

Committee Members

John F. Monfredo, Chairman
Dianna Biancheria, Vice-chairman
John Foley

AGENDA #2
G/EI
11-19-18
Page 1

A C T I O N S

The Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues met at 5:06 p.m. on Monday, November 19, 2018 in Room 410 at the Dr. John E. Durkin Administration Building.

There were present: Mr. Foley and Chairman Monfredo

There was absent: Vice-chairman Biancheria

Miss Biancheria arrived at 5:08 p.m.

Representing Administration: Dr. Friel and Superintendent Binienda

Others in attendance: G. Bejune, K. Bejune, M. Bejune, T. Bejune,
X. Campbell, K. Dekar, E. Fleming, N. Howell,
S. Kyriazis, A. Lucia, M. Mahoney, S. O'Connell,
Dr. O'Neil, A. Paulin, J. Paulin, J. Penny, M. Reilly,
A. Serr, J. Shulkin, M. Stern, Atty. Tobin, J. Vaughn,
J. Wheaton

gb #5-207 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria (August 7, 2015)

Request that the Worcester Public Schools consider sharing information regarding the National Attendance Awareness Month movement sponsored by 40 national partners.

FILE.

gb #6-36 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss McCullough (January 11, 2016)

To establish a Special Committee, consisting of at least three School Committee members, to continue the review of policies proposed for the Worcester Public Schools by the Massachusetts Association of School Committees.

FILE.

gb #6-39 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/Ms. Colorio/
Miss McCullough (January 11, 2016)

To review the Every Student Succeeds Act, to address its impact on the Worcester Public Schools, and to consider any options which it provides to states and school districts to modify current practices and to reduce present testing, record-keeping and reporting requirements.

FILE.

gb #6-307 - Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio/Miss
Biancheria (September 7, 2016)

Request that the Administration provide options for teaching responsible cell phone and social media use for middle and high school students.

FILE.

gb #8-34 - Administration (January 19, 2018)

To consider approval of the 2018-19 Policies Handbook of the Worcester Public Schools.

FILE.

gb #8-154 - Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Foley/Miss
McCullough/Mr. Monfredo(May 1, 2018)

To establish an English Learner Parent Advisory Council, in compliance with Section 56 of Chapter 138 of the Acts of 2017 ("An Act Relative to Language Opportunity for our Kids").

FILE.

gb #8-174 - Miss McCullough/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo (May 15, 2018)

Request that the Administration review the overall Dress Code Policy and update it, if appropriate.

HELD.

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

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**

It was moved and voice voted to approve Section GBEBD - Online Fundraising and Solicitation- Crowdfunding Policy (Annex A) to be forwarded to the MASC for inclusion into the Policy Manual.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Section ILD - Student Submission to Educational Surveys and Research (Annex B) to be forwarded to the MASC for inclusion into the Policy Manual.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a quarterly report on the number of student and research surveys that are administered to students and/or staff in the Worcester Public Schools.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

FILE.

gb #8-245 - Administration (August 14, 2018)

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

- JFABE - Education Opportunities for Military Children
- JFABF - Education Opportunities for Children in Foster Care

add the term "pregnancy or pregnancy related condition" to these policies:

- AC - Nondiscrimination
- GBA - Equal Employment Opportunity
- GCF - Professional Staff Hiring
- JB - Equal Education Opportunity
- JFBB - School Choice

It was moved and voice voted to approve Section JFABE -Education Opportunities for Military Children (Annex A) to be forwarded to the MASC for inclusion into the Policy Manual.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Section JFABF -Education Opportunities for Children in Foster Care (Annex B) to be forwarded to the MASC for inclusion into the Policy Manual.

It was moved and voice voted to amend Policies AC, GBA, GCF, JB and JFBB by adding the term "pregnancy or pregnancy related condition" into the policies as contained in Annex D.

APPROVE.

gb #8-246 - Mr. Comparetto (August 14, 2018)

Request that the School Committee amend its rules by including an item on each agenda for public comment.

FILE.

gb #8-285 - Mr. Foley/Mr. Comparetto/Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell
(September 25, 2018)

Request that the Administration consider the implications of excessive heat and humidity upon the learning environment in the classrooms and the schools without air conditioning and the adverse conditions for students, teachers and staff. The Administration should develop a policy to be followed when the city has experienced consecutive days of excessive heat and humidity and the conditions in many of the schools are intolerable.

Max Stern and Jeremy Shulkin spoke to the item detailing the conditions at University Park Campus School during the heatwave in June.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration consider his suggestions as to possible solutions for days of excessive heat when the item is discussed at the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration establish a committee to review options for dealing with oppressive heat situations at all schools.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

HELD.

gb #8-301 - Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Foley/
Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo (October 2, 2018)

Request that the Administration provide an update on the education plan approval process for homeschooled children and specify when the process will be completed for the current academic year, including an update on plans to expedite the process to assure its rapid and efficient completion for 2019-20.

Parents of homeschoolers, who attended the meeting, were given the opportunity to speak on their experiences and presented their future expectations.

The meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

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