

IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
 Worcester, Massachusetts  
 Thursday, September 17, 2020  
 Agenda #32 and 32A

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met virtually in Open Session at 6:03 p.m. in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building on Thursday, September 17, 2020.

There were present at the Call to Order:

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

Mayor Petty stated that the School Committee will recess into Executive Session to discuss the following items:

Executive Session .1.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

gb #0-300 - Administration  
 (September 10, 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 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.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

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

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

The motion carried.

There were present at the Call to Order:

The School Committee recessed to Executive Session from 6:05 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

The School Committee reconvened in Open Session at 7:28 p.m.

There were present at the second Call to Order:

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

- 2. Mayor Petty read a proclamation in honor of Constitution Week. Deborah Nurse, speaking on behalf of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), thanked the Mayor for recognizing Constitution Week. Proclamation

3. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #0-36 - Clerk Minutes/approval of  
 (September 10, 2020)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Thursday, September 3, 2020.

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.

4. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Report of the  
Superintendent/  
Parabola Project

ROS #0-8 - Administration  
(August 31, 2020)

## PARABOLA PROJECT UPDATE

Superintendent Binienda introduced Beth Rabbitt and Jin-Soo Han representatives from The Learning Accelerator, a non-profit organization which works with school systems to understand the challenges of creating safe spaces. Its goal is to provide educators with research informed health care guidance and tools. Ms. Rabbitt stated that the hope of the Project is to better inform school personnel about the risks of in-person learning and staying safe.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the information and reports from this project are shared with DESE. She also stated she would provide the full Parabola Project Guide with the School Committee.

More information on the project can be found by going to [parabolaproject.org](http://parabolaproject.org).

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
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Against the motion:	<u>0</u> 7
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The motion carried.

5. REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

The Standing Committee on Finance and Operations met virtually on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building.

FY21 Budget/status  
and transfers

qb #0-267 - Administration (August 17, 2020)

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

Mr. Allen spoke to the FY21 Revised Baseline Budget. He stated that on July 30, 2020, the Governor and the State Legislature provided revised baseline FY21 Chapter 70 Aid for school districts. The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education also provided an Administrative Update on Chapter 70 Aid and Net School Spending Requirements based on these revised budget baseline amounts. This state funding commitment includes Chapter 70 increases for inflation and enrollment only, that while will keep all school districts at foundation, the new baseline budget does not include any of the funding for the phase-in of the Student Opportunity Act (**a \$15.5 million reduction for the Worcester Public Schools**).

According to the DESE, updated charter tuition and reimbursement amounts were not included in the local aid resolution so the amounts listed below are based on final FY20 amounts pending any additional administrative updates or final passage of the budget per state guidance.

<b>Revenue and Tuition Offset Category:</b>	<b>FY21 Adopted Budget (based on Governor's Budget)</b>	<b>FY21 Revised Baseline Budget</b>	<b>Change from Adopted Budget Amount</b>
Chapter 70 State Aid & Reimbursement:			
Chapter 70 State Aid (Total)	293,503,420	277,395,997	- <b>\$16,107,423</b>
Charter School Reimbursement	\$4,490,822	\$2,763,726	<b>-\$1,727,096</b>
Total City Contribution	<b><u>\$123,327,975</u></b>	<b><u>\$123,327,975</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>
Total General Fund Revenues	<b>\$421,322,217</b>	<b>\$403,487,698</b>	- <b>\$17,834,519</b>
Less Tuition Assessments:			
Charter School Tuition Assessment	\$29,496,484	\$27,154,480	<b>-\$2,342,004</b>
School Choice Tuition Assessment	\$3,176,771	\$3,176,771	<b>\$0</b>
Special Education Revenue Offset	<u>\$193,758</u>	<u>\$193,758</u>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>
Total Tuition Assessments	<b>\$32,867,013</b>	<b>\$30,525,009</b>	<b>-\$2,342,004</b>
Total General Fund Revenue	<b><u>\$388,455,204</u></b>	<b><u>\$372,962,689</u></b>	= <b><u>\$15,492,515</u></b>

The Administration prepared and the School Committee approved a reduction of a budget reduction of \$15.5 million. These actions are intended to preserve

