

IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
Worcester, Massachusetts  
Thursday, September 6 2018  
Agenda #19

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met in Open Session at 7:10 p.m. in the Esther Howland Chamber at City Hall on Thursday, September 6, 2018.

There were present at the Call to Order:

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

There was absent: Miss McCullough

It was moved to recess to Executive Session:

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

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

The School Committee recessed to Executive Session from 6:20 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The School Committee reconvened in Open Session at 7:10 p.m.

There were present at the second Call to Order:

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

There was absent: Miss McCullough

The Invocation was given by Reverend Dr. Kevin Downer of Greendale People's Church.

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



IMMEDIATE ACTION

- 3. gb #8-239.1 Administration/  
Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/  
Mr. O'Connell/Mayor Petty  
(July 30, 2018)

Recognition/Jesse  
Burkett Senior League  
All Stars

To recognize the Jesse Burkett Senior League All-Star Team for placing 4<sup>th</sup> at the Little League World Series in Delaware and for winning a sportsmanship award.

Manager: Daniel Coffey  
 Coaches: Anthony Gigliotti and Sean Murray  
 Players:

Natalie Barrera	Nicole Canizares
Kayleigh Coffey	Alexa Diaz
Emily Gahagan	Grace Gigliotti
Paige Hubacz	Molly Lynch
Emily Mahan	Bridget Murray
Amelia Soltys	Ainsley White

Mayor Petty and Superintendent Binienda presented certificates to the coaches and players from the Jesse Burkett Senior League All-Star team.

- 4. gb #8-254 - Administration  
(August 27, 2018)

Student  
Representatives

To consider input from the School Committee's student representatives.

It was moved and voice voted to file the item.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

5. The Standing Committee on Finance and Operations met at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 5, 2018 in Room 410 in the Durkin Administration Building.

Older School  
Buildings/issues

qb #6-411 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio  
(December 1, 2016)

Request that the Administration develop a process to address the issues of older school buildings to include examinations of:

- water systems
- foundations
- leaking roofs
- heating systems and
- wrapped pipes

FILE.

FY18 Budget  
Transfers

qb #7-342 - Administration (September 29, 2017)

To review the status of the FY18 Budget and make appropriate transfers as required.

Mr. Foley made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report, in a Friday Letter, indicating the trends for Workers Compensation cases over the past 5 or 6 years.

On a voice voted, the motion was approved.

FILE.

gb #8-132 -Miss Biancheria/Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell (April 13, 2018)

Summer Improvement  
Projects

Request that the Administration provide a report regarding the timeline for completion of summer improvement projects at various school sites.

FILE.

motion (gb #8-123.2) Mr. O'Connell (June 21, 2018)

Budget Book

Request that page 415 in the Budget Book regarding the calculation of indirect costs be referred to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations.

FILE.

### **SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACTION**

The School Committee approved the actions of the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations.

6. It was moved and voice voted to suspend the rules to allow Max Stern and Brandon Daniels to speak.

Max Stern spoke to the issue of the heat in the schools over the past few weeks.

Brandon Daniels spoke to the enforcement of the Dress Code Policy.

Mr. O'Connell requested that the Administration notify Mr. Stern about scheduled meetings about the heat in the buildings and Mr. Daniels about scheduled meetings about the Dress Code Policy.

### GENERAL BUSINESS

7. Mayor Petty read a Proclamation declaring September as Student Absence Awareness Month in the City of Worcester.

Proposed  
Strategic Plan

- 8. gb #8-153.4 - Administration/Administration  
(June 11, 2018)

To discuss the proposed Strategic Plan.

The section on Cultural Innovation (Annex A) in the Strategic Plan was discussed. Mr. O’Connell voiced his skepticism on the name “incubation hub” and suggested “incubation school system”. Mr. Foley felt that designating underperforming schools as superintendent schools may stigmatize the schools.

Mayor Petty made the following motions:

Request that the School Committee approve the Strategic Plan, contingent on funding.

Request that the Superintendent, district and school leadership monitor and implement the Strategic Plan and provide a report quarterly to the School Committee.

Request that the Mayor set up a general committee to oversee the Strategic Plan process, in conjunction with the Superintendent.

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: Miss McCullough	$\frac{1}{7}$
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The motion carried.

9. gb #7-148.6 - Administration/Ms. Colorio/  
Mr. O'Connell  
(August 28, 2018) Budget responses

Responses of the Administration to the following motions:

- to provide a report in February 2018 regarding the results of the reduction of third party vendors. - 500-91123 - Non-Instructional Support Salaries.
- to provide an update on the FY18 Capital Improvement Plan in December on what has occurred with the plan from September December especially the safety issues at the Harlow Street site.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the responses to the motions.

