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CLERK OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
20 IRVING STREET
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01609

AGENDA #31A

SUPPLEMENTAL

The School Committee will hold a regular meeting:

on: Thursday, September 3, 2020

at: 6:00 p.m. – Executive Session

7:00 p.m. – Regular Session

virtually in: Room 410 in the Durkin Administration Building

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ACTION

- | | |
|---|--|
| I. <u>CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR MEETING</u>
<u>INVOCATION</u>
<u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/NATIONAL ANTHEM</u> | |
| II. <u>ROLL CALL</u> | |
| III. <u>APPROVAL OF RECORDS</u>

<u>aor #0-35</u> - Clerk
(August 31, 2020)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Thursday, August 27, 2020. | |
| IV. <u>MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION</u> - NONE | |
| V. <u>IMMEDIATE ACTION</u> - NONE | |
| VI. <u>REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT</u> - NONE | |
| VII. <u>COMMUNICATION AND PETITION</u> - NONE | |
| VIII. <u>REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES</u> - NONE | |
| IX. <u>PERSONNEL</u> - NONE | |
| X. <u>GENERAL BUSINESS</u>

<u>gb #0-273.1</u> - Administration/Administration
(August 31, 2020)

To discuss the updates/challenges on athletic guidance from the MIAA. | |

ACTION

X. GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #0-281 - Administration
(August 31, 2020)

To accept the Remote Learning Technology Essentials Grant in the amount of \$2,253,313.

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS
Clerk
(August 31, 2020)

ITEM - aor #0-35
S.C. MEETING - 9-3-20

ITEM:

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Thursday, August 27, 2020.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

Annex A (23 pages) contains a copy of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Thursday, August 27, 2020.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
 Worcester, Massachusetts
 Thursday, August 27, 2020
 Agenda #30

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met virtually in Open Session at 4:21 p.m. in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building on Thursday, August 27, 2020.

There were present at the Call to Order:

Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
 Mr. Monfredo and Ms. Novick and Mayor Petty

There was absent: Miss Biancheria

Miss Biancheria joined the meeting at 4:28 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

Minutes/approval
 of

aor #0-31 - Clerk
 (August 19, 2020)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, August 5, 2020.

Minutes/approval
 of

aor #0-32 - Clerk
 (August 19, 2020)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, August 6, 2020.

Minutes/approval
 of

aor #0-33 -Clerk
 (August 19, 2020)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, August 13, 2020.

Minutes/approval
 of

aor #0-34 - Clerk
 (August 20, 2020)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, August 20, 2020.

(These items are considered together.)

On a roll call, the vote to accept and file the items collectively was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

2. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

c&p #0-13 - Clerk
(August 19, 2020)

Racism Free Worcester
Public School Group

To consider a communication from the Racism Free Worcester Public School Group regarding nine areas of concerns.

Mayor Petty stated that a number of WPS students would be allowed to speak to the petition put forward by the Racism Free Worcester Public School Group. Callers were in support of the demands put forward with Restorative Justice, Health, Consent and Ethnic Studies Curriculums and Diversity Counselors among the majority of the topics being supported by the callers.

On a roll call of 7-0, Mayor Petty sent the list of demands to the following Standing Committees:

1. Cop Free Schools to Governance and Employee Issues
2. Restorative Justice for Disciplined Students to Governance and Employee Issues
3. Inclusive Dress Policy to Governance and Employee Issues
4. Mandatory Health and Consent Classes to Teaching, Learning and Student Supports
5. Cultural Competency Training for Faculty and Staff to Teaching, Learning and Student Supports
6. Mental Health Competency Training for Faculty and Staff to Teaching, Learning and Student Supports
7. Ethnic Studies Curriculum to Teaching, Learning and Student Supports
8. Diversity Counselors to Finance and Operations

9. Environmental Action and Transparency to
Finance and Operations

On a roll call, the vote to refer the content of the item to separate Standing Committees was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
7

The motion carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS

FY21 Budget
Motions

3. gb #0-138.4 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/
Ms. Novick
(August 19, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the following motions from the FY21 Budget:

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

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a detailed report on legal costs and categories for services rendered for each firm.

500146-92000 Building Utilities

Request that the Administration provide the eleven locations of the solar panels.

Mr. Foley questioned why the law firm of Murphy, Lamere and Murphy accounted for more costs than that for Attorney Sweeney. In addition, he asked for an explanation for the high cost of Student Assessment and Evaluation.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the higher cost was due to DOJ expenses which encompassed civil rights and Special Education meetings.

