

IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Worcester, Massachusetts
Thursday, January 17 2019
Agenda #1

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met in Open Session at 7:05 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall on Thursday, January 17, 2019.

There were present at the Call to Order:

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

There were absent: Miss Biancheria and Mr. Comparetto

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

A moment of silence was offered in memory of Bernadine J. Petty, mother of Mayor Joseph Petty and Sara Ross, Assistant Principal at Elm Park Community School.

Mayor Petty presented a Key to the City to Paula Pietro-Malmquist in appreciation of her 40 plus years of service to the Worcester Public Schools.

APPROVAL OF RECORDS

1. aor #9-1 - Clerk
(January 8, 2019)

Minutes/
approval of

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, December 20, 2018.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, December 20, 2018.

Miss Biancheria and Mr. Comparetto arrived at 7:10 p.m.

IMMEDIATE ACTION

Recognition/
North High JROTC

2. gb #8-355.1 - Miss McCullough/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Mayor
Petty/Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Foley
(January 8, 2019)

To recognize the following North High School JROTC members for their heroism by saving the lives of children and adults during a recent fire in the City of Worcester:

- Jordan Parker
- Abderrahman Sebbai
- Raesean Goodney
- Marquis Bell

Mayor Petty and Superintendent Binienda presented certificates to members of the North High School JROTC for their heroism.

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

Election of Vice-
chairperson of the
School Committee
for 2019/
Miss McCullough

3. gb #9-8 - Administration
(January 2, 2019)

To select a Vice-Chairman for the School Committee for 2019.

On a roll call of 7-0, Miss McCullough was elected as Vice-chairperson of the School Committee for 2019.

Student
Representatives

4. gb #9-1 - Administration
(January 8, 2019)

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

It was moved and voice voted to file the item.

5. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

ROS #9-1 - Administration
(January 8, 2019)

Report of the
Superintendent/
Michigan's Updated
Comprehensive Health
Education Curriculum

MICHIGAN'S UPDATED COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH
EDUCATION CURRICULUM

Dr. Matilde Castiel, Commissioner of Health and Human Services and Superintendent Binienda provided PowerPoint presentations. Dr. Castiel recommended the Case for Comprehensive Sex Education in Worcester followed by Superintendent Binienda's presentation on Michigan's Updated Comprehensive Health Education.

The following attendees spoke to the item:

State Representative James O'Day, City Councillor Khrystian King, Jaquelyn Morales, Sara Richmond Davidow, Cara Berg Powers, Judi Kirk, Chantel Bethea and Kathryn Madaloni

Mr. O'Connell suggested that the community review the curriculum as proposed by viewing the presentation online through the Worcester Public Schools website. He especially recommended reading Lesson 8, which is the unit that is being considered.

Miss Biancheria made the following motions:

Request that the Administration provide the proposals that require the Health Curriculum to be taught to ninth graders as a requirement and indicate the budget impact.

Request that the Administration consider other proposals to incorporate into the sex education portion of the Health Curriculum.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

Mayor Petty stated that there would be no vote on the item at this meeting but that it would be held for the meeting on Thursday, February 7, 2019 for further discussion and for a vote.

6. PERSONNEL

It was moved and voice voted to file Personnel Item 9-1 through 9-7.

Appointments

9-1 The Superintendent has APPROVED the APPOINTMENT of the persons named below:

Biron, Heidi, Teacher, English as a Second Language, Woodland Academy, MA, Step 1, \$53,048 effective January 2, 2019. License pending: English as a Second Language Prek-8. *

Burke, Brian, Teacher, Physical Education, Systemwide, MA, Step 8, \$75,218 effective January 2, 2019. Licensed: Physical Education Prek-8. *

Gaumond, Deanna, Teacher, Elementary, Grafton Street, MA, Step 1, \$53,048 effective January 2, 2019. Licensed: Elementary 1-6. *

Gleason, Bridget, Teacher, English as a Second Language, Woodland Academy, BA, Step 1, \$46,894 effective January 2, 2019. License pending: English as a Second Language Prek-8. *

Polak, Vanessa, Teacher, English as a Second Language, Systemwide, MA, Step 3, \$59,300 effective January 2, 2019. Licensed: English as a Second Language Prek-6. *

Ryan, Crystal, Teacher, Special Education, North, MA, Step 8, \$75,218 effective January 2, 2019. Licensed: Moderate Disabilities 5-12. *

Vriesema, Jonathan, Teacher, Physical Education, Systemwide, MA, Step 1, \$53,048 effective January 2, 2019. Licensed: Physical Education Prek-8. *
*prorated