Worcester Public Schools positions to ensure full continuity of instruction, support, and services during the full remote model of the first quarter. Final actions by the School Committee will not be taken until a final budget is adopted by the State Legislature as well as the Worcester City Council as follows:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
All Salary Accounts	Reduce 2% across all salary accounts. This reduction does not impact current salaries, step increases, or other existing contractual obligations.	\$4,859,362
Various Salary Accounts (Teachers, Instructional Assistants, School Nurses, and School Clerical)	Eliminate extended learning time (common planning time and additional instructional time) at four former Level 4 schools (Burncoat Prep, Chandler Elementary, Elm Park Community, and Union Hill School).	\$1,856,198
Various Salary Accounts	Actual and anticipated vacancy savings for positions through the end of September 2020.	\$391,378
500-91114 Teacher Substitutes	Reduce day-by-day substitutes for first quarter (full remote model).	\$285,000
500-91115 Instructional Assistants	Eliminate and reallocate selected Instructional Assistant positions due to full remote model.	\$111,396
500-91118 Supplemental Program Salaries	Line G. Student Afterschool Drop-Off Center Reduce afterschool student drop-off center for first quarter (based on full remote model).	\$7,500
500-91120 Maintenance Service Salaries	Eliminate 5 vacant positions (3 electricians and 2 carpenters).	\$271,809
500-91124 Crossing Guards	Reduce use of crossing guards (completely) for first quarter (full remote model).	\$183,781
540103-9200 Student Transportation	Reduce contracted student transportation for 10 additional staff development days (no longer student session days).	\$762,458
540103-9200 Student Transportation	Reduce contracted student transportation for Fridays (full year) due to remote learning model (32 days).	\$2,439,866
540103-9200 Student Transportation	Reduce contracted student transportation for big buses for first quarter (full remote model) (33 days, Friday dates are included in the above amount).	\$1,383,689
540103-9200 Student Transportation	Reduce contracted student transportation for mid-size or wheelchair buses for first quarter (full remote model) (33 days, Friday dates are included in the above amount)	\$1,132,421

540103-92000 Student Transportation	Reduce contracted student transportation for mid-size buses, wheelchair buses, and 7D vans during Summer 2020	\$336,822
540103-92000 Student Transportation	Reduce out-of-district special education and McKinney-Vento Transportation based estimated savings for in-district provided services and reduced transportation needs.	\$727,770
500123-96000 Health Insurance	Savings associated through vacancy factor and position reductions	\$168,610
500130-92000 Personal Services	Line I. Security Guards Reduce contracted security services (except for Durkin Administration Building) for first quarter (full remote model)	\$81,372
500-92204 Instructional Supplies	Line A. Instructional Materials Reduce \$10 per pupil instructional supply budget	\$245,780
500-92204 Instructional Supplies	Line D. Student Furniture Eliminate line item for student furniture purchases for this school year	\$153,000
500136-92000 Miscellaneous Educational OM	Line K. In State Travel Estimated savings for first quarter full remote model	\$5,000
500152-92000 Facilities Ordinary Maintenance	Line B. Trash Removal Lower trash removal costs based on first quarter full remote plan	\$89,303
<b>TOTAL RECOMMENDED BUDGET REDUCTIONS</b>		<b>\$15,492,515</b>

Some of these areas could be restored should a final state budget include Student Opportunity Act funds or through additional federal stimulus funds. However, should an all-remote model be continued during the second quarter of the school year, an additional savings totaling \$3.6 million may also be realized in several accounts listed above.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report on the number of former or retired Worcester Public School employees currently working part-time in the system as mentors of in any other capacity.

On a roll call of 3-0, the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria questioned if it was already determined to eliminate IA positions and if so what school sites did they work at. She also asked what the number of Cafeteria Workers were furloughed.

Mr. Allen stated that the Human Resources Department continues to work through the reallocation of the IA positions and the timeframe for the finalization of this would be approximately two weeks. The furlough process for the Cafeteria Workers will be decided this week and there will be 240 of the 330 cafeteria workers that are being furloughed.

Miss Biancheria questioned if Crossing Guards were put on furlough or if they are collecting unemployment to which Mr. Allen stated that as long as they meet the criteria they can collect unemployment.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a list of the current positions and the number of positions that are being furloughed.