Mrs. Seale explained that the bills are itemized by the level of services that the law firm used for mediation of the Program Resolution Services (PRS) consults and compliance hearings.

Mr. Foley was disappointed to see that 10,000 dollars was utilized for homeschooling costs.

Ms. Novick stated that all public records requests are handled by the City Solicitor and should not be handled by the contracted law firm and felt it is a misuse of the contracts.

On a roll call, the vote to file the motions relative to the FY21 Budget was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
 Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
 Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
 Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

- 4. gb #0-200.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/ Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/ Mr. Foley/Ms. McCullough/ Ms. Novick (June 18, 2020) Pre-school and Kindergarten/ enrollment

Response of the Administration to the request to work with the community (social agencies and inner-faith groups) to reach out to parents about signing up for pre-school and kindergarten classes for the 2020-21 school year.

Mr. Monfredo requested an update on the current enrollment figures to which Superintendent Binienda stated that there are no figures yet, but that the online registration is going well and she will be able to provide the updated figures once they are available.

On a roll call, the vote to accept and file the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
 Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
 Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
 Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Motions/
response of

5. gb #0-218.2 - Administration/Mayor Petty/
Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/
Mr. Foley/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(August 20, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the following motions that the Administration:

- partner with neighborhood centers in order to get the information out to parents.
- provide an update on the Chromebook funding and distribution.
- survey parents in order to assess their level of comfort with computers when helping their child/ren.
- consider the hours of teaching in order to provide evening and afterschool classes to those at-risk students who work during school time.

Superintendent Binienda asked Mrs. Kyriazis to provide an update on the Caregivers Academy. Mrs. Kyriazis reported that the district is working with Worcester Together and eighty to one hundred community organizations to assist in large group and individual trainings. The department has hired three new Instructional Coaches, two of whom are bi-lingual to help families navigate the system.

Miss Biancheria inquired as to how the students at Gerald Creamer are being taught. Superintendent Binienda stated that all classes will be via Zoom and that Mr. Whalen is contacting students in order to provide them with Chromebooks.

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a copy of the Attendance Definitions and Reporting Guidance for Remote Learning from DESE.

On a roll call of 7-0, the motion was approved.

On a roll call, the vote to accept and file the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

6. gb #0-221.1 -Administration/Mr. Monfredo/ Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/ Mr. Foley/Ms. McCullough/Ms. Novick (July 30, 2020) IEP Students/ update on number

Response of the Administration to the request to provide an update on the number of IEP students that:

- have extended school year services
- receive remote services at school or at home during the summer

Mr. Monfredo asked if the district has reached out to college students and local agencies to assist in tutoring.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the Boys and Girls Clubs are providing homework centers for students.

Ms. Clancey asked for more information regarding the Extended School Year (ESY) services as the numbers of those eligible are different from those that actually participated.

Mrs. Seale responded that the notices were sent to parents and that there is usually a differential, but this year there has been a dip in the number of responses.

On a roll call, the vote to accept and file the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Kindergarten
Screening/
update on

7. gb #0-227.1 - Administration/Mrs. Clancey/
Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/
Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
Ms. Novick
(August 18, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide an update on the district's plans to conduct kindergarten screening for the start of the 2020-21 school year.

On a roll call, the vote to accept and file the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Juneteenth
Holiday/
inclusion of

8. gb #0-243.1 - Administration/Administration
(August 12, 2020)

To consider approval of the amended 2020-21 School Calendar by including the Juneteenth holiday.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Early Retirement

9. gb #0-249 - Miss Biancheria/Ms. McCullough
(July 13, 2020)

Request that the Administration review the possibility of an early retirement package for WPS teaching staff including a cost analysis, that covers a three-year or a five-year buyout.