- 9-2 The Superintendent has ACCEPTED the RESIGNATION of the persons named below: Recognitions
- Smith, Jesse, Teacher, Enrichment, Systemwide, effective December 17, 2018.
Weeks, Megan, Teacher, Focused Instructional Coach, South, effective January 3, 2019.
- 9-3 The Superintendent has ACCEPTED the RESIGNATION for Purposes of RETIREMENT of the persons named below: Retirements
- Fain, Howard, Teacher, Science, Worcester East, effective December 31, 2018.
Lane, Sean, Teacher, Special Education, Systemwide, effective December 29, 2018.
Lunney, John, Teacher, Physical Education, Vernon Hill, effective December 31, 2018.
Poti, Deborah, Teacher, Special Education, Jacob Hiatt, effective December 31, 2018.
- 9-4 The Superintendent has APPOINTED the person named below to the position of Cafeteria Substitute Helper, permanent/intermittent at a salary of \$13.73 per hour, from Civil Service List #318-058, effective as shown: Appointment/
Cafeteria Helper
- Sevuvor, Felix 12/12/18
- 9-5 The Superintendent has APPOINTED the person named below to the position of Aide to the Physically Handicapped, permanent/fulltime at a salary of \$16.38 (minimum) to \$20.18 (maximum) per hour, from Civil Service List #318-053, effective as follows: Appointment/
Aide to the Physically
Handicapped
- Romniou, Dimitra 12/17/18

Appointment/
School Bus
Attendant

9-6 The Superintendent has APPOINTED the person named below to the position of School Bus Attendant, permanent at a salary of \$15.60 minimum per hour to \$17.38 maximum per hour, from Civil Service List #318-066, effective as follows:

Ford, William 1/8/19

Appointment/
Driver Full Size
School Bus

9-7 The Superintendent has APPOINTED the person named below to the position of Driver Full Size School Bus, permanent/fulltime at a salary of \$22.00 per hour, from Civil Service List #318-065, effective as follows:

Beauge, Isaac 1/2/19

GENERAL BUSINESS

Principal Positions

7. gb #8-57.1 - Administration/Mr. Comparetto/
Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/
Mr. Foley/Mayor Petty
(January 4, 2019)

Response of the Administration to the requests to:

- provide a report as to the openings for principal positions, the timeline for filling them, and the involvement of the community in the selection process.
- provide a report on the policy for hiring new principals to include positions that are open at this time.

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

8. gb #8-78.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/
Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/
Miss McCullough
(January 9, 2019) Ticket to Read Program

Response of the Administration to the request to encourage the Worcester Public Schools to participate in the Ticket to Read.net Program, originated and sponsored by the Worcester Bravehearts and the Worcester Railers.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration forward a letter of appreciation to both the Worcester Bravehearts and Worcester Railers for making the Ticket to Read Program possible for students of the Worcester Public Schools.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

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

9. gb #8-102.1 - Administration/ Mr. Monfredo/
Miss Biancheria/Mr. Comparetto/
Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell
(January 9, 2019) Worcester the City
that Reads Annual
Book Drive

Response of the Administration to the request to inform the public and the schools about Worcester: the City that Reads, the 13th Annual Book Drive to support children in pre-k to grade 8.

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

Recreation
Worcester

10. gb #8-123.8 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell
(January 3, 2019)

Response of the Administration to the motions from the FY19 Budget to provide a report on the benefits, accomplishments and the number of students in the recreation Worcester program.

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

Facilities Master
Plan Report

11. gb #8-234.1 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/
Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
Mr. O'Connell
(December 12, 2018)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide an update on the Facilities Master Plan Report, prepared by Symmes, Maine & McKee Association, Inc.

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

Accelerated Repair
Projects/2018-19

12. gb #8-235.1 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/
Miss McCullough
(December 12, 2018)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide an update on the 2018 Accelerated Repair Projects and include recommendations for 2018-19.

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

13. gb #8-236.1 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/
Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
Mr. O'Connell
(December 12, 2018) SchoolDude/
Recommendations

Response of the Administration to the request to provide the SchoolDude's recommendations for 2018-19 and include the 2018 requests for issues and concerns at school sites.

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

14. gb #8-261.1 - Administration/Miss Biancheria
(December 18, 2018) New South
High/quarterly reports

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report on the timeframe and plans regarding the building of the new South High Community School.

