent has provisionally APPOINTED the person named below to the position of Junior Custodian, permanent/fulltime at a salary of \$16.06 (minimum) to \$20.44 (maximum), per hour, effective as shown:	Appointment
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Sullivan, William 4/17/18

8-30	The Superintendent has approved the posting of the following non-represented positions:	Job Postings
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- School Bus Service Manager
- School Bus Router
- Acting Transportation Operations Supervisor
- Transportation Liaison
- School Bus Driver – Full Size School Bus

GENERAL BUSINESS

Employees on  
administrative  
leave

4. gb #8-173.1 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo  
(July 11, 2018)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report on the number of employees in the Worcester Public Schools who are on administrative leave.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide, in a Friday Letter, a report on the cost for the four employees who are currently on administrative leave.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the motion.

It was moved and voice voted to accept the report and file the item.

Forward letters

5. gb #8-210 - Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/  
Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Foley/  
Mr. O'Connell/Mayor Petty  
(June 18, 2018)

To forward letters of recognition to:

- Simon Eber, Founder and Kid President of Simon Says Give, for providing fully stocked backpacks to 6<sup>th</sup> graders at Columbus Park Preparatory Academy, Goddard School of Science and Technology, Lincoln Street School and Woodland Academy. (Miss McCullough)
- Worcester Technical High School for being selected as one of 31 schools statewide to receive a grant of \$495,575 from a Skills Capital Grant to support its Robotics Automation Technology Program.  
(Mr. Monfredo)

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a progress report by the Spring of 2019 regarding the Skills Capital Grant.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved and voice voted to forward letters of recognition.

6. gb #8-211 - Administration  
June 24, 2018) Recognition/set  
date

To set a date to recognize Judy Freedman Fask and the Worcester Public Schools Transition Department for being awarded the American Alliance for Theatre & Education (AATE) 2018 Distinguished Book Award for the book entitled "Creative Collaborations through Inclusive Theatre and Community Based Learning."

It was moved and voice voted to set the date of Thursday, August 23, 2018.

7. gb #8-212 - Administration  
(June 26, 2018) Recognition/set  
date

To set a date to recognize Mark Brophy, Instructional Support Personnel Director, for his 32 years of dedicated service to the students and staff in the Worcester Public Schools.

It was moved and voice voted to set the date of Thursday, August 23, 2018.

MASC voting  
delegate/  
selection of

- 8. gb #8-213 - Administration  
(June 27, 2018)

To select a voting delegate and an alternate voting delegate for the Annual Business Meeting of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, scheduled for November 7, 2018.

Mr. Monfredo nominated Brian O’Connell as the MASC voting delegate. Mr. Comparetto volunteered to serve as the alternate delegate.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto, Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O’Connell, Mayor Petty	6
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Against the motion:	0
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Absent: Mr. Foley	<u>1</u> 7
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The motion carried.

Adequate  
education for  
Massachusetts  
children

- 9. gb #8-214 - Mr. O’Connell/Miss Biancheria/  
Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Foley/  
Mr. Monfredo  
(June 27, 2018)

To discuss projected litigation as to the obligation of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to assure an “adequate education” to Massachusetts children, including potential plaintiffs, litigation funding sources, and a timeline.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report on the allocation of funds after the House and Senate approve the Budget.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the motion.

Mr. Allen reported to the Committee that the House and Senate approved the FY19 Budget and that the Governor has ten days to review and approve it.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to Administration.

10. gb #8-215 - Administration  
(June 27, 2018)

MASC policy  
inclusions

To consider approval of the following MASC policies to be included in the Policy Manual:

- Online Fundraising and Solicitation-  
Crowdfunding Policy
- Section **GBEBD**
- Student Submission to Educational Surveys  
and Research
- Section **ILD**

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration research the definition of a Crowdfunding service.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues for a response prior to the August 23, 2108 School Committee meeting.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.





On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,  
Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo,  
Mr. O'Connell, Mayor Petty 6

Against the motion: 0

Absent: Mr. Foley  $\frac{1}{7}$

The motion carried.