Mayor Petty stated that both the City Council and the State Legislature would have to enact an early retirement package.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Administration was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
 Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
 Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
 Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

- 10. gb #0-250 - Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/ Ms. Novick (July 13, 2020) Learning Laboratories/ feasibility of

Request that the Administration study the feasibility of collaborating with community partners to set up in person learning laboratories for parents/guardians to bring their child/ren on remote learning days.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Administration was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
 Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
 Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
 Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

- 11. gb #0-251 - Administration (July 13, 2020) Donations

To accept the following donations:

-\$1,000 to Forest Grove Middle School from Health Resources in Action for its participation in a health science project entitled Project Here

-\$100 to the Library fund at Quinsigamond Elementary School from Spear Management Group in memory of Eleanor "Jane" Petrella

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Prior Fiscal Year
Payment/
employee

12. gb #0-252 - Administration
(July 17, 2020)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$56.35 to an employee for services rendered previously.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Proposed School
Calendars/
approval of

13. gb #0-253 - Administration
(August 5, 2020)

To consider approval of the proposed school calendars for 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26 school years.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

14. gb #0-254 - Mr. Monfredo/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough
(August 5, 2020) Absenteeism

Request that the Administration provide a report on the way in which it will deal with absenteeism and chronic absenteeism and provide a report back in October.

Mr. Monfredo requested that the report be provided in December and he suggested that the theme for this year relative to absenteeism be "Present, Engaged and Supported."

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Administration was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

15. gb #0-255 - Mr. Monfredo/ Miss Biancheria/
Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Ms. Novick
(August 5, 2020) Additional Assistance/
students

Request that the Administration provide a plan in October on ways in which students can receive additional assistance with their schoolwork.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration establish a committee to monitor the results.

On a roll call of 7-0, the motion was approved.

Superintendent Binienda stated that community agencies and The College of the Holy Cross have inquired about helping students and will be C.O.R.I. checked.

Miss Biancheria requested that her name be added as a co-sponsor of the item.

Miss Biancheria inquired about the COVID-19 screening process for those offering assistance.

Superintendent Binienda stated that this is all being done virtually with no in person contact.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Administration was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Grant/
Summer and
Vacation Learning

16. gb #0-256 - Administration
(August 7, 2020)

To accept the Summer and Vacation Learning Program Grant in the amount of \$36,000.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration consider applying for another grant that will assist students in grades 1-3.

On a roll call of 7-0, the motion was approved.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Prior Fiscal Year
Paymen/
Automated
Building Systems,
Inc.

17. gb #0-257 - Administration
(August 7, 2020)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$692.00 to Automated Building Systems, Inc. for emergency service repairs to heating units.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty	7
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Against the motion:	$\frac{0}{7}$
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The motion carried.

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|-----|---|--|
| 18. | <u>gb #0-258</u> - Administration
(August 7, 2020) | Prior Fiscal Year
Payment/
R.B. Allen Co, Inc. |
|-----|---|--|

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$530.00 to R.B. Allen Co. Inc., for fire alarm service repair at Nelson Place.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty	7
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Against the motion:	$\frac{0}{7}$
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The motion carried.

- | | | |
|-----|---|--|
| 19. | <u>gb #0-259</u> - Administration
(August 7, 2020) | Prior Fiscal Year
Payment/
employees |
|-----|---|--|

To approve prior fiscal year payments in the amount of \$110.00 each to the following WPS Transportation employees for School Bus Certificate License Renewals and Physical Exams:

Juan Ayala	Isaac Beauge
John Cullen	Shaelyn Landanno
Edwin Rivera	Cynthia Sicard-Melanson

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Prior Fiscal Year
Payment/
employee

20. gb #0-260 - Administration
(August 11, 2020)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount
of \$1,860 to an employee.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as
follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Grant/School
Water
Improvement

21. gb #0-261 - Administration
(August 12, 2020)

To accept the School Water Improvement Grant in
the amount of \$6,000.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as
follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Prior Fiscal Year
Payment/
American
Arbitration
Association

22. gb #0-262 - Administration
(August 13, 2020)

To approve prior fiscal year payments in the total
amount of \$1,487.67 to the American Arbitration
Association and Arbitrator SRT.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Mayor Petty made a motion to allow the following item be taken out of order:

23. gb #0-273 - Administration (August 19, 2020) Fall Sports Participation/ approval of

Request that the School Committee approve the participation of the WPS in the following Fall sports, as recommended by the EEA, MIAA and DESE Guidance:

Field Hockey
Boys and Girls Soccer
Cross Country
Golf for Fall 1 Term for practices and competition games.

Based on EEA, DESE and MIAA Guidelines, the following sports would be allowed to practice only for skills, drills and conditioning:

Football
Cheerleading
Girls' volleyball

The following sports will be played during the Floating Phase between Winter and Spring Seasons:

Football
Unified Basketball
Cheerleading
Girls' Volleyball

Both individual and team crew will be moved to the Spring Season.

