

IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Worcester, Massachusetts
Thursday, November 3, 2016
Agenda #27

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met in Open Session at 6:24 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall on Thursday, November 3, 2016.

There were present at the Call to Order:

Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, Miss McCullough and Mr. Monfredo

There were absent: Mr. Foley, Mr. O'Connell and Mayor Petty

It was moved to recess to Executive Session:

Executive Session

- 1. gb #6-374 - Administration
(October 26, 2016)

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for Teachers and Unit B, 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 Instructional Assistants, 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 Administrative Secretaries, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the collective bargaining position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

Finding that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining and litigation position of the School Committee, the committee votes to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to litigation and strategy for collective bargaining for a denial of access.

c&p #6-9

To consider a communication from a citizen relative to a request that the School Committee drop its Court Appeal and allow for testing for PCBs at Burncoat High and Doherty Memorial High schools.

Communication and
Petition/PCBs/
Burncoat High and
Doherty Memorial High
schools

gb #6-332

Request that the Administration drop the appeal and allow PCB testing at Burncoat High School and Doherty Memorial High School this school year and do what is necessary to correct the problem.

PCBs/
Burncoat High and
Doherty Memorial High
schools

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio,
Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo 4

Against the motion: 0

Absent: Mr. Foley, Mr. O'Connell,
Mayor Petty $\frac{3}{7}$

The motion carried.

The School Committee recessed to Executive Session from 6:25 p.m. to 7:04 p.m.

Mayor Petty arrived at 6:30 p.m.

The School Committee reconvened in Open Session at 7:05 p.m.

There were present at the second Call to Order:

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

There was absent: Mr. Foley

The invocation was offered by Pastor Steven Barrett of Christ the Rock Fellowship.

The Pledge of Allegiance was offered and the National Anthem was sung by the Midland Street School Chorus.

Memorandum of Agreement/52 Week Administrative Secretaries/ ratification of

- 2. Pursuant to action taken in Executive Session, it was moved to ratify the Memorandum of Agreement between the Worcester School Committee and the NAGE R1-156 52 Week Administrative Secretaries, effective July 1, 2016.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion:	Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Mayor Petty	5
Against the motion:		0
Absent:	Mr. Foley	1
Abstain:	Mr. O'Connell	$\frac{1}{7}$

The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF RECORDS

Minutes/approval of

- 3. aor #6-24 - Clerk
(October 26, 2016)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, October 20, 2016.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, October 20, 2016.

It was moved and voice voted to suspend rules to take up the following items:

Donation/Jeffrey Arnett and Lene Jensen/\$2,500

- 4. gb #6-363 - Administration
(October 19, 2016)

To accept a donation in the amount of \$2,500.00 from Jeffrey Arnett & Lene Jensen for the Goddard Scholars Academy.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

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

Against the motion: 0

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

The motion carried.

- 5. gb #6-362 - Administration
(October 19, 2016)

Donation/Columbus Day
Raffle/\$126.00

To accept a donation in the amount of \$126.00 from sales
of the Columbus Day Raffle at Tatnuck Magnet School.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

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

Against the motion: 0

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

The motion carried.

- 6. gb #6-364 - Administration
(October 19, 2016)

Donation/Lifetouch/
\$445.39

To accept a donation in the amount of \$445.39 from
Lifetouch for Chandler Magnet School.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

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

Against the motion: 0

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

The motion carried.

Prior Fiscal Year
Payment/
Tufts Medical
Center/
\$1,017.56

7. gb #6-365 - Administration
(October 19, 2016)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment to Tufts Medical Center in the amount of \$1,017.56 for an educational and cognitive evaluation of a student in May 2016.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

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

Against the motion: 0

Absent: Mr. Foley 1/7

The motion carried.

IMMEDIATE ACTION

Student
Representatives/
input

8. gb #6-361 - Administration
(October 24, 2016)

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

It was moved and voice voted to file the item.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Report of the
Superintendent/
Superintendent's
Entry Plan and
Accomplishments

9. ros #6-9 - Administration
(October 25, 2016)

SUPERINTENDENT'S ENTRY PLAN AND
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Superintendent of
Schools/evaluation

gb #6-366 - Mayor Petty/Mr. O'Connell/
Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/
Miss Biancheria
(October 20, 2016)

To discuss the process for the evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools.

Miss Biancheria suggested that the Administration place on the website a list with prices of the clothing with the Worcester Public Schools' insignia.

Mr. Monfredo requested that the Administration provide a progress report on the goals of the district and indicate how these updates can be shared with the public.

The Mayor suggested that the Superintendent provide a yearly report on her progress in May 2017.

Mr. O'Connell suggested that when the Superintendent presents her Goals to the School Committee that she consider including the seven areas below:

- academic performance of students
- safety and security
- community and parent involvement
- Strategic Plan
- school buildings
- communications with community
- gifted education

Ms. Colorio made the following motion:

Request that the Superintendent provide the School Committee with a copy of the Superintendent's PowerPoint presentation.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved and voice voted to accept the report and file ros #6-9 and gb #6-366.

PERSONNEL

10. It was moved and voice voted to file Personnel Items 6-42 and 6-43.

- 6-42 The Superintendent has APPROVED the RETIREMENT of the following persons named below:

Kett, Karen, Teacher, Elementary, Worcester Technical High School, effective October 16, 2016.

