

IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Worcester, Massachusetts
Thursday, November 5, 2015
Agenda #22

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met in Open Session at 6:05 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall on Thursday, November 5, 2015.

There were present at the Call to Order:

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

It was moved to recess to Executive Session in order to discuss the following item:

1. qb #5-301 - Administration
(October 28, 2015)

Executive
Session

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation of a worker's compensation case for an Instructional Assistant, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation of a worker's compensation case for a Cafeteria Manager, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation of a worker's compensation case for a Teacher, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion:	Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez, Mayor Petty	7
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Against the motion:		$\frac{0}{7}$
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The motion carried.

The School Committee recessed to Executive Session
from 6:06 p.m. to 6:55 p.m.

The School Committee reconvened in Open Session at
7:00 p.m.

The invocation was given by Reverend Roosevelt Hughes
of John Street Baptist Church.

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

There were present at the second Call to Order:

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

Instructional
Assistants/

2. It was moved and voice voted to suspend the Rules of the
School Committee to allow the following individuals to
speak regarding the reduction of Instructional Assistants at
City View School:

Leonard Zalauskas, EAW
Lesley Clark
Cruiser Jolly

APPROVAL OF RECORDS

Minutes/
approval of

3. aor #5-21 - Clerk
(October 22, 2015)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School
Committee Meeting of Thursday, October 15, 2015.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the Minutes of
the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, October 15,
2015.

Executive Session
Minutes/approval of

4. aor #5-22 - Clerk
(October 22, 2015)

To consider approval of the Executive Session Minutes of
January 22, 2015, March 5, 2015 and April 9, 2015.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the Executive Session Minutes of January 22, 2015, March 5, 2015 and April 9, 2015.

IMMEDIATE ACTION

5. gb #5-283 - Administration
(October 8, 2015)

Recognition/
Melinda J. Boone

To recognize Melinda J. Boone, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools, for her dedication to the students, teachers and staff of the Worcester Public Schools and to wish her well in her new position as Superintendent of the Norfolk Public Schools in Virginia.

Mayor Petty and the School Committee presented a gift to Dr. Boone.

7. gb #5-284 - Administration
(October 22, 2015)

Student
Representatives/
input

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

It was moved and voice voted to file the item.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

8. ros #5-11.1 - Administration/Administration
(October 19, 2015)

Report of the
Superintendent/
Alternative Education
Evaluation Report

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION EVALUATION REPORT

Dr. Rodrigues and Dr. Gribouski provided the Alternative Education Evaluation Report as contained in the backup for the item.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration prepare its recommendations in March 2016 relative to the budget related needs of the various alternative programs.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria made the following motions:

Request that the item be referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.

Request that Mr. Whalen be invited to the meeting when the item is discussed at the Standing Committee level.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

PERSONNEL

9. It was moved and voice voted to file Personnel Items 5-44 – 5-47.

Retirements

- 5-44 The Superintendent has APPROVED the RETIREMENT of the persons named below:

Garbarczyk, Barbara, Teacher, Mathematics, Sullivan Middle, effective October 18, 2015

Pandolfo, Patricia, Teacher, Special Education, effective October 11, 2015

Resignation

- 5-45 The Superintendent ACKNOWLEDGES the RESIGNATION of the person named below:

Handley, Jennifer, Teacher, English as a Second Language, Sullivan Middle, effective October 19, 2015

Appointments

- 5-46 The Superintendent has APPROVED the APPOINTMENT of the persons named below:

Cohen, Jacquelyn, Teacher, Special Education, University Park, MA, Step 8, \$72,283, effective October 26, 2015. Licensed: Moderate Disabilities PreK-8.

Durning, Joyce, Teacher, Elementary, City View, BA, Step 1, \$45,064, effective October 5, 2015. Licensed: Early Childhood with and without Disabilities PreK-2.

Phillips, Priscilla, Teacher, Allied Health, North, BA+15, Step 8, \$68,665 effective October 20, 2015. Licensed: Health Sciences 9-14.

- 5-47 The Superintendent has APPOINTED the persons named below to the position of Cafeteria Helper, permanent/intermittent at a salary of \$12.94 per hour, from Civil Service List #315-037, effective as shown:

Cafeteria Helpers/
appointments of

Anderson, Curtis	10/5/15
Buffone, Lois	10/5/15
Goodwin, Jodi	10/5/15
Hercules, Aslyn	10/5/15
Inam, Magdaline	10/5/15
Madrid, Alexis	10/5/15
Malkowski, Karolina	10/5/15
Masha, Ardian	10/5/15
McIntyre, Donna	10/5/15
Ortiz Orve, Alfonzo	10/5/15
Robinson, Edward	10/5/15
Sanchez, Maria	10/5/15
Salinas, Maritza	10/5/15
Shanley, Deborah	10/5/15
Smith, Melvin	10/5/15
Turner, Joanne	10/5/15
Weaver, Alexis	10/5/15
Wilson, Glenna	10/5/15
Brenner, Sheila	10/7/15
Bacchiocchi, Kristy	10/13/15

GENERAL BUSINESS

10. gb #5-285 - Miss Biancheria/Ms. Novick/Mr. Monfredo/
Mr. O'Connell/Miss Ramirez/Mr. Foley/
Mayor Petty
(October 8, 2015)

Recognition/
set date

To set a date to recognize the following individuals of the
365Z Foundation for their commitment to kindness:

Rosemary Ford, President
Paul LaCava, Co-founder
Ed Gardella, Co-founder

It was moved and voice voted to set the date of Thursday,
November 19, 2015.