Mayor Petty stated that he is very supportive of bringing sports back and feels that students need physical activity to keep them busy.

Mr. David Shea, Athletic Director, provided information on the plans for fall sports after receiving guidelines from EEA, MIAA, DESE and the COVID-19 Task Force. He explained that the vote will allow the district to go forward, but will have the opportunity to make changes. The vote is needed in order to proceed with options and things could be modified on a daily basis.

Ms. Novick stated that there could be an equity issue due to the lack of transportation to sporting events.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the district will be providing bus tickets for student athletes to get to and from their games.

Mr. Foley questioned the ability for students to participate in sporting events yet the inability for them to be in a classroom.

Mr. Shea explained that the proposed geographical pod, that consists of the seven WPS, Notre Dame Academy, Abby Kelley Foster Charter School and St. Paul Diocesan Junior/Senior High School will allow for limited travel. It also allows for a shutdown if the city becomes a red zone and provide for limited exposure and easier contact tracing.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide immediate updates of the new rulings to parents and the School Committee, as warranted.

On a roll call of 7-0, the motion was approved.

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Request that the Administration map out the time it takes to get to the various sporting events.

On a roll call of 7-0, the motion was approved.

Ms. McCullough requested that the item be amended to include "in order to proceed with exploring and modifying, as needed."

On a roll call of 6-1 (nay Ms. Novick) the item was approved as amended.

24. gb #0-263 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough
(August 17, 2020) Policy GBEBD/review of

Request Administration review with all staff policy GBEBD regarding fundraising and ensure it is being followed by all Worcester Public Schools staff.

Ms. Novick requested that the Administration make certain that the principals forward the fundraising policy to all teachers.

Ms. McCullough stated that the purpose of the policy is for protection, not to be punitive.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Administration was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

25. gb #0-264 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough
(August 17, 2020) "Pandemic Policy Specific for Back to School"/
consideration of

Consider and redraft as necessary the policies and associated sections of the student handbook considered by "Pandemic Policy Specific for Back to School."

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Affirmative Action
Plan/consider
updating

26. gb #0-265 - Mayor Petty/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough/Ms. Novick
(August 17, 2020)

To consider the Affirmative Action Plan of the Worcester Public Schools dated, May 13, 1993.

Mayor Petty stated that the Affirmative Action Plan needs to be updated and that Ivonne Perez, Chief Diversity Officer, Jennifer Boulais, Chief Human Resources Officer and Attorney Sweeney be involved in the updating of the Affirmative Action Plan. He also asked to have Stacey DeBoise Luster participate.

Ms. McCullough made the following motions:

Request that the Worcester State University Task Force on Diversity and Recruitment plan be tied into the Affirmative Action plan.

Request that the Administration again release the WSU task force findings.

On a roll call of 7-0, the motions were approved.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Administration was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty	7
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Against the motion:	$\frac{0}{7}$
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The motion carried.

Recruitment and
Retention Plan/
consider updating

27. gb #0-266 - Mayor Petty/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough/Ms. Novick
(August 17, 2020)

To consider the Recruitment and Retention Plan of Minority Teachers and Administrators, dated March 4, 1999.

Mr. Foley suggested that members of the Strategic Plan Committee also be invited to participate in the updating of both plans. He also stated that he would like to see intentional action steps in order to bring more diversity for the district and include ambitious

benchmarks to hold the district accountable.

Mayor Petty suggested that Administration contact the City for its Recruitment and Retention Plan and to include the Superintendent's Advisory Counsel.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Administration was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheri, a Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty	7
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Against the motion:	$\frac{0}{7}$
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The motion carried.

28. gb #0-267 - Administration FY21 Budget
(August 18, 2020)

To review the status of the FY21 Budget and make appropriate transfers as required.

Mr. Allen stated that this is an interim budget and the final budget will not be proposed until October. The 1.5 million dollar reductions may not necessarily be in the final budget and that adjustments may need to be made.

Mayor Petty hoped that extended day learning, crossing guards and cafeteria worker jobs will be reinstated if the final budget changes.

Miss Biancheria requested that the item be held in order to discuss what can be reduced from the current interim budget by going line by line.

Ms. Novick requested an update on school nutrition services to which Mr. Allen replied that the current plan calls for food distribution in high density areas with fifteen feeding locations for students to pick up their meals.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the item be held.

