

IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
 Worcester, Massachusetts  
 Thursday, October 3, 2019  
 Agenda #17

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met in Open Session at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall on Thursday, October 3, 2019.

There were present at the Call to Order:

Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo, and Mr. O'Connell

There were absent: Mr. Comparetto, Miss McCullough  
 and Mayor Petty

Acting Vice-Chairman O'Connell moved to recess to Executive Session.

1. gb #9-324 - (Administration) Executive Session  
 (September 25, 2019)

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and to conduct collective bargaining regarding Grievance #19/20-3.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation for Worker's Compensation- teacher, 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-teacher, 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 collective bargaining for Aides to the Physically Handicapped and Bus Monitors, 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 litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of the School Committee and the chair so declares - Educational Association of Worcester and Worcester School Committee, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Labor Relations, Case No. CAS-19-7323.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares – Worcester School Committee v. International Union of Public Employees, Tradesmen, Local – 135 and International Union of Public Employees, Plumbers and Steamfitters, Local – 125, Worcester Superior Court Civil Action No. 1885CV01520.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion:	Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell,	4
Absent:	Mr. Comparetto, Miss McCullough Mayor Petty	3
Against the motion:		$\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

There were present at the second Call to Order:

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

There were absent: Miss McCullough and Mayor Petty

The School Committee recessed to Executive Session  
from 6:12 p.m. to 7:25 p.m.

The School Committee reconvened in Open Session at  
7:30 p.m.

Acting Vice-Chairman O'Connell chaired the meeting.

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

Pursuant to action taken in Executive Session, it was  
moved to deny Grievance 19/20-3.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Mr. Comparetto, Mr. Foley,  
Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell, 4

Absent: Miss McCullough, Mayor Petty 2

Against the motion: Miss Biancheria  $\frac{1}{7}$

The motion carried.

#### APPROVAL OF RECORDS

2. aor #9-18 - Clerk Minutes/approval of  
(September 25, 2019)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School  
Committee Meeting of Thursday, September 19, 2019.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the Minutes of  
the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, September  
19, 2019.

#### IMMEDIATE ACTION

3. gb #9-253.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/  
Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo/  
Mayor Petty Recognition/  
(August 16, 2019) Sarah Kyriazis

To recognize Sarah Kyriazis, Manager of Instructional  
Technology and Digital Learning, on her selection as  
recipient of the 2019 Administrator Award from MassCUE  
(Massachusetts Computer Using Educators).

Mr. O'Connell and Superintendent Binienda presented a  
certificate of recognition to Sarah Kyriazis.

4. gb #9-259.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/  
Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/  
Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell/  
Mayor Petty Recognition/  
(September 9, 2019) Worcester Bravehearts

To recognize the Worcester Bravehearts as Champions of  
the Future Collegiate Baseball League and for its  
community service activities in the Worcester Public  
Schools and in the community.

Mr. O'Connell and Superintendent Binienda presented a  
certificate of recognition to David Peterson, General  
Manager of the Worcester Bravehearts.

- Recognition/  
Darya Kuruna
5. gb #9-276.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/  
Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/  
Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell/  
Mayor Petty  
(September 9, 2019)
- To recognize Darya Kuruna, an art teacher at Canterbury Street Magnet Computer-Based School, for the creative painting of 30 Murals at her school.
- Mr. O'Connell and Superintendent Binienda presented a certificate of recognition to Darya Kuruna.
- Recognition/  
Barbara Sargent,  
Nicole Delamere,  
Phil King and Mary  
Scully
6. gb #9-300.1 - Administration  
(September 9, 2019)
- To recognize Barbara Sargent, Nicole Delamere, Phil King and Mary Scully for receiving exemplary program recognition by Governor Baker for its 21<sup>st</sup> Century Out of School Time Program.
- Mr. O'Connell and Superintendent Binienda presented certificates of recognition to Barbara Sargent, Nicole Delamere, Phil King and Mary Scully.
- Forward letters
7. gb #9-309.1 - Administration  
(September 9, 2019)
- To forward letters of congratulations to the following students who received the AP Capstone Diploma and their teachers:
- |              |                              |
|--------------|------------------------------|
| Sara Gace    | Doherty Memorial High School |
| Alyssa Goins | South High Community School  |
| Gia-Han Le   | South High Community School  |
| Tu T. Luu    | South High Community School  |
| Sarah White  | South High Community School  |
- and the following students who received the AP Seminar and Research Certificate:
- |                   |                      |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Rolanda Nubuor    | Burncoat High School |
| Lauren Pichette   | Burncoat High School |
| Gabriella Vallejo | Burncoat High School |
| Tranh Nha Tran    | Claremont Academy    |
- It was moved and voice voted to forward letters of congratulations.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

