

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, April 23, 2019

Date: April 23, 2019 Time: 6:30 PM Location: School Committee Conference Room
77 Poland Street, Webster, MA 01570

The meeting was called to order by: Chairman Hurton

The following Committee Members were present

- Member Napierata
- Member Blythe
- Member Seddiki
- Member Chenevert

The following Committee Members were absent:

I. Call to Order: Pledge of Allegiance

II. Approval of April 9, 2019 Minutes

Motion: To Approve April 9, 2019 Minutes

The motion was made by Member Blythe

The motion was seconded by Member Seddiki

The following roll call vote was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

 __ members having voted in the negative

 __ members having abstained

 The motion: X Passed

 __ Failed

Chairman Hurton gave a reminder that the Public Hearing for the FY20 Budget will begin at 7:00PM

III. Superintendent's Report

A. Superintendent Update/ District Wide Reports / Correspondence

1. Community Safety Fair Will be held May 18th from 11-2. Working with Mapfre on public relations currently. Many vendors, community partners will be attending. Mrs. Hoenig's class is working on posters.

2. Meeting with Park Avenue Elementary PTO Met with Rachel and Robert White, co-presidents
*Concerns with board turnover, lack of members, support and funding coming in
*Discussed co-leaders and variety of ideas to boost membership
*Thank you for all they do for our students and staff. They purchased around 5K for supplies, planners for 3rd / 4th, field trips and buses

3. North Village Summer Partnership Pleased to let you know we are extending the after school tutoring and looking at developing a two day /week summer program. Thank you to Janice Daniels for her work on this.

4. Other Updates

- Shout out to Melinda Doherty and Samantha Betty along with our students who were abroad this past week. They were actually at Notre Dame that morning and on a river cruise when the fire broke out. They all left the city and called parents to let them know they were safe. News media contacted Superintendent Goguen, sent out a press release and tweeted the good news. Commend them all for handling this crisis so well.
- Final Park Ave Building project grant payment has been made to the Town on April 19th for \$27,981,911.
- Superintendent Goguen and Kathy Baris will be part of the committee that will be conducting interviews on May 1st for the new Executive Director of Central Massachusetts Collaborative.
- We will be conducting interviews for WMS Dean on May 3rd
- Working diligently to form a partnership with some of our colleges. Reached out to Worcester State again and we had two students come over vacation to fill out substitute teaching paperwork. We are also emailing the list of students we contacted last year to see if we can stir up an interest in substituting in Webster.
- Superintendent Goguen held the second Superintendents Educators Council meeting today. Very pleased with depth of conversation, working together to get perspective of teachers on what is happening in the buildings. Looking to create positive changes.
- Tomorrow on behalf of the School Committee, Superintendent Goguen will meet with Union representatives to bargain regarding health insurance with the Town Administrator
- Bartlett High School is holding a Nichols Honors Recognition Night tomorrow at 5:30
- We recently received \$15,000 for the 21st Century Enrichment Summer Grant. This will be used for summer transportation

5. Personnel Update

Tara Berry – hired as para at BHS
Peter Germano – hired as a ISS para at WMS
Anne Knott – para at WMS resigned
Pam Gunsalus – para at WMS resigned
Abeena Kobi Ampem – ABA at WMS resigned

B. Business Manager Report

1. Other Updates Mrs. Pierangeli was no in attendance this evening

C. Principal Report – Robin Parmley, Park Avenue Elementary School

- MCAS Parent Information Night Staff did an amazing job planning and presenting this event. Mexicali provided (donated) dinner for all in attendance. National Honor Society and National Jr. Honor Society watched the students during the parent MCAS presentation. Approx. 120 people were in attendance

- Polar Bear Pride – MCAS Parade Amazing event; PreK – Grade 2 students made posters for the 3rd and 4th grade students wishing them well on the MCAS test
- Webster Pride – MCAS Pep Rally Partnered with Bartlett High School drama, band, chorus, athletes, cheerleaders for this first ever pep rally. Grades 3 & 4 students ran through a banner in the gym while everyone was cheering them on. Superintendent Goguen gave encouraging words Thank you to Dr. Cushing for coordinating his students to come.