- 13. gb #8-218 - Administration  
(June 29, 2018)

Prior fiscal year  
payment/  
College Board

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$685.00 made payable to the College Board for PSAT/NMSQT test fees.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,  
Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo,  
Mr. O'Connell, Mayor Petty 6

Against the motion: 0

Absent: Mr. Foley  $\frac{1}{7}$

The motion carried.

- 14. gb# 8-219 - Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/  
Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Foley/  
Mr. Monfredo  
(June 30, 2018)

M.G.L. compliance  
with Section 54C  
of Chapter 71/  
verification of

Request that the Administration verify the compliance, by the Worcester Public Schools, with Section 54C (a) of Chapter 71 of the Massachusetts General Laws (Chapter 443 of the Acts of 2016).

Superintendent Binienda reported that the Worcester Public Schools does comply with the state law regarding AEDs.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report in February 2019 on the budgetary requests for AEDs to comply with state law.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Administration.

2018-19 Student Handbook/  
approval of

15. qb# 8-220 - Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/  
Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Foley/  
Mr. Monfredo  
(July 3, 2018)

To consider approval of the proposed text of the 2018-19 Student Handbook, and to approve the policies set forth therein in time for printing of the handbook itself and its translations, prior to the beginning of the 2018-19 academic year.

Mr. O'Connell moved to approve the following amendments to the proposed changes for the Student Handbook:

Request that on page 2, third paragraph, first sentence add **105** before (CMR 220.00).

Request that on page 2, second bullet Physical Examination be amended by adding after K, 4, 7 and 9, **and** to read as follows:

**Physicals examination** documentation is required from students entering grades, K, 4, 7 and 9, **and** yearly for all student athletes.

Request that on page 3, under Elementary (K-6), second sentence, change six citywide magnet schools to **five**.

Request that on page 3, under Secondary (Grades 7-12), replace paragraph to read:

Depending on the school district in which the student resides, he/she can attend his/her local high school. This is based on the quadrant of residence of the student at the time of enrollment, unless special permission has been requested by the parent/guardian and approved by the District Administration to attend a different school. Attendance at Worcester Technical High School is based upon an application and selection process approved by the State Department of Education.

Request that on page 5, Admission, first sentence, remove the extra space after foreign.

Request that on page 7, last paragraph under Internet Safety and Acceptable Use Policy, change Act S. 1492 to **Act (Pub. L. No. 110.385)**.

Request that on page 13, under Legal Policies, Nondiscrimination, delete the following:

- criminal record (inquiries only)
- mental illness
- retaliation
- sexual harassment and
- genetics or military service

On a voice vote, the motion as amended for the Student Handbook was approved.

It was moved to approve the Student Handbook as amended.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion:	Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto, Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell, Mayor Petty	6
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Against the motion:		0
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Absent:	Mr. Foley	$\frac{1}{7}$
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The motion carried.

Worcester Public  
Schools Policy  
Handbook/  
dissemination of

16. gb #8-221 - Administration  
(July 5, 2018)

To endorse the dissemination of the Policy Manual of the Worcester Public Schools.

Mr. O'Connell moved to approve the following amendments to the proposed changes for the Policy Manual:

Request that in Policy BCB, in the third line, add "**of**" between "out" and "the".

Request that in Policy IHBEA, in the second line of the second paragraph, replace "is" with "**as**".

Request that in Policy JCA, in the section on Elementary (K-6) Registration Policy, second line, change six citywide magnet schools to **five**.

Request that in Policy JCA, in the Secondary Registration Policy, replace to read:

Depending on the school district in which the student resides, he/she can attend his/her local high school. This is based on the quadrant of residence of the student at the time of enrollment, unless special permission has been requested by the parent/guardian and approved by the District Administration to attend a different school. Attendance at Worcester Technical High School is based upon an application and selection process approved by the State Department of Education.

Request that paragraph 4 in Policy JFBB be replaced with **paragraph 4** from **Policy JFBB-1** and that **Policy JFBB-1** be deleted.

On a voice vote, the motion as amended for the Policy Manual was approved.

It was moved to approve the Policy Manual as amended.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,  
Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo,  
Mr. O'Connell, Mayor Petty 6

Against the motion: 0

Absent: Mr. Foley  $\frac{1}{7}$

The motion carried.