On a roll call, the vote to hold the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Monfredo 2

Against the motion: Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley,
Ms. McCullough
Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty $\frac{5}{7}$

The motion carried.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the backup for the item was as follows:

For the motion: Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley,
Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo,
Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty 6

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

The motion carried.

Mayor Petty moved to suspend the rules for a reconsideration.

On a roll call, the vote to suspend the rules was as follows:

For the motion: Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley,
Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo,
Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty 6

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

The motion carried.

On a roll call, the reconsideration vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria 1

Against the motion: Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley,
Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo,
Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty $\frac{6}{7}$

The motion carried.

Ms. McCullough made the following motion:

Request that the Administration prioritize reinstating extended learning if additional money becomes available.

On a roll call of 6-1 (nay Ms. Novick), the motion was approved.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

29. gb #0-268 - Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough/Ms. Novick
(August 18, 2020) COVID-19
testing/update on

Request that the Administration provide an update on the free COVID-19 testing in Worcester to include WPS sites.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Administration was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

30. gb #0-269 - Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough
(August 18, 2020) Chapter 74
Courses/report on

Request that the Administration provide a report regarding the remote learning highlights of Chapter 74 courses.

Miss Biancheria requested that the response to this item be provided at the September 17, 2020 meeting.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Administration was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Prior Fiscal Year
Payment/ Peterson
Oil Service, Inc.

31. qb #0-270 - Administration
(August 19, 2020)

To approve a prior year payment in the amount of \$380.00 to Peterson Oil Service, Inc. for oil service at Foley Stadium.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Title IX/adoption
of updated policy

32. qb #0-271 -Administration
(August 19, 2020)

To adopt the updated Title IX Policy and related procedures.

Ms. Novick believes that the reason for revising the policy was to shift the ways in which sexual assault and harassment charges are investigated by giving more credence to the accused and taking away the power of the accuser. The policy is being challenged in Federal court by eighteen states including Massachusetts.

Ms. Novick requested that the item be held.

On a roll call, the vote to hold the item was as follows:

For the motion: Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley,
Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo,
Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty 6

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

The motion carried.

33. gb #0-272 - Policy EBCFA/
Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/ consideration of
Ms. McCullough
(August 19, 2020)

To consider proposed policy EBCFA regarding face coverings.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

34. EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved to recess to Executive Session and Mayor Petty stated they would not be coming back out to the floor.

- gb #0-274 - Administration Executive Session
(August 19, 2020)

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares – Coronavirus/COVID-19 Related Issues – Educational Association of Worcester, Units A & B (Educators/Administrators); Aides to the Physically Handicapped, Monitors and Drivers; Instructional Assistants; Parent Liaisons; Tutors; and Therapy Assistants.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares – Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination Litigation – Former Employee.

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares – Coronavirus/COVID-19 Related Issues – NAGE R1-16 Cafeteria Workers.

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and to conduct collective bargaining regarding Grievance #19/20-23.

On a roll call, the vote was follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, 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 8:22 p.m. to 10:35 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

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

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration/Administration
(August 31, 2020)

CURRENT ITEM - gb #0-273.1
S.C. MEETING - 9-3-20

1ST ITEM gb #0-273 S.C.MTG. 8-27-20
2ND ITEM gb #0-273.1 S.C.MTG. 9-3-20

ITEM:

To discuss the updates/challenges on athletic guidance from the MIAA.

ORIGINAL ITEM: Administration (August 19, 2020)

Request that the School Committee approve the participation of the WPS in the following Fall sports, as recommended by the EEA, MIAA and DESE Guidance in order to proceed with exploring and modifying, as needed.

Field Hockey
Boys and Girls Soccer
Cross Country
Golf for Fall 1 Term for practices and competition games.

Based on EEA, DESE and MIAA Guidelines, the following sports would be allowed to practice only for skills, drills and conditioning:

Football
Cheerleading
Girls' volleyball

The following sports will be played during the Floating Phase between Winter and Spring Seasons:

Football
Unified Basketball
Cheerleading
Girls' Volleyball

Both individual and team crew will be moved to the Spring Season.

PRIOR ACTION:

8-27-20 - (See page 2.)

BACKUP:

Annex A (1 pages) contains a copy of the modifications from the MIAA.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Discuss.

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

8-27-20 - Mayor Petty stated that he is very supportive of bringing sports back and feels that students need physical activity to keep them busy.