Donation/Tatnuck
Magnet School/
\$3,651.87

11. gb #5-286 - Administration
(October 9, 2015)

To accept a donation in the amount of \$3,651.87 from the Tatnuck Parent Association for the Tatnuck Magnet Playground.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

Donation/Doherty
Memorial High
School/\$9,976.36

12. gb #5-287 - Administration
(October 13, 2015)

To accept a donation in the amount of \$9,976.36 from the Doherty Memorial High School Student Activity Funds for Doherty Memorial High School.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

Recognition/
set date

13. gb #5-288 - Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick/Mr. O'Connell/
Miss Biancheria/Miss Ramirez/Mr. Foley/
Mayor Petty
(October 14, 2015)

To forward letters to the following students for being named Commended Students in the 2016 National Merit Scholarship Program:

Burncoat High School
Laurana Nyman

North High School
Elena M. Jacques

Doherty Memorial High School
Aubrey Leary
Morgaine Payson

It was moved and voice voted to set the date of Thursday,
November 19, 2015.

14. gb #5-289 - Administration
(October 16, 2015)

Advanced High
School Academy/
solicit proposals for
space

To authorize the Administration to solicit proposals for the
lease of space and award a contract of up to ten years,
subject to appropriation by the School Committee, for the
Advanced High School Academy at Doherty Memorial
High School.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion:	Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez, Mayor Petty	7
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Against the motion:		$\frac{0}{7}$
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The motion carried.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide in a Friday Letter
a copy of the Request for Proposal for the lease of space
for the Advanced High School Academy at Doherty
Memorial High School.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

City View School/
radon

15. gb #5-290 - Administration
(October 16, 2015)

To review and discuss the communication from the Bureau of Environmental Health of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health regarding their discontinuance of the required continuous monitoring and maintenance of the radon mitigation system at City View Discovery School and to discuss the Administration's recommendation for future radon sampling and surveys.

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

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that when the item is discussed at the Standing Committee level that the report regarding the radon counts and radon analysis of City View School be included as backup.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Cell Phone Policy

16. gb #5-291 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley
(October 19, 2015)

Request that the School Committee review the policy on cell phones and gather information from all secondary principals.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration seek input regarding the cell phone policy from teachers, through the EAW, administrators at the secondary level and from students on the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

17. gb #5-292 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/
Miss Biancheria
(October 19, 2015)

Chronic
Absenteeism/
include percentages
in accountability
plans

Request that the Administration include chronic absenteeism percentages in all accountability plans and annual benchmarks.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the item be referred to the Administration for a report back in December.

Dr. Boone indicated that 26 schools already refer to efforts to improve attendance in some way and an additional 6 schools include specific measures to improve attendance in their accountability plans.

Mr. O'Connell suggested that we ask schools to consider including chronic absenteeism percentages in their accountability plans.

Mayor Petty moved and it was voice voted to refer the item to the Administration.

18. gb #5-293 - Administration
(October 19, 2015)

Massachusetts
Special Education
Collaborative/appoint
Dr. Rodrigues

To appoint Dr. Rodrigues to the Board of the Central Massachusetts Special Education Collaborative to represent the Worcester Public Schools.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez,
Mayor Petty

7

Against the motion:

0

7

The motion carried.

Prior Fiscal Year
Payment/\$9,183.90

19. gb #5-294 - Administration
(October 22, 2015)

To approve a prior year payment in the amount of
\$9,183.90.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

Donation/St. John's
Parish/\$4,200

20. gb #5-295 - Administration
(October 19, 2015)

To accept a donation in the amount of \$4,200 from RCB
St. John's Parish to Union Hill School for purchase of
iPads to be used at the St. John's Parish After-school
Program for Union Hill students.

Mr. O'Connell requested that he be recused from voting
on this matter due to a potential conflict of interest
because he serves on the Finance Committee of the
Parish Council of St. John's Parish.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Miss Ramirez, Mayor Petty 6

Against the motion: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: $\frac{1}{7}$

The motion carried.

Mr. O'Connell left the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

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

Mr. O'Connell returned to the meeting at 9:21 p.m.

21. gb #5-296 - Administration
(October 27, 2015)

Donation/Virginia M.
Driscoll Scholarship
Fund/\$10,000

To accept a donation in the amount of \$10,000 from the Estate of James E. Driscoll for the Virginia M. Driscoll Scholarship Fund for South High Community School.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion:	Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez, Mayor Petty	7
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Against the motion:		$\frac{0}{7}$
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The motion carried.

22. gb #5-297 - Administration
(October 28, 2015)

Grant/National
Association for Pupil
Transportation/
\$50,000

To accept a grant in the amount of \$50,000 from the National Association for Pupil Transportation (NAPT) – Zonar Hardware Grant to the Worcester Public Schools.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

Grant/Target/\$750 23. gb #5-298 - Administration
(October 28, 2015)

To accept a grant in the amount of \$750 from Target to fund two performances of Diamonds and Toads by Greater Worcester Opera for students at Jacob Hiatt Magnet School.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

Grant/Target/\$1,000 24. gb #5-299 - Administration
(October 28, 2015)

To accept a grant in the amount of \$1,000 from Target to fund enrichment opportunities that will allow the school to purchase much needed supplies for enrichment activities that occur during Extended Learning Time (ELT).

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

25. gb #5-300 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/
Miss Biancheria
(October 28, 2015)

Student Discipline
Hearings

To determine whether school principals are permitted to serve as "decision-makers" in student discipline hearings held pursuant to Section 37H 3/4 of the Massachusetts General Laws (as amended by Section 3 of Chapter 222 of the Acts of 2012), as is their right, and, if so, to verify that the principals are receiving the support, training, and legal advice necessary or proper to assist them in exercising their authority and discretion in this regard.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

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