- 17. qb #8-222 - Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/  
Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Monfredo  
(July 5, 2018)

Worcester Public  
Schools "indirect  
costs"

To review the "indirect costs" assigned to the Worcester Public Schools by the City of Worcester for the 2019 fiscal year.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report on the indirect costs assigned to the Worcester Public Schools by the City of Worcester for the FY19 Year.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Administration.

Prior fiscal year  
payment/  
Technology  
Focused  
Instructional  
Coach

- 18. gb #8-223 - Administration  
(July 9, 2018)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$96.33 for in-state travel reimbursement for a Technology Focused Instructional Coach.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,  
Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo,  
Mr. O'Connell, Mayor Petty 6

Against the motion: 0

Absent: Mr. Foley  $\frac{1}{7}$

The motion carried.

Standing  
Committee/  
renaming

- 19. gb #8-224 - Administration  
(July 9, 2018)

To consider changing the title of the Standing Committee on Accountability and Student Achievement to the Standing Committee on School and Student Performance.

HELD.

20. gb #8-225 - Administration  
(July 11, 2018)

Donations/  
various donors

To consider approval of the following donations:

- \$8,000.00 from SME Education Foundation/General Motors to Worcester Technical High School Advanced Manufacturing Program
- \$250.00 from WEDF to Woodland Academy
- \$500.00 from Metso USA, Inc., to support the Exhilarate Worcester Initiative at Woodland Academy
- \$250.00 from WEDF to Tatnuck Magnet School
- \$250.00 from WEDF to Lake View School
- \$2,000.00 from Saint-Gobain to Lake View School
- \$738.82 from Lake View School PTO to Lake View School
- \$2,000.00 from Furniture Trust Organization, Inc. to Worcester Alternative School
- \$600.00 from Sunbelt Rentals Inc. to South High Community School Diesel Program
- \$250.00 from WEDF to Lincoln Street School
- \$250.00 from WEDF to New Citizen Center

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion:	Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto, Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell, Mayor Petty	6
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Against the motion:		0
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Absent:	Mr. Foley	$\frac{1}{7}$
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The motion carried.

It was moved to recess to Executive Session.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,  
Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo,  
Mr. O'Connell, Mayor Petty 6

Against the motion: 0

Absent: Mr. Foley 1  
7

The motion carried.

The School Committee recessed to Executive Session from 6:10 p.m. to 6:40 p.m.

- Executive Session 21. gb #8-226 - Executive Session (Administration) (July 11, 2018)

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for Plumbers and Steamfitters - IUPE, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the collective bargaining position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for Tradesmen - IUPE, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the collective bargaining position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

- Executive Session 22. gb #8-227 - Administration (July 17, 2018)

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and to conduct collective bargaining regarding Grievance #17/18-04.

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools reconvened in Open Session at 6:45 p.m. in the Esther Howland Chamber at City Hall on Thursday, July 19, 2019.

There were present at the second Call to Order:

Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto, Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell and Mayor Petty

There was absent: Mr. Foley



It was moved and voice voted to suspend rules to take up the following item out of order:

23. gb #8-153.2 -Administration/Administration  
(June 11, 2018)

Proposed Strategic  
Plan/ New  
Worcester Public  
Schools website

To discuss the proposed Strategic Plan.

Mayor Petty began the review of the Proposed Strategic Plan with the section on Technology and Operations.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration make the following amendments to the proposed Strategic Plan:

On page 25, insert the word "primarily" between **quarterly** and **to** on line 2 in the black insert.

On page 26, insert the words "and/or Ethernet" between **wireless** and **access** on bullet 4 in two locations.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

On page 26, insert the words "district wide" between **mechanisms** and **for** on bullet 7.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Sarah Kyriazis, Manager of Instructional Technology and Digital Learning presented a PowerPoint outlining the process that went into the selection of the branding for the Worcester Public Schools website.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motions:

Request that the Administration create a logo more tailored to learning and requested that the proposed new logo not be placed on official documents until a consensus is reached.

Request that the Administration provide to the School Committee the other design choices that were available.

Request that the item be referred to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues for further discussion and review.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

Miss McCullough made the following motion:

Request that the Administration forward the link to the new website in order for all members to look at the content and offer suggestions for improvement.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Mayor Petty indicated that this item would appear on the agenda for August 23, 2108 and, if needed on September 6, 2018.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

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