Mr. David Shea, Athletic Director, provided information on the plans for fall sports after receiving guidelines from EEA, MIAA, DESE and the COVID-19 Task Force.

He explained that the vote will allow the district to go forward, but will have the opportunity to make changes. The vote is needed in order to proceed with options and things could be modified on a daily basis.

Ms. Novick stated that there could be an equity issue due to the lack of transportation to sporting events.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the district will be providing bus tickets for student athletes to get to and from their games.

Mr. Foley questioned the ability for students to participate in sporting events yet the inability for them to be in a classroom.

Mr. Shea explained that the proposed geographical pod, that consists of the seven WPS, Notre Dame Academy, Abby Kelley Foster Charter School and St. Paul Diocesan Junior/Senior High School will allow for limited travel. It also allows for a shutdown if the city becomes a red zone and provide for limited exposure and easier contact tracing.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide immediate updates of the new rulings to parents and the School Committee, as warranted.

On a roll call of 7-0, the motion was approved.

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Request that the Administration map out the time it takes to get to the various sporting events.

On a roll call of 7-0, the motion was approved.

Ms. McCullough requested that the item be amended to include "in order to proceed with exploring and modifying, as needed."

On a roll call of 6-1 (nay Ms. Novick) the item was approved as amended.

MIAA Statement on Fall Sport Modifications August 28, 2020

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) COVID-19 Task Force met virtually on August 27, 2020 to review and approve sport modifications for the fall 2020 sport season. The MIAA Board of Directors approved, at their August 19, 2020 meeting, the formal athletic structure for 2020-2021 season, as well as additional Educational Athletic recommendations provided by the Task Force. These recommendations were developed after months of meetings, discussions, research and collaboration with Massachusetts Governing entities.

MIAA President and Marshfield Superintendent Jeffrey Granatino stated, "It's exciting that student-athletes and coaches from across the Commonwealth are finally able to prepare for an actual athletic season. The work that the MIAA COVID-19 Task Force and our individual sports committees put forth will allow for these sports to take place in a fashion that adheres to the safety precautions/modifications that have been recommended by the EEA."

The MIAA fall season will officially begin on September 18, 2020. The following activities were approved by the Board of Directors for the Fall I season: Soccer, Fall Gymnastics, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Girls Volleyball, Swim & Dive, Golf and Dance.

Following this structural approval, individual MIAA sport committee representatives established sport modifications in alignment with guidelines from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA), Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and the MIAA. These modifications were vetted through the MIAA Sports Medicine Committee (SMC), which includes two epidemiologists who worked with both the EEA and DESE, over a series of three virtual meetings.

The MIAA Task Force unanimously approved all modifications as presented for Fall I Season during yesterday's sub-committee meeting (8/27/20). These modifications will continue to be reviewed as they relate to current regulations surrounding COVID-19 and may be modified if necessary.

MIAA President Granatino continued, "There's still a great deal of work to do, but the efforts made to date have been amazing and are why we are now able to provide our students with an opportunity to take part in activities that they love and miss dearly." All participating MIAA member schools are expected to adhere to these sport modifications.

MIAA Executive Director Bill Gaine added, "On behalf of the membership, I enthusiastically advance pride and gratitude to MIAA Task Force members, the MIAA Sports Medicine and sport committee representatives for their valuable contributions in providing a blueprint for MIAA student athletes to participate in educational athletics this fall season. Stakeholders' participation, guidance and collaboration with DESE and EEA warrant like appreciation."

The approved Fall Season 1 sport modifications are located on the [MIAA COVID-19 Task Force Page](#)

Respectfully,

Jeffrey Granatino
MIAA President

Bill Gaine
Executive Director

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(August 31, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-281
S.C. MEETING - 9-3-20

ITEM:

To accept the Remote Learning Technology Essentials Grant in the amount of \$2,253,313.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP: The purpose of this grant is to provide supplemental funds to support Local Education Agencies (LEAs) in addressing remaining remote learning technology needs and to ensure that every student has adequate access to technology for use in remote learning environment during the 2020 -21 school year.

Annex A (8 pages) contains a copy of the Grant Acceptance Form.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

*Worcester Public Schools
Office of Grants Management*

Grant Acceptance Form

Name of Grant: Remote Learning Technology Essentials

Type of Funder: Center For Strategic Initiatives

Awarded Amount: \$2,253,313.00

Grant Funding Period: July 31, 2020 – December 30, 2020

Project title: Remote Learning Technology Essentials

Program coordinator: Kyriazis/Walton

Purpose: To provide supplemental funds to support Local Education Agencies (LEAs) in addressing remaining remote learning technology needs and to ensure that every student has adequate access to technology for use in remote learning environment during the 2020-21 school year.