8. ROS #7-18.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/  
Miss Biancheria  
(September 25, 2019) Homeless Students/  
number of

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a list containing the number of homeless students and indicate the sites and ways in which the School Committee can provide help to them.

(Considered with gb#9-101.1)

Mr. Monfredo made the following motions:

Request that the Administration provide a report at the School Committee meeting on November 17, 2019 regarding options for raising resources for mentoring and tutoring from local colleges to benefit WPS homeless students.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Mr. Foley made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report in the form of a Report of the Superintendent regarding long term approaches to provide support services for homeless students in conjunction with representatives from the City and community.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

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

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

9. gb #9-101.1 - Administration/Mr. Comparetto  
(September 25, 2019) Homeless Students/  
support services

Response of the Administration to the request to consider creating an initiative to provide more services and support for the system's approximately 2500 homeless students.

Mr. Comparetto made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report on its initiatives for direct support to homeless students and

their families and include any options for expansion of those services.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

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

Report of the Superintendent/  
Held

10. ROS #9-12 - Administration  
(September 9, 2019)

OFFICE OF CURRICULUM AND PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

It was moved and voice voted to hold the item.

11. PERSONNEL

Appointment/  
Chief Diversity  
Officer

- 9-38 The Superintendent has APPROVED the APPOINTMENT of the person named below to the position of:

Chief Diversity Officer

Perez, Ivonne

It was moved and voice voted to allow Isábel Gonzalez-Webster to speak to the item.

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

Chief Diversity  
Officer/hiring of

12. gb #9-63.1 - Administration/Mr. Comparetto/  
Miss McCullough  
(September 25, 2019)

Response of the Administration to the request to consider hiring a Chief Diversity Officer.

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

It was moved and voice voted to accept and file Personnel item 9-38 and gb#9-63.1.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Course of Study  
Curriculum/ELL

13. gb #8-118.1 - Administration/Mr. Comparetto/  
Mr. Monfredo/ Mr. O'Connell  
(September 19, 2019)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report which contains the Course of Study Curriculum provided to ELL students.

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

14. gb #8-295.1 - Administration/Mayor Petty  
(September 25, 2019) MCAS/Chandler  
Elementary  
School/findings

Response of the Administration to the request to discuss the findings of DESE for the MCAS results at Chandler Elementary School.

It was moved and voice voted to hold for the meeting of Thursday, October 17, 2019.

15. gb #9-37.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/  
Miss Biancheria/Mr. Comparetto/  
Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo  
(September 25, 2019) Worcester Red  
Sox/internships

Response of the Administration to the request to meet with representatives of the Worcester Red Sox, at an appropriate time, to discuss a preference for Worcester students in filling of internships and summer employment positions with the team.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide in a Friday letter a more detailed report on the ongoing discussions with the Worcester Red Sox regarding possible internships for WPS students.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

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

16. gb #9-153.2 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/  
Miss Biancheria/Mr. O'Connell  
(September 25, 2019) Vaping/  
presentation on

Response of the Administration to the request to invite Tina Grosowsky, Project Coordinator for the Central Massachusetts Tobacco Free Community Partnership, to give a short presentation on the issue of vaping.

It was moved and voice voted to accept hold the item for January 2020.

MGLc222/  
compliance with

17. gb #9-162.1 - Administration/Mayor Petty/  
Miss Biancheria/Mr. Comparetto/  
Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough/  
Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell  
(September 25, 2019)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report on district processes and compliance with MGL c222 and make any necessary proposals for changes in policy and procedure.

