

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

AGENDA #20

The School Committee will hold a regular meeting:

on: Thursday, July 14, 2016
at: 4:00 p.m. – Regular Session
5:00 p.m. - Executive Session
in: Esther Howland South Chamber, City Hall

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ACTION

I. CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION – Pastor Mark Nilson
Salem Covenant Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/NATIONAL ANTHEM

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #6-17 - Clerk
(June 27, 2016)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, June 16, 2016.

IV. MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION - NONE

The Worcester Public Schools is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer/Educational Institution and does not discriminate regardless of race, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, gender identity, marital status, sexual orientation, disability or homelessness. The Worcester Public Schools provides equal access to employment and the full range of general, occupational and vocational education programs. For more information relating to Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action contact the Chief Human Resources Officer, 20 Irving Street, Worcester, MA 01609, 508-799-3020.

V. IMMEDIATE ACTION

ACTION

gb #6-207.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/
Ms. Colorio/Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty
(June 28, 2016)

To recognize the SHINE Initiative, with gratitude and appreciation, for its donation of \$7,900 to the Worcester Public Schools, to train WPS staff in Youth Mental Health First Aid, "a program that helps adults to better understand adolescent mental illness and respond to emotional and mental distress in young people."

gb #6-208.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/
Ms. Colorio/Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty
(June 28, 2016)

To recognize Stacy Lord, a Worcester East Middle School Art Teacher, upon her selection for the Distinguished Visual Arts Educator Advocate Award by Arts/Learning.

gb #6-221.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/
Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty
(June 28, 2016)

To recognize David Peterson, General Manager of the Worcester Bravehearts Baseball Team, for partnering with the Worcester Public Schools on the many literacy initiatives throughout the year including the distribution of 1,000 tickets to a Bravehearts game to the students who participated in the Home Run Reading Club as an incentive to read.

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT - NONE

VII. COMMUNICATION AND PETITION - NONE

VIII. REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE - NONE

IX. PERSONNEL - NONE

X. GENERAL BUSINESS

ACTION

gb #6-152.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. Foley/
Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/
Miss McCullough/Mayor Petty
(June 30, 2016)

Response of the Administration to the request to set up tentative dates to meet with our local delegation in late October 2016 and in January and March 2017.

gb #6-153.3 - Administration/Administration
(June 28, 2016)

To consider responses to the following:

- a report indicating what .8 means in reference to teachers who travel
- report on how other cities and towns handle monies received by McKinney Vento by either putting the monies into their school district's accounts or the city/town general funds
- information with regard to the Instructional Assistant involved in the processing of the CORI checks in Section E. - Other

gb #6-199.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/
Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
Miss Biancheria
(June 15, 2016)

Response of the Administration to the request to address with Durham School Services the continued – and unauthorized – use by its buses of Granby Road as a short-cut between Belmont Street and Shrewsbury Street, and to obtain a workable, and enforceable, commitment from Durham to terminate this practice.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #6-231.1 - Administration/Administration
(June 28, 2016)

To extend the proposed contract of Attorney Paige L. Tobin from Murphy, Lamere and Murphy for three years.

gb #6-233 - Administration
(June 15, 2016)

To consider filing the list of outstanding General Business items as contained in the backup.

gb #6-234 - Administration
(June 15, 2016)

To consider development of a Strategic Plan for the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #6-235 - Mr. O'Connell
(June 15, 2016)

To verify the compliance of the Worcester Public Schools with Chapter 71, Section 96 of the Massachusetts General Laws, which requires that "[e]ach public school shall have a policy, regarding substance use prevention and the education of its students about the dangers of substance abuse. The school shall notify the parents or guardians of all students attending the school of the policy and shall post the policy on the school's website."

gb #6-236 - Miss Biancheria
(June 17, 2016)

Request that the Administration provide a copy of the job description of the new position created as a compliance position to oversee Durham Transportation and also include:

- a list of the present positions in the Worcester Public Schools' Transportation Department
- a copy of the Durham Transportation contract and
- a payment schedule to Durham Transportation

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #6-237 - Administration
(June 17, 2016)

To extend the proposed contract of Attorney Sean P. Sweeney for three years.

gb #6-238 - Administration
(June 20, 2016)

To accept a donation in the amount of \$2,500 for student scholarships from the Voya Foundation in recognition of the Worcester Public Schools being the 2016 recipient of the Donald Johnson Operational and Cost Efficiency Award from the Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials.

gb #6-239 - Mr. O'Connell