Description of the program: Funds will be used to support the purchase of instructional technology.

Program location: Worcester Public Schools

Outcomes and Measures: All students have access to technology for use in remote learning.



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133
(617) 725-4000

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

July 31, 2020

Dear Superintendent Binienda,

Congratulations! We are pleased to notify you that Worcester Public Schools has been awarded a Remote Learning Technology Essentials grant of \$2,253,313.

We want to thank you for your commitment to ensuring every student has access to technology for use in remote learning environments during the 2020-21 school year. Through this funding and your continued support, we hope to expand access to great educational opportunities in the Commonwealth.

You will be receiving further instructions from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education on next steps. In the interim, please feel free to email rjte@mass.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Charles D. Baker in cursive.

Governor Charles D. Baker

Handwritten signature of Karyn E. Polito in cursive.

Lt. Governor Karyn E. Polito

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
 STANDARD CONTRACT FORM AND APPLICATION FOR PROGRAM GRANTS

PART I - GENERAL

A. APPLICANT: Worcester Public Schools	District Code: 0 3 4 8
ADDRESS: 20 Irving Street Worcester, MA 01608	
TELEPHONE: (508) 799-3108	

B. APPLICATION FOR PROGRAM FUNDING				
FUND CODE	PROGRAM NAME	PROJECT DURATION		AMOUNT REQUESTED
FY2021	FEDERAL- COMPETITIVE administered by the CENTER FOR STRATEGIC INITIATIVES	FROM	TO	\$2,253,313.00
117 / 118	Remote Learning Technology Essentials	Upon Approval	12/30/2020	
C. I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS APPLICATION IS CORRECT AND COMPLETE; THAT THE APPLICANT AGENCY HAS AUTHORIZED ME, AS ITS REPRESENTATIVE, TO FILE THIS APPLICATION; AND THAT I UNDERSTAND THAT FOR ANY FUNDS RECEIVED THROUGH THIS APPLICATION THE AGENCY AGREES TO COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL GRANT REQUIREMENTS COVERING BOTH THE PROGRAMMATIC AND FISCAL ADMINISTRATION OF GRANT FUNDS.				
AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY: <i>Maureen F. Binlenda</i>			TITLE: Superintendent	
TYPED NAME: Maureen F. Binlenda			DATE: 8/21/20	

DATE DUE: July 21, 2020

Proposals must be received at the Department by 5:00 p.m. on the date due.
 Late or incomplete submissions cannot be considered.

Email all required forms in their original Word or Excel formats (e.g., not converted to a PDF) with the exception of the signed Part I and Part IV documents which should be signed, scanned and converted to PDF), to _____.

Applicant Agency: Worcester Public Schools Applicant Number: 348
 Fiscal Year: 2021 Fund Code: 117 / 118
 Program Name: Remote Learning Technology Essentials

Budget Line Item Category	Amount	
7 SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS: <input type="text" value="Instructional Technology"/> <input type="text" value="Instructional Technology"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	Total Amount \$ 1,436,380 \$ 816,933 \$ -	COMMENTS Chromebooks iPads
SUB-TOTAL	\$ 2,253,313	
8 TRAVEL: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	Total Amount \$ - \$ - \$ - \$ -	COMMENTS
SUB-TOTAL	\$ -	
9 OTHER COSTS: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	Total Amount \$ - \$ - \$ -	COMMENTS
SUB-TOTAL	\$ -	
10 INDIRECT COSTS (use indirect costs calcul <input type="text" value="enter rate %"/>		COMMENTS
11 EQUIPMENT: Items costing \$5,000+ per unit & having a useful life 1+ years <input type="text"/>	Total Amount \$ - \$ -	COMMENTS
SUB-TOTAL	\$ -	
TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED	\$ 2,253,313	

Description of Planned Fund Use: Focus Area 2 - Devices (If Applicable)

Instructions: Responses to the questions in this section are required for applicants seeking to purchase and/or lease devices such as laptops, Chromebooks, and tablets for students who currently do not have individual access to such devices at home for remote learning use. Applicants also must respond to the "Description of Funds Already Expended" and "Applicant Attestations" sections at the end of this document.