On a roll call of 3-0, the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Requests that the Administration provide the list of the donated supplies, classroom supplies and construction materials that are being made by different organizations.

On a roll call of 3-0, the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria questioned if there were any discussions with the WRTA regarding discounts on the bus passes for students. She asked if the Worcester Public School had purchased any bus passes and if so how many.

Mr. Allen stated that there were 20,000 WRTA bus passes purchased which is a total of \$20,000. These passes were purchased at a reduced cost and will be used for athletic transportations as this point in time.

On a roll call of 3-0, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

### **SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACTION**

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

6. The Standing Committee on School and Student Performance met virtually on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building.

gb #0-232 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Foley/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo (July 7, 2020) Broadening Broadband

To consider the Worcester Regional Research Bureau's July 2020 report "[Broadening Broadband](#)".

Ms. Novick opened the meeting by introducing Paul Matthews, Executive Director and CEO and Thomas Quinn, Research Assistant from the Worcester Regional Research Bureau to present their report entitled "Broadening Broadband." Mr. Matthews indicated that the WRRB is a municipal 501C independent, non-partisan, non-profit organization. He stated that Charter/Spectrum

is a monopoly in the City of Worcester as the sole provider of cable services in the city. Mr. Quinn pointed out that only two-thirds of Worcester residents have broadband. Mr. Matthews cited examples of other communities that have strengthened their broadband capacities.

Superintendent Binienda stated that there are still hotspots left over and the district is still distributing them. She stated that one million dollars was allotted in the CARES Act for hotspots and currently \$750,000 has been spent.

Miss Biancheria asked if this issue has been discussed with the City. Superintendent Binienda replied that the city has an Internet Committee and the Mayor has met with Charter/Spectrum and if an agreement is signed with Charter/Spectrum, the city may pick up the cost of Wi-Fi for the families that do not have it.

Mrs. Clancey voiced concern about the higher rates that may be incurred if the city went to a higher broadband.

Ms. Novick asked how the School Committee can work to provide greater impact on internet access for students and parents.

Ms. Novick opened the meeting for public comment to discuss the impact of Internet on k-12 access.

Two callers acknowledged that it is challenging to work from home and have your children learn remotely.



Miss Biancheria questioned the cost for a consultant for an estimate and if it was possible to look at partnering with Charter/Spectrum and expand what they already have.

Ms. Novick made the following motions:

Request that the Mayor interact with the City Council to take concrete steps to explore the possibility of municipal broadband by providing a cost estimate to meet the needs of students and faculty.

Communicate to the State and Federal Delegation the need for state and federal grant funding for communities both to explore and install municipal broadband networks.

Miss Biancheria made the following amendment to Ms. Novick's first motion:

-to include a detailed estimate analysis and compare costs with at least three comparable cities that presently have broadband.

On a roll call of 3-0, the motions were approved as amended.

Ms. Novick announced that the City's Standing Committee on Urban Technologies would be meeting on Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

On a roll call of 3-0, the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

### **SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACTION**

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

7. The Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues met at 4:03 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2020 at the Durkin Administration Building in Room 410.

gb #0-264 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough (August 17, 2020)

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

Pandemic Policy  
Specific for Back to  
School

Ms. Novick made the following motions:

Request that the School Calendar and File IC of the Policy Manual be amended to read 170 days not 180 days.

Request that the Administration amend the Immunization Schedule in the Student Handbook on page 4 by adding the influenza vaccine.

On a roll call of 3-0, the motions were approved.

Mrs. Clancey asked the Administration how it plans to take into account the attendance for students during power outages, internet problems and other situations that might render a student unable to log in for their class. She also asked for an update on how attendance will be taken at the elementary and secondary levels on synchronous and asynchronous days.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the Attendance Policy will not change. Attendance will be taken every morning and during every class Monday through Thursday. If a student comes in tardy they will be marked as tardy. If they miss more than half the day, it will be considered an absence. If a student is present for the first two periods, but not the rest of the day that will be considered a dismissal. She also stated that the State guidelines for attendance was very specific to what the district has to record for both hybrid and remote learning.