It was moved and voice voted to hold for the meeting of Thursday, October 17, 2019.

Trauma Informed 18.  
Care/plans for  
introducing

- gb #9-165.1 - Administration/Mayor Petty/  
Miss Biancheria/Mr. Comparetto/  
Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough/  
Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell  
(September 25, 2019)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report on the plans for introducing trauma informed care into the WPS as well as the budget requirements for FY20.

It was moved and voice voted to hold for the meeting of Thursday, October 17, 2019.

FY20 Budget/  
file motions

19. gb #9-195.4 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/  
Miss Biancheria  
(September 25, 2019)

Responses of the Administration to the motions from the FY20 Budget:

**500130-92000 Personal Services (Non Salary)**  
**500130-96000 Personal Services (Non Salary)**

Request that the Administration provide a report on ways in which to control the cost for legal fees.

Mr. Monfredo

**500132-92000 Special Education Tuition**

Request that the Administration provide a report on the ways in which students with dyslexia are being serviced in the Worcester Public Schools.

Miss Biancheria

It was moved and voice voted to accept and file the responses to the FY20 Budget.



20. gb #9-200.1 - Administration/Mayor Petty/  
Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough  
(September 25, 2019) DESE/presentation on  
district accountability  
and discipline data

Response of the Administration to the request to invite representatives from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Center for District Support to make a presentation on the district's accountability and disciplinary data.

It was moved and voice voted to hold for the meeting of Thursday, October 17, 2019.

21. gb #9-226.1 - Administration/Miss McCullough/  
Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo/  
Mr. O'Connell  
(September 25, 2019) Pick-Up and Drop-Off  
policies

Response of the Administration to the request to review pick-up and drop-off policies for all schools to ensure student safety and smooth traffic flow.

It was moved and voice voted to hold the item.

22. gb #9-229.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/  
Miss Biancheria/Miss McCullough/  
Mr. Monfredo  
(September 25, 2019) Las Vegas/pilot  
program

Response of the Administration to the request to consider implementation of a pilot program in Worcester, modeled on that implemented by the Las Vegas City Council, to allow parking tickets to be paid with donations of school supplies for the benefit of the Worcester Public Schools.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report in December 2019 on the status of discussions with the Clark County, Nevada school system regarding the fine for parking tickets to be paid with donations to WPS.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

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

Health Educator/  
hiring of 23.

gb #9-252.1 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/  
Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell  
(September 25, 2019)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide information regarding the hiring of a Health Educator with the new funding from the State, to deal with students on drug related issues and vaping.

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

Jump Start  
Program/  
report on 24.

gb #9-265.1 - Administration/Miss McCullough/  
Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/  
Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell  
(September 25, 2019)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report to include the activities that took place and the number of students who participated in the Jump Start programs at the secondary schools in August 2019.

It was moved and voice voted to hold for the meeting of Thursday, October 17, 2019.

Half Day  
Professional  
Development/  
consider offering .25.

gb #9-270.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/  
Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/  
Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell  
(September 19, 2019)

Response of the Administration to the request to consider offering half day professional development for staff in light of the training provided to principals that dealt with SEL, the impact of homelessness and foster children and on disciplinary alternatives.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide, in a Friday letter in April, a report on the suggestion to add more staff development days.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved and voice voted to

26. gb #9-312 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/  
Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell  
(September 17, 2019) Substitute Teachers/  
additional  
compensation

Request that the Administration consider raising the pay of substitute teachers and giving retired Worcester Public School teachers additional compensation.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration study the feasibility of hiring retired WPS teachers as day by day substitutes and consider raising the current \$75.00 per day stipend to entice those retirees.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the FY21 Budget.

27. gb #9-313 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/  
Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell  
(September 17, 2019) Two Year Kindergarten  
1/establish committee

Request that the Administration establish a committee by November to include early learning teachers to review the two year kindergarten 1 program for students who are four years old and lack the necessary readiness skills for school success.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motions:

Request that the Administration form a committee by November to study the feasibility of establishing a two year kindergarten 1 program.