Jennings, Robert, Coordinator, Wraparound, Systemwide, effective October 23, 2016

Retirements

- 6-43 The Superintendent has APPROVED the APPOINTMENT of the persons named below, effective as shown:

Bernier, Elissa, Teacher, Elementary, Rice Square School, BA, Step 3, \$51,077, effective October 24, 2016.
Licensed: Elementary 1-6.

Appointments

Brewer, John, Teacher, Special Education, MA+15, Step 4, \$60,227+\$4,506 (prorated), effective October 18, 2016. Licensed: Moderate Disabilities Prek-12.

Clark, Nathaniel, Teacher, Mathematics, MA, Step 4, \$59,449, effective October 19, 2016. Licensed: Mathematics 5-12.

Esqueda, Araceli, Teacher, Elementary/Dual Language, Roosevelt School, BA, Step 8, \$66,369, effective October 17, 2016. Licensed: Elementary 1-6, Waiver: ESL Prek-8.

MacConnell, Daniel, Teacher, Special Education, Claremont Academy, MA, Step 9, \$76,790, effective October 20, 2016. Licensed: Moderate Disabilities Prek-8.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Day by Day
Substitute Teachers

- 11. qb #6-153.5 - Administration/Ms. Colorio (October 24, 2016)

Response of the Administration to the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report comparing what Day by Day Substitute Teachers are paid in Worcester as compared to the towns.

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

Technology
Capabilities

- 12. qb #6-251.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/ Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (October 24, 2016)

Response of the Administration to the request to review the technology capabilities of the Worcester schools, to determine whether they are equipped to implement the computer-based MCAS testing regimen in grades four and eight during the 2016-2017 academic year, as to number of computers available, internet bandwidth, and device compatibility, without significantly impeding computer-based instruction during the weeks of testing.

Miss Biancheria made the following motions:

Request that the Administration provide an update regarding the way in which the students will be trained on the use of computers for the MCAS 2.0 exam.

Request that the Administration investigate the feasibility of developing a partnership with the Worcester Public Library that would provide access to the computers for students on Saturdays and Sundays for practice purposes.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

It was moved and voice voted to file the item.

13. gb #6-367 - Mayor Petty/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/
Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria
(October 20, 2016)

Recognition/
set date

To set a date to recognize West Tatnuck and Chandler Elementary Community schools for being recognized by the state for their progress.

It was moved and voice voted to set the date of Thursday, November 17, 2016.

14. gb #6-368 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. O'Connell/
Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo
(October 20, 2016)

Lake View School/
update on neighborhood
issues

Request that the Administration provide an update on the progress made regarding neighborhood issues relative to driveways, grounds and wall repair at Lake View School.

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

Miss Biancheria indicated that this topic has been discussed many times but nothing has happened during the past year to resolve the issue.

Mr. Allen responded that the Administration has engaged an engineer to provide a report and there is also an active item on the agenda of the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations. It is part of a list of all deferred capital projects in the district. Since the system is currently involved in MSBA accelerated repair projects, many of the other projects have been deferred. He further indicated that he would provide at the meeting of the Standing Committee the engineering work that has been completed at the Lake View School with more detailed information regarding the walls.

Miss Biancheria responded that it was just not a problem with the wall but problems also with the driveway, grounds and landscaping that was in question.

Mr. Allen indicated that there are 2 retaining walls, one on the Lake View side and one on the Coburn Ave. side. The one on the Lake View side has been repaired and painted and the Administration has also done repairs on the wall that abuts the school property and the house. It has been determined that the cause of the failing of the older wall is a tree which is actually on the homeowner's property not the WPS property.

Restorative Justice
Program/North High
School and
Claremont Academy

- 15. gb #6-369 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/
Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty
(October 24, 2016)

To forward letters of congratulations to North High School and Claremont Academy for their successful programs on "Restorative Justice," a successful program which has made a positive impact on the schools.

It was moved and voice voted to forward letters.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a progress report in the Spring of 2017 on the implementation of the Restorative Justice Program at both North High School and Claremont Academy.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Prior Fiscal Year
Payment/
NEASC/\$26,460

- 16. gb #6-370 - Administration
(October 25, 2016)

To approve payment of prior year invoices in the total amount of \$26,460.

New England Association of Schools & Colleges
Annual Dues 2015-2016

Burncoat High School	\$3,730.00
Claremont Academy	\$3,325.00
Doherty Memorial High School	\$4,085.00
North High School	\$3,910.00
South High Community School	\$3,910.00
University Park Campus School	\$3,120.00
Worcester Technical High School	\$4,380.00

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion:	Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, 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.

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| 17. | <u>gb #6-371</u> - Administration
(October 25, 2016) | Prior Fiscal Year Payment/
\$2,885.40 |
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To approve payment of prior year invoices in the amount of \$2,885.40.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion:	Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, 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.

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| 18. | <u>gb #6-372</u> - Administration
(October 25, 2016) | Prior Fiscal Year Payment/
Lighthouse School, Inc./
\$29,365.63 |
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To consider approval of a prior fiscal year payment in the total amount of \$29,365.63 for services rendered by Lighthouse School, Inc. to a student for a Comprehensive Services Program from September 2015 through May 2016.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion:	Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, 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.

Substance Use
Prevention and
Abuse Education
Policy

- 19. gb #6-373 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. O'Connell/
Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo
(October 26, 2016)

Request that the Administration provide a report indicating how parents and students will be informed about the new Worcester Public Schools' Substance Use Prevention and Abuse Education Policy.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Administration for a report in a Friday Letter

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

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