Ms. Novick questioned how the student's attendance will be done on Fridays for the asynchronous learning.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the state requires attendance to be taken on Friday which is the asynchronous learning day. Every school will have an assigned teacher to take attendance during the hours between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. She further stated that if a student has an appointment or having trouble logging in during the check in time, the parent or student should notify the Assistant Principal via email or phone of the situation.

Ms. Novick stated that the idea of having every secondary school student on their computer at a specific hour is not in line with the State's intention. She feels that there needs to be a backstop created for students

who are having problems with connectivity and that the language for the attendance policy in the Student Handbook needs to be redrafted. She suggested the language for synchronous learning be added to the policy:

- If a student cannot be reached and has not turned in any work, then that student will be marked absent from school.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the State and the Commissioner was very clear that attendance has to be taken in every class. As far as the asynchronous day on Friday, there has to be a set time to take attendance because teachers are involved in common planned and/or staff development times. If a student's Wi-Fi goes down, it is the principals and teachers who will handle the situation and they will be very understanding of what's happening with the student during the remote learning time.

Ms. Novick stated that it really needs to be handled at the district level and that the system needs the language to be clear in its attendance policy. She also stated that the system needs to have both the flexibility in terms of when students are checking in on Friday and the need to have a backstop for the Monday through Thursday synchronous learning days.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the reporting required by the state is very specific on how the system has to record attendance, dismissals and tardiness and the data that is provided back to the state is what the plan was based on.

Mr. Monfredo stated that he feels that the asynchronous learning day is a normal school day and that the Superintendent has made the right decision regarding the time for student to check in for their attendance to be taken. He also stated that there needs to be only one set of rules and that student attendance is very important and it is essential for them to be accounted for.

Mrs. Clancey questioned if some schools will be taking attendance, on the asynchronous days, by the work the students submit and if not is there any flexibility with that.

Superintendent Binienda stated that a student must check in on Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. They will not be accounted for by the work they submit.

Mr. Monfredo suggested that the students check in between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. on Fridays.

Superintendent Binienda stated that discussions took place with all principals in the system regarding the asynchronous learning day and taking attendance during the morning was the best scenario for everyone involved. The Commissioner stated that a student must be in attendance during the school day to be accounted for. She further stated that the system needs an organized process of doing attendance and believes that the Administration has provided the best option.

Mrs. Clancey stated that she would like to see a clear attendance policy in writing with a statement that, when a student is absent during the time the attendance was taken, the students or parents must email the Assistant Principal or the teacher the reason for their absence.

Ms. Novick voiced her concern regarding the issue of connectivity and every student on the Wi-Fi at the same time. She doesn't think it is an equitable system and is not a good policy. The policy needs to be thoughtful and sensitive to the families that the system serves. She further stated that the hotspots do not have the capacity to sustain Zoom for families with multiple children and the system needs to have a backstop for the synchronous day.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the system needs to have high expectations of the students and attendance is a very important part of that. As far as the backstop, if a student doesn't show up, the teachers will call his/her home to inquire why they student was not in class. Every Monday, the first teacher of the day will be doing a check-in survey and every Thursday, the last teacher of the day will be doing an SEL survey asking how students are doing. She stated that there was a test run done for the hotspots where an individual, who has 4 children in the system, took one home to use. All 4 students, at the same time, were streaming for a long period of time with no issues.

Mr. Monfredo suggested that the attendance time change from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. and reconvene in a month to evaluate if any more changes need to be made.

Mrs. Clancey asked the Administration to provide options for students and families to notify the schools if connectivity is lost. She would like to have the current policy of Friday check-in adopted for the start of the remote learning quarter and revisit the policy going further. She would like the item held in the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues for further follow-up in the attendance policy.

Ms. Clancey made the following motions:

Request that the Administration draft an attendance policy for asynchronous lessons.

Request that the item be held at the Standing Committee level for further review and discussion.

On a roll call of 2-1 (nay Ms. Novick) the motions were approved.

Policy EBCFA/  
face coverings

gb #0-272 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough (August 19, 2020)

To consider proposed policy EBCFA regarding face coverings.

Mrs. Clancey stated that she would like to make two changes to the proposed policy. She believes that students in k-2 should be wearing masks, which most have been doing since the pandemic hit and actually complying more than the older students.