Request that the Administration consider revising the date of eligibility to start kindergarten.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

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

28. gb #9-314 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. Foley  
(September 20, 2019)

Request that the Administration and the School Committee forward a letter to our local delegation and the Governor supporting the "Student Opportunity Act" which is modeled after the "Promise Act."

It was moved and voice voted to forward a letter to the local delegation and Governor Baker.

"Worcester Future Teachers" 29.

gb #9-315 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/  
Mr. O'Connell  
(September 23, 2019)

Request that the Administration expand its "Worcester Future Teachers" program and have the Diversity Officer recruit the best and brightest students into the program as part of our "Grow Your Own" teaching recruitment program.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report, in April 2020, on the ways in which the WPS is taking the initiative to recruit students into the "Worcester Future Teachers" program in conjunction with the Chief Diversity Officer.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

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

Prior Fiscal Year Payment/  
Eagle Leasing 30.

gb #9-316 - Administration  
(September 24, 2019)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment to Eagle Leasing in the amount of \$109.00.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,  
Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo,  
Mr. O'Connell 5

Absent: Miss McCullough, Mayor Petty 2

Against the motion: 0  
7

The motion carried.

31. gb #9-317 - Administration  
(September 24, 2019) Prior Fiscal Year  
Payment/  
Needham Electric
- To approve prior year fiscal payments to Needham Electric in the total amount of \$894.10.
- It was moved to approve the item.
- On a roll call, the vote was as follows:
- For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,  
Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo,  
Mr. O'Connell 5
- Absent: Miss McCullough, Mayor Petty 2
- Against the motion:  $\frac{0}{7}$
- The motion carried.
32. gb #9-318 - Administration  
(September 24, 2019) Prior Fiscal Year  
Payment/Richard G.  
Boulanger
- To approve prior fiscal year payments to Richard G. Boulanger, Arbitrator in the total amount of \$10,541.52.
- It was moved to approve the item.
- For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,  
Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo,  
Mr. O'Connell 5
- Absent: Miss McCullough, Mayor Petty 2
- Against the motion:  $\frac{0}{7}$
- The motion carried.
33. gb #9-319 - Administration  
(September 24, 2019) Prior Fiscal Year  
Payment/Real Time  
Court Reporting
- To approve a prior fiscal year payment to Real Time Court Reporting in the amount of \$679.50.
- It was moved to approve the item.
- On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,  
Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo,  
Mr. O'Connell 5

Absent: Miss McCullough, Mayor Petty 2

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

The motion carried.

Prior Fiscal Year  
Payment/  
Shred It 34.

qb #9-320 - Administration  
(September 24, 2019)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment to Shred It in the amount of \$420.00.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,  
Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo,  
Mr. O'Connell 5

Absent: Miss McCullough, Mayor Petty 2

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

The motion carried.

Donations 35.

qb #9-321 - Administration  
(September 24, 2019)

To consider approval of the following donations:

- \$250.00 Staples gift card to Jacob Hiatt Magnet School from Country Bank for their participation in the Savings Makes Sense School Banking Program
- \$250.00 from a donor to the Patricia Falcone Memorial Scholarship

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,  
Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo,  
Mr. O'Connell 5

Absent: Miss McCullough, Mayor Petty 2

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

The motion carried.

36. gb #9-322 - Administration  
(September 24, 2019)

Travel Reimbursement/  
Chief Human Resources  
Officer

To approve a travel reimbursement to the Chief Human Resources Officer in the amount of \$147.92 for in-state travel to Boston for EAW hearings.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto,  
Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo,  
Mr. O'Connell 5

Absent: Miss McCullough, Mayor Petty 2

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

The motion carried.

37. gb #9-323 - Administration  
(September 24, 2019)

Alcohol, Tobacco and  
Drug Use Policy/  
consider amendments

To consider amendments to the current Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Use by Students Prohibited Policy as contained in both the Student Handbook and the Policy Manual.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration clarify why the word **will** was changed to **may**, and he is requesting clarification on Rule 13, why the last word **suspended** is being replaced with the following sentence:

**subject to disciplinary action, which may include in-school suspension, short-term suspension or long-term suspension.**

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the item be referred to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues and discuss the proposed amendments by Attorney Tobin regarding Policy JICH.

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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