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

15. gb #8-349.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/
Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo/
Mr. Comparetto/Miss McCullough/
Mr. Foley
(December 12, 2018) Parents/Guardians E-
Mail Addresses

Response of the Administration to the request to develop and maintain a list of e-mail addresses of parents/guardians, who are willing to furnish them to the Worcester Public Schools, and to utilize the list to disseminate school newsletters and other pertinent information to them.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration forward the response to this item to the members of CPPAC for its input.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

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

Mayor Petty relinquished the chair to Vice-chairperson McCullough.

Mileage Reimbursement/ increase

- 16. gb #9-2 - Administration (December 14, 2018)

To approve an increase in the mileage reimbursement rate from \$0.545 per mile to \$0.58 per mile, effective January 1, 2019 for all represented and non-represented personnel in accordance with the 2019 standard mileage rate established by the Internal Revenue Service.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

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

Against the motion: 0

Absent: Mayor Petty $\frac{1}{7}$

The motion carried.

Prior Fiscal Year Payment/Kids OT, Inc.

- 17. gb #9-3 - Administration (December 17, 2018)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment to Kids OT, Inc. in the amount of \$156.48 for services rendered in FY18.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the prior fiscal year payment.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

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

Against the motion: 0

Absent: Mayor Petty $\frac{1}{7}$

The motion carried.

18. gb #9-4 - Mr. Monfredo
(December 19, 2018) Valentine's Day Contest

Request that the Administration encourage elementary students to participate in the annual Valentine's Day Contest, sponsored by the Worcester Historical Museum.

Superintendent Binienda stated that elementary school principals have been informed of the contest.

It was moved and voice voted to file the item.

19. gb #9-5 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/
Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell/
Mayor Petty Recognition/
forward letters
(December 19, 2018)

To forward letters of congratulations to the following individuals at South High Community School for an outstanding Winter Concert and Art Exhibit:

- Johnetta Smith, Band Director
- Angela Poirier, Chorus Director
- Benjamin Adwetewa-Badu, Teacher
- Mary Abbott, Teacher
- Katherine Rice, Teacher

It was moved and voice voted to forward letters.

20. gb #9-6 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/
Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell/
Mayor Petty Recognition/
forward letters
(December 19, 2018)

To forward letters of congratulations to Colleen Kelly, History and Social Science/Library liaison and the following advisers of the Model UN for coaching their students to participate in the UN Debate Club held at Clark University:

- Justine Thanas Burncoat Middle School
- Scott Freniere Burncoat High School
- Patricia Peters Doherty Memorial High School
- Justin Newman Worcester Technical High School
- David Crompton Sullivan Middle School
- Brian Cormier South High Community School
- Daniel Makela Worcester East Middle School

It was moved and voice voted to forward letters.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration ask principals to consider teaming with their community partner to fund the Model UN Debate Club.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Mayor Petty returned to chair the remainder of the meeting.

EAW Contract/
Article XX

21. gb #9-7 - Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo
(January 2, 2019)

To report to the School Committee, promptly upon occurrence, "any case of tort including assaults on teachers and principals, in connection with their employment," pursuant to the requirements of Article XX (A) ("Teacher Protection") of the agreement between the Worcester School Committee and the Educational Association of Worcester, September 1, 2017 – August 31, 2020 (Page 68).

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide full incident reports on teacher assaults to the School Committee on a quarterly basis.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

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

October 1, 2018
Enrollment Report

22. gb #9-9 - Administration
(January 2, 2019)

To review the October 1, 2018 Enrollment Report.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report on any additional space that may be needed to accommodate enrollment needs.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved and voice to refer the item to the FY20 Budget

23. qb #9-10 - Administration
(January 2, 2019) Audit/
CliftonLarsenAllen, LLP

To review the annual audit and agreed upon procedures report on compliance and internal controls for the City of Worcester, including the Worcester Public Schools, from the Certified Public Accounting Firm of CliftonLarsenAllen, LLP for the year that ended on June 30, 2018 which included the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) A-133 Reports and the Management Letter.

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

24. qb #9-11 - Administration
(January 2, 2019) Audit/
Positive Directions
Program

To review the annual audit and agreed upon procedures on the Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed Upon Procedures for Student Activity Fund Testing for fiscal years 2016, 2017, and 2018 prepared by CliftonLarsenAllen, LLP.

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

25. qb #9-12 - Administration
(January 2, 2019) Audit/
Independent
Accountants'
Report/DESE/
fiscal year
2017-18

To review the annual audit and agreed upon procedures on the Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed Upon Procedures for the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education End of Year Financial Report for fiscal year 2017-18, prepared by Robert C. Alario, CPA, P.C.