Identify the types of devices you are seeking to provide for students (complete this for each type of device you are seeking to purchase/lease).

Device	Provider	Number	Cost Per Unit	Total Cost	Notes (Optional)
Chromebooks	CDWG - Chromebooks	5,500	\$ 261.16	\$ 1,436,380.00	
Laptops				\$ -	
Tablets	Apple - iPads	2,778	\$ 294.07	\$ 816,933.00	
Assistive Technology				\$ -	
Assistive Technology				\$ -	
Assistive Technology				\$ -	
Other:				\$ -	
Other:				\$ -	
Other:				\$ -	
Total Projected Cost (Devices)				\$ 2,253,313.00	
Total Projected Cost (All)				\$ 2,253,313.00	

FY2021: Remote Learning Technology Essentials

Fund Code: 117/118

Purpose:

The purpose of this competitive Remote Learning Technology Essentials Program is to provide supplemental funds to support Local Education Agencies (LEAs) in addressing remaining remote learning technology needs and to ensure that every student has adequate access to technology for use in remote learning environments during the 2020-21 school year. Funds under this program, in addition to those made available under other federal grant programs, may be used to support technology needs addressed following the March 13, 2020 COVID-19 emergency.

Priorities:

LEAs may propose to use grant funds in one or more of the following focus areas:

Focus Area 1: Internet

Applicants can request funds to provide up to 12 months of internet for student households that do not currently have sufficient internet access to meet the needs of the student(s) in the household. When identifying solutions, LEAs should consider the internet options listed below as well as any other options that meet the LEA's unique needs.

- Option A: Single-payer Plan — LEA purchases low-cost broadband internet packages and distributes account information to families of students in need, covering up to 12 months of internet service
- Option B: Mobile Hotspots — LEA purchases and/or leases mobile hotspots and distributes the devices to families of students in need, covering up to 12 months of data usage
- Option C: Other — LEA proposes other solutions that will address the unique needs of students not covered by options A or B.

Focus Area 2: Devices

Applicants can request funds to purchase and/or lease devices to distribute to students who currently do not have access to an individual device at home that meets the needs of the student. Devices can also include assistive technology to meet the needs of students with IEPs.

Priority Considerations

Priority considerations for this grant will be given to applicants that have the greatest unmet need for devices and internet service as of the date of this grant posting, and fewer local funding resources to meet those needs (as measured by Chapter 70 state school aid program). If available grant funding permits, DESE will also consider matching a portion of expenditures incurred prior to grant submission.

Commitments

Applicants that receive grant funding for remote learning technology needs must commit to the following:

- Ensuring that all students in the LEA have an individual device and sufficient internet access to meet the student's remote learning needs, including adequate technology solutions to ensure that the needs of economically disadvantaged students, students with disabilities, and English learners are met.
- Allowing students to take/keep devices at home during "out of school time" (summer, extended closures, remote learning periods, etc.) for remote learning purposes.
- Partnering with DESE to provide information around technology needs and challenges throughout the 2020-2021 school year (including access to devices and internet, related academic programming, and student engagement) to inform continued state strategy and supports.
- Aligning remote learning plans to the Department's remote learning guidance, including adopting a high-quality curriculum and associated professional development for teachers and instructional leaders, as necessary.

Eligibility:

Any Local Education Agency (LEA) in Massachusetts that serves students who currently do not have access to adequate technology to use for remote learning purposes is eligible to apply.

Funding Type:

Federal CFDA 84.425

Funding:

A total of \$25 million will be available for disbursement to match technology-related expenses LEAs plan to commit prior to September 30, 2020. DESE will base each applicant's match percentage on their relative wealth, using the same aggregate income and property wealth data used in the Chapter 70 formula. Lower wealth LEAs will receive higher match percentages than higher wealth LEAs. All funding must be expended by December 30, 2020. Awards will be structured as

cost-reimbursement grants, meaning that recipients will be expected to incur expenses or provide purchase order documentation before receiving any funds from the Commonwealth.

Fund Use:

Remote Learning Technology Essentials funds must be used to support LEA efforts to ensure all students have access to devices and internet services necessary to access remote learning opportunities. The purchase and/or lease of devices, hotspots, or contracts with internet providers must be reasonable, appropriate, and consistent with all applicable state requirements.

Project Duration:

Upon Approval – 12/30/2020