10. gb #8-123.4 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/  
Mr. O'Connell  
(August 28, 2018) Budget responses

Responses of the Administration to the motions to:

- study the feasibility of combining all monies for snow removal into one account -500-97201 Maintenance Salaries Overtime
- make as a priority the restoration of the tutors, if funds are received from the state - 500-91134 Educational Support Services
- provide a report on the grant funded positions and the State funded positions in line B. Teaching and Learning Division on page 164 of the Budget Book -500-91110 Administration Salaries
- provide a report on the number of Maintenance Service positions for the last 3 years and compare them with those in FY19 -500-91120 Maintenance Service Salaries
- provide a report regarding the current deployment of security guards in the Worcester Public Schools - 500130-96000 Personal Services (Non Salary)

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration refer the item to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration refer Annex B relative to the elimination of study halls to the Budget.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Doherty Memorial  
High School/  
replacement  
school process

11. qb #8-206.1 - Administration/ Mr. O'Connell/  
Mr. Comparetto/Miss McCullough/  
Mr. Monfredo  
(August 28, 2018)

Response of the Administration to the request to develop a process, procedure and timetable to invite the Worcester community to participate in formulation of the design of the replacement Doherty Memorial High School, including its configuration, features, contents (e.g., swimming pool), footprint, grounds and technology.

Miss Biancheria requested that her name be added to the item.



12. gb #8-207.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/  
Miss Biancheria/  
Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Monfredo  
(August 28, 2018)

Burncoat High School/  
replacement school  
process

Response of the Administration to the request to develop a process, procedure and timetable to invite the Worcester community to participate in formulation of the design of the replacement Burncoat High School, including its configuration, features, contents (e.g., multi-media performing arts center), footprint, grounds and technology.

(These items were considered together)

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration notify the School Committee of the dates and times of all planning meetings for the designs of Doherty Memorial High and Burncoat High schools.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

On a voice vote it was moved to accept and file #gb8-206.1 and #gb8-207.1.

13. gb #8-249 - Administration  
(August 15, 2018)

Student Absence Policy

To consider approval of the proposed Student Absence Policy to be inserted in both the Policy Manual and the Student Handbook.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration amend the language in the proposed Student Absence Policy as follows:

- remove the words **the school** on the last line of Page one of Annex A
- insert the word **which** following **credits** on the last line of paragraph one under Home Hospital Educational Services on page 2 and
- define all acronyms throughout the document

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: Miss McCullough  $\frac{1}{7}$

The motion as amended carried.

Recognition/  
set date

- 14. qb #8-255 - Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/  
Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Foley/  
Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/  
Mayor Petty  
(August 17, 2018)

To set a date to recognize, with gratitude and appreciation, the work of the Worcester Railers in refurbishing and repainting the Lakeview School library.

It was moved and voice voted to set the date of Thursday, September 20, 2018.

Recognition/  
set date

- 15. qb #8-256 - Administration  
(August 27, 2018)

To set a date to recognize John McGovern, Director of Adult Education, for his 34 years of dedicated service to the Worcester Public Schools.

It was moved and voice voted to set the date of Thursday, September 20, 2018.

16. gb #8-257 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/  
Mr. Comparetto/Miss McCullough/  
Mr. O'Connell  
(August 28, 2018) Municipal Governance  
Day

Request that the Administration consider scheduling a "Municipal Governance Day" in the Spring and have students assume the roles of School Committee and City Council members.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide an update in November on the progress regarding the implementation of a Municipal Governance Day at all high schools.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

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

17. gb #8-258 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/  
Mr. Comparetto/Miss McCullough/  
Mr. O'Connell  
(August 28, 2018) Hands on CPR

Request that the Administration provide an update on the "Hands on CPR" program in the secondary schools and consider incorporating this program into a community service project that will highlight Worcester as a "Heart Safe City."

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide an update in January on the "Hands on CPR" program at the secondary level to include offering it at Know Your School Nights and at sporting events.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.

Transportation/  
lease of property

18. gb #8-259 - Administration  
(August 28, 2018)

To authorize the Administration to enter into contracts for the lease of property for a term of up to twenty years for the operation of student transportation for a contract term to begin in June 2020.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the language in the item be amended to read as follows:

-to enter into contracts for the lease of property for a possible term of **10 years or up to twenty years** for the operation of student transportation.

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

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations.

School Bus  
Contracts

19. gb #8-260 - Administration  
(August 28, 2018)

To authorize the Administration to enter into contracts for the lease of school buses, special education school buses, and wheelchair buses for a term of up to five years for the operation of student transportation for a contract term to begin in June 2020.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations.

20. gb #8-261 - Miss Biancheria  
(August 28, 2018)

Request that the Administration provide a report on the timeframe and plans of the building of the new South High Community School to include the programming.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide quarterly updates regarding the progress on the construction of the new South High Community School and post them on the website.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

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