

WEBSTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
WEBSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
OPEN SESSION MINUTES (M.G.L. C.39) OF Tuesday, September 22, 2015

Date: September 22, 2015

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: School Committee Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order by

- o Chairman Collins

The following Committee Members were present:

- o Member Hurton
- o Member Makara
- o Member Chenevert

The following Committee Members were absent:

- o Member Gorski-Strong

The following Committee Members participated via Remote Participation

**I. Call to Order: Approval of September 8, 2015 Minutes:**

Motion: To approve the September 8, 2015 Minutes

The motion was made by Member Hurton

The motion was seconded by Member Chenevert

The following roll call vote was taken:

4 members having voted in the affirmative  
   members having voted in the negative  
   members having abstained

The motion:   X   passed  
       Failed

**II. Superintendent's Report**

**A. Assistant to the Superintendent for Business' Report**

**1. Update on School Building Committee**

- School Building Committee Meeting held 9-17-2015. Construction phase is completed
- Dore & Whittier are working with CTA to complete items on punch list. Goal is to have all completed by 10/22
- Peaceful Playground has been installed
- October 22, 2015 next SBC meeting
- Starting the close out procedure with MSBA
- District officially notified that PAE is Lead Gold Certified

We received notification from the MSBA that they will be visiting BHS on October 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 to conduct a Senior Study site visit. These visits are conducted by MSBA staff to assess the Statement of Interest that we submitted. A Senior Study is not an invitation to work with the MSBA, but is part of the due diligence review phase of the MSBA.

**B. Principal Report – Jennifer Lundwall, Webster Middle School**

- Webster Middle School is adjusting to the transition and changes, in addition to a new bell schedule

- Trimester vs quarterly report cards, purpose is to honor more learning time
- Class dojo in full swing. This is an online management tool that allows families / teachers communicate
- Have eliminated homeroom, now have advisory. Use this time for goal setting, community service learning. Students will have the same advisor through their years at middle school
- Enrichment Unit – block every day that blends all contents using STEAM aspects
- Standard Based Report Card - rubric provided that includes standards and indicators
- This standard will eliminate the bell curve

Member Makara asked if progress reports will still be given, Mrs. Lundwall replied yes.

Dr. Malkas gave further explanation of the benefits of this type of assessing and reporting.

### **C. District Wide Reports / Correspondence**

#### 1. Accountability Status

This was combined with the MCAS Data presentation

#### 2. MCAS Data

Dr. Malkas stated that typically at this time of year MCAS Data is presented, but we were given the opportunity to participate in the PARCC Pilot for grades 3-8. The state is not ready to release the data and identify how this it will be used to determine school and district CPI, which in turn is used to determine the PPI (accountability status). This data will be presented to the state Board of Education for consideration in November. Because we participated in the PARCC Pilot our Accountability Status will be held harmless (Level 3) unless we improve.

The preliminary results that have been released are showing a 30% increase. Some changes have been made with the curriculum, in addition to the Nichols Academy, and Freshman Strong that will be very effective in student growth. We are seeing decrease a 9<sup>th</sup> grade repeaters.

Park Avenue Elementary has not participated in testing previously, will now have grade 3 & 4, and may have an accountability status depending on their results.

Discussion regarding over testing of students continued

### **III. Student Update – Robert Price**

- Open House was held on Wednesday, September 16, 2015
- AP Kick-off was held Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> – more students are taking AP classes
- College Fair held Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup> – all Juniors and Seniors were able to attend. Over 30 colleges participated
- Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> – Blood Drive from 8-1
- Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> – SAT's
- Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> – Honors Recognition at 7:00PM
- Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> – PSAT's

### **IV Old Business**

### **V New Business**

#### **A. Policy JKAA – Physical Restraint of Students – Second Reading**

At the last meeting there were questions raised regarding this new policy. Attorney Tobin responded and Dr. Malkas outlined the changes (reflected in the policy)

B. Policy KF – Use of School Facilities – Revision

Mr. Avlas explained the need to make adjustments to our school use form. The MGL Ch 71, Section 71 is now included in the policy. The process of a school use was reviewed. Page 5 of the new School Rental Contract includes the new Head Injury & Concussion rules. Mr. Avlas continued to review the School Rental Contract, noting that Park Avenue Elementary has been added

There was clarification give to some specific lines. Chairman Collins asked for the old policy to be included for comparison at our next meeting.