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

Recognition/
forward letter

26. gb #9-13 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/
Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell/
Mayor Petty
(January 3, 2019)

To forward a letter of congratulations to the
Burncoat High School Quadrivium directed by
David Twiss for its outstanding performance at
the Inauguration of members of the
Massachusetts House of Representatives.

It was moved and voice voted to forward a letter.

Prior Fiscal Year
Payment/
Zonar Systems

27. gb #9-14 - Administration
(January 4, 2019)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount
of \$5,489.78 to Zonar Systems for student
transportation GPS service charges.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,
Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Grant/Parent-
Child Home
Program

28. gb #9-16 - Administration
(January 2, 2019)

To accept the Parent-Child Home Program Grant in
the amount of \$25,000.00.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,
Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

29. gb #9-17 - Administration Grant/Turnaround
(January 2, 2019)

To accept the Barr Grant in the amount of \$150,000.00.

The wording for this item was incorrect. It should read as follows:

To accept the Turnaround Grant in the amount of \$150,000.00.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,
Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

30. gb #9-18 - Administration Grant/ArtReach Visiting
(January 2, 2019) Artist Program

To accept the ArtREACH Visiting Artist Program Grant in the amount of \$3,920.00.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,
Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Prior Fiscal Year
Payment/
CollegeBoard

31. gb #9-15 - Administration
(January 2, 2019)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$1,682.00 to be made payable to the CollegeBoard.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,
Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Substitute
Teacher/pay

32. gb #9-19 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss McCullough/
Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Comparetto
(January 7, 2019)

Request that the Administration consider raising the pay of substitute teachers for the next school year and consider giving those retired teachers who worked in the Worcester Public Schools additional compensation as an incentive to come back as a substitute.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration consider increasing the wage for retired teachers who would be interested in assisting the Worcester Public Schools as substitute teachers and provide a response to the School Committee within the next two months.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Mr. Comparetto requested that his name be added to the item.

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

- 33. gb #9-20 - Miss McCullough/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell
(January 8, 2019) Advanced
Placement/
course offerings

Request that the Administration provide a report on the Advanced Placement course offerings and include student/parent feedback, guidelines and costs for the exams.

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

- 34. gb #9-21 - Administration
(January 8, 2019) Prior Fiscal Year
Payment/
CliftonLarsenAllen, LLP

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$430.50 to CliftonLarsenAllen LLP for the 2016 Student Activity Account Agreed Upon Procedures Review.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,
Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
7

The motion carried.

- 35. gb #9-22 - Administration
(January 8, 2019) Statement of Interest/
Burncoat High School

To authorize the Administration to resubmit a Statement of Interest to the Massachusetts School Building Authority for Burncoat High School (district priority project).

It was moved to approve the item and submit it to the Worcester City Council to be placed on its agenda for approval.

Donations/
family of Elizabeth
Reidy

36. gb #9-23 - Administration
(January 8, 2019)

To accept donations in the amount of \$2,500 from the family of Elizabeth Reidy for the creation of a scholarship for North High School Students.

It was moved to approve the donations.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,
Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Prior Fiscal Year
Payment/
SEEM
Collaborative

37. gb #9-24 - Administration
(January 8, 2019)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$11,167.82 to be made payable to SEEM Collaborative for services rendered.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,
Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

38. gb #9-25 - Administration Recognition/
set date
(January 8, 2019)

To set a date to recognize Benjamin Robinson, a student from Burncoat High School, for his brave and selfless action in helping to save eight people from potential peril at a recent fire in the City of Worcester.

It was moved and voice voted to set the date of Thursday, February 7, 2019.

39. gb #9-26 - Administration Donations
(January 8, 2019)

To consider approval of the following donations:

- \$3,086 from Worcester Technical High School's Tech Pride Club to the ALS Association MA Chapter in honor of teacher James Scanlon.
- \$500 from the Forest Grove Middle School's National Junior Honor Society to the Ava Roy Fund.
- \$1,000 from Harvard Pilgrim Health Care to Chandler Magnet School to replenish non-perishable items for the food pantry
- \$1,000 from the Special Olympics (The Yawkey Sports Training Center) to the Unified Sports Program at Worcester Technical High School
- \$15,000 from the Journey Community Church to Belmont Street Community School for Chromebooks
- \$4,700 from WEDF/CSX Grant to Grafton Street School
- \$1,495.27 from Mixed Bag Designs to Lake View School
- \$500 from WEDF for Opera Meets Lake View School
- \$4,250 from various donors at UMASS to Lake View School

It was moved to approve the donations.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,
Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

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