Mr. Monfredo stated that he would like to see K-2 students be required to wear masks.

Superintendent Binienda stated that in negotiating meetings, pre-k – Kindergarten teachers would really like to see all students wearing masks. She also believes people are getting a little bit more used to wearing a mask than when the policy came out, and doesn't think that would be a hardship to ask the students in k-2 to wear masks.

Mrs. Clancey made the following motions:

Request that the line "Exempted from this policy are students in Grade 1 and below." be deleted from the policy.

Request that the following be added to the first line:

"A face covering that fully covers the nose and mouth must be worn."

On a roll call of 3-0, the motions were approved.

On a roll call of 3-0, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

### **SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACTION**

At the School Committee level, on a roll call of 7-0, the School Committee approved the actions of the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues as amended:

On a roll call of 6-1 (nay Ms. Novick), the following motions from gb #0-264\_were approved:

Request that the Administration draft an attendance policy for asynchronous lessons.

Request that the item be held at the Standing Committee level for further review and discussion.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

8. gb #0-229.1 -Administration/Mr. Monfredo/ Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/ Ms. McCullough/Ms. Novick (September 10, 2020) Summer School/ update on

Response of the Administration to the request to provide an update on summer school learning and include the grade levels with the content covered and the number of students who participated.

Miss Biancheria requested information regarding the College Community Connection funding.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide the number of courses in the Credit Recovery Program.

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.

(These two items were considered together.)

HVAC/monthly  
update

9. gb #0-275.1 -Administration/Mr. Monfredo/  
Ms. McCullough  
(September 10, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the request to  
provide monthly updates on the air quality and HVAC  
work being done in the schools beginning September  
17, 2020.

On a roll call, the vote to accept the report and hold  
the item for updates in October 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.

Special Education  
Students/  
Transition Plan

10. gb #0-299 -Mayor Petty/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough  
(September 10, 2020)

Request that the Superintendent/Administration  
develop a Transition Plan to include HVAC upgrades to  
resume in-person educational services for high need  
special education students prior to the end of the first  
quarter.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the initial plan  
is to move Group C students into green schools, one  
group at a time.

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

Mayor Petty asked that at least 20 special education students return to school as soon as a school is available to accommodate them.

Mrs. Clancey made the following motion:

Request that the Administration consider allowing k-2 students to return to the classrooms.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations for implementation 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:	0
	7

The motion carried.

11. gb #0-282 -Administration  
(August 31, 2020)

Prior Fiscal Year  
Payment/Durham  
School Services

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$618.00 to Durham School Services for an afterschool route.

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:	0
	7

The motion carried.



Prior Fiscal Year  
Payment/employee

12. gb #0-283 - Administration  
(August 31, 2020)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$105.00 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: 0  
7

The motion carried.

Grant/CvRF  
Coronavirus Relief  
Fund School  
Reopening

13. gb #0-284 - Administration  
(September 1, 2020)

To accept the CvRF Coronavirus Relief Fund School Reopening Grant in the amount of \$5,729,400.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the item be referred to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations for discussion on the disbursement of funds from the Grant.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item and refer it to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations for discussion 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.

- 14. gb #0-285 - Administration (September 1, 2020) Grant/High School  
Voter Registration and  
Pre-Registration

To accept the High School Voter Registration and Pre-Registration Grant in the amount of \$5,714 for the School Year and \$6,286 for the Summer.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report in February 2021, on the progress made with civic engagement.

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
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Against the motion:	0 7
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The motion carried.

- 15. gb #0-286 - Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria/  
Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/  
Mr. Monfredo/ Ms. Novick (September 8, 2020) COVID-19 and Remote  
Learning/update

To provide a brief update on COVID-19 and remote learning and file all other outstanding items pertaining to these topics.

Superintendent Binienda updated the Committee on the attendance rates, Chromebook distribution and the Caregivers Academy.

Mayor Petty requested a written report on the Chromebook distribution and an update on the work that has been done to date.

Mayor Petty requested that the Administration schedule a forum for parents on Monday, September 28, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. or Wednesday, September 30, 2020.

Ms. Novick requested that a forum be held in order to allow students to speak to any issues or concerns encountered during the first quarter of remote learning.