Motion: To approve the changes made to School Rental Contract including fee schedule

The motion was made by Member Makara

The motion was seconded by Member Hurton

The following roll call vote was taken:

  4   members having voted in the affirmative

  \_   members having voted in the negative

  \_   members having abstained

The motion:   X   passed  
  \_   Failed

C. Policy AC – Nondiscrimination

Dr. Malkas stated that based on the Coordinated Program Review (CPR) there were some protected categories that were missing. We have added “homelessness” The school committee must approve this as part of our corrective action.

This is the first of three readings.

D. Policy ACA – Nondiscrimination Policy on the Basis of Sex

From the CPR audit, it was determined that this policy was missing “sexual orientation or gender identity”.

This is the first of three reading

E. Policy JLD – Guidance Programs

In order to address the criteria identified as “partially implemented” in the CPR Final Report, we have added the last sentence in the first paragraph. Our JLD policy stated “all students” that they must all be outlined.

This is the first of three readings

F. Policy JM – Scholarships, Prizes and Awards

This policy was approved last year, we included a non-discrimination line, but did not include “gender identity”. This has been added in the protected category line.

This is the first of three readings

G. Approval of Employment Handbook

Statement of Non-Discrimination – page 5 – have added “gender identity in first and second paragraph. also added “homelessness and gender identity” in the Statement of Educational Opportunity.

Motion: Move to approve the changes to the Employee Handbook as amended this evening

The motion was made by Member Hurton

The motion was seconded by Member Chenevert

The following roll call vote was taken:

  4   members having voted in the affirmative

  \_   members having voted in the negative

  \_   members having abstained

The motion:  passed  
 Failed

#### H. Approval of Student Handbook

The Statement of Non-Discrimination Policy in the student handbooks of each schools. To have consistency, “gender identity, homelessness” has been added to the protected categories

Motion: Move to approve the changes to the Park Avenue Elementary Student Handbook as presented

The motion was made by Member Makara

The motion was seconded by Member Hurton

The following roll call vote was taken:

4 members having voted in the affirmative  
    members having voted in the negative  
    members having abstained

The motion:  passed  
 Failed

Motion: Move to approve the changes to the Webster Middle School Student Handbook as presented

The motion was made by Member Makara

The motion was seconded by Member Hurton

The following roll call vote was taken:

4 members having voted in the affirmative  
    members having voted in the negative  
    members having abstained

The motion:  passed  
 Failed

Motion: Move to approve the changes to the Bartlett High School Student Handbook as presented

The motion was made by Member Makara

The motion was seconded by Member Hurton

The following roll call vote was taken:

4 members having voted in the affirmative  
    members having voted in the negative  
    members having abstained

The motion:  passed  
 Failed

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

Motion: Move to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM

The motion was made by Member Hurton

The motion was seconded by Member Chenevert

The following roll call vote was taken:

4 members having voted in the affirmative  
    members having voted in the negative  
    members having abstained

The motion:   X  passed  
          Failed

Respectfully Submitted,

Lori Glennon

Documents used during this meeting include:

- ❖ September 22, 2015 minutes
- ❖ Policy JKAA – Physical Restraint of Students
- ❖ Policy KF – Use of School Facilities
- ❖ Policy AC – Nondiscrimination
- ❖ Policy ACA – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex
- ❖ Policy JLD – Guidance Program
- ❖ Policy on Scholarships, Prizes and Awards
- ❖ Employee handbook – Page 5
- ❖ Student Handbook Non-Discrimination Policy Revision