Member Napierata commented that she was lucky to attend the event. It was a very positive way to present the MCAS test to students

- 2019 MCAS ELA concluded went very smoothly – a few make-ups tomorrow.
- Kindergarten parent Information Night We held our first Kindergarten Parent Info Night – it was well attended. We have challenged parents to return the packet by 5/1, names will be put in for a drawing for PAE gear.

Member Seddiki attended this event – she said it was a great night, very informative

Motion: To Open the Public Hearing on FY20 Budget

The motion was made by Member Seddiki

The motion was seconded by Member Blythe

The following roll call vote was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

 members having abstained

The motion: X Passed

 Failed

PUBLIC HEARING

FY20 BUDGET

7:00 pm

Chairman Hurton thanked all the administrators that worked hard in this process. He gave the timetable of the budget development for public information. Superintendent Goguen gave an outline of the budget process

A PowerPoint presentation was reviewed

Community Member Earl Gabor asked about the possible collaboration with other towns for bussing, he asked if anything has developed to assist with expenses. Superintendent Goguen said that Business Manager, Monique Pierangeli met with surrounding towns and found that our contracted rates were lower if we stayed alone.

Community member Bob Whitelaw congratulated everyone for continuing to have extra-curricular activities at no cost to students. He does have concern with the supplies that families are asked to purchase as well as the supplies that teacher purchase with their own money. Mr. Whitelaw is asking if there are funds that could offset this burden to families. He supports the schools, but gave his perspective of a senior citizen living in town.

Chairman Hurton pointed out under Mrs. Goguen’s leadership there is no longer a large supply list for students

Motion: To adjourn the Public Hearing on FY20 Budget

The motion was made by Member Seddiki

The motion was seconded by Member Blythe

The following roll call vote was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

 members having abstained

The motion: X Passed

 Failed

IV. Student Update : Mariah Belletti

Not present this evening

V. Old Business

A. Approval of FY20 Budget

Motion: To approve the FY20 Budget 3.0% increase Budget in the amount of \$21,598,767 as presented

The motion was made by Member Seddiki

The motion was seconded by Member Blythe

The following roll call vote was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed

 Failed

B. Webster ABE Linkages Site Visit Report

Mrs. Leslie Baker was present and gave the history of the Adult / ABE Linkage Program. She provided information on the current program offerings and the number of students attending these programs. This year they experimented with new programs and more sites. Ms. Baker also outlined student and program highlights. On March 7th there was a site visit, there were recommendations for the program due to decreased enrolment. Mrs. Baker feels the visit was only a snap shot of the programs. She went to Malden to review their findings and defend programs. Awaiting final recommendations.

VI. New Business

A. School Choice Discussion and Vote Superintendent Goguen said that every year we bring this discussion to the School Committee for their consideration. We surveyed surrounding districts to see what their policies / procedures are. Asking for consideration of the following changes

* have a cut off of applications by October 1, 2019

* lower the cap to keep class size

By law when we receive a school choice application we cannot exclude anyone due to discipline, SPED, etc. Once they are accepted they are with us until graduation.

School Committee members asked for clarification with siblings. Superintendent Goguen clarified that if the grade level has met the capacity there would not be consideration just because a sibling had been accepted.

Motion: To approve School Choice as recommended .

The motion was made by Member Seddiki

The motion was seconded by Member Blythe

The following roll call vote was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed

 Failed

IX . Review / Transfer / Signing of Bills, Payrolls and Vouchers: Committee reviewed and signed bills and vouchers.

X. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:58PM

The motion was made by Member Chenevert

The motion was seconded by Member Blythe

The following roll call vote was taken:

5 members having voted in the affirmative

 members having voted in the negative

 members having abstained

The motion: X passed

 Failed

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Glennon

- April 9, 2019 Minutes
- PAE handouts for – Kindergarten Registration
- - MCAS Information Night
- FY20 Budget PowerPoint for Public Hearing
- ABE Program Site Visit documents
- School Choice enrollment projection, surrounding district survey, DESE documents