At the Commissioner's meeting, he commended the work done by the WPS and indicated that the Caregivers Academy should be a model for the rest of the state.

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide, in a Friday letter, the weekly attendance for all schools.

Ms. Novick requested that item #gb 0-250 not be filed.

On a roll call, the vote to accept the item and file the outstanding items as amended 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:	0
	7

The motion carried.

Study Halls/policy 16.

gb #0-287 - Ms. McCullough/Miss Biancheria/  
Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Monfredo/  
Ms. Novick/Mayor Petty  
(September 8, 2020)

To review the WPS policy regarding study halls and DESE regulations surrounding them.

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide the written report from DESE regarding Study Halls.

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

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: 0  
 7

The motion carried.

17. gb #0-288 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/  
 Ms. McCullough  
 (September 9, 2020) Regulations/  
 Department of Children  
 and Families

Request that the Administration outline in writing under what circumstances the Department of Children and Families is called regarding a family or child, particularly with regard to student attendance.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Administration for a report back on October 1, 2020 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.

18. gb #0-289 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/  
 Ms. McCullough  
 (September 9, 2020) Board of Health/joint  
 meeting

Request that the Administration schedule a joint meeting with the Board of Health for discussion of the Worcester Public Schools 2020-21 school plan

and benchmarks for changing the status of learning within them.

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

For the motion: Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley,  
Ms. McCullough, Ms. Novick,  
Mayor Petty 5

Against the motion: Miss Biancheria and  
Mr. Monfredo  $\frac{2}{7}$

The motion carried.

Suspensions/remot  
e learning

gb #0-290 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/  
Ms. McCullough  
(September 9, 2020)

Request that the Administration clarify under what  
circumstances students will be suspended during  
remote learning and what suspension will consist of  
during that time.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the  
Administration for a report on October 1, 2020  
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.

Masks/usage 20.

gb #0-291 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/  
Ms. McCullough  
(September 9, 2020)

Request that the Administration clarify for all  
Worcester Public Schools employees proper mask  
usage.

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: 0  
7

The motion carried.

21. gb #0-292 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/  
Ms. McCullough  
(September 9, 2020) Student Advisory  
Councils/  
statewide and regional

Request that the Administration request high school principals submit student representatives to the statewide and regional student advisory councils.

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: 0  
7

The motion carried.

22. gb #0-293 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/  
Ms. McCullough  
(September 9, 2020) Remote Learning

To ensure Worcester Public Schools remote learning policies ensure all Worcester Public Schools administrators, staff, and students behave as guests in each other's homes.

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: 0  
7

The motion carried.

23. gb #0-294 -Administration  
(September 1, 2020) Prior Fiscal Year  
Payment/Shred-It

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$202.03 to Shred-It.

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:	0
	7

The motion carried.

COVID-19 and Sports/held

- 24. gb #0-295 - Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/  
Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/  
Ms. Novick/Mayor Petty  
(September 9, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide a report on the site administrator’s responsibilities relative to sports activities vis-à-vis COVID-19.

On a roll call, the vote to hold 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:	0
	7

The motion carried.

- 23. gb #0-296 - Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/  
Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/  
Ms. Novick  
(September 9, 2020)

Meal Pickup

Request that the Administration provide a report on the 20 sites that will provide meals and indicate the process of eligibility and for picking them up.

On a roll call, the vote to 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: 0  
7

The motion carried.

26. gb #0-297 - Administration MASC Voting  
(September 10, 2020) Delegates/  
selection

To select a voting delegate and an alternate voting delegate for the Annual Business Meeting of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, scheduled for November 7, 2020.

Mrs. Clancey made the motion to nominate Ms. McCullough as the delegate and Ms. Novick made the motion to nominate Mrs. Clancey as the alternate.

On a roll call, the motions to select Ms. McCullough as the MASC voting delegate and Mrs. Clancey as the alternate 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.

27. gb #0-298 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/ MASC/Resolutions  
Ms. McCullough  
(September 10, 2020)

To consider the resolutions before the MASC delegate assembly.

Mayor Petty suggested that Ms. McCullough reach out to the members of the School Committee for their input.

On a roll call, the vote to 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: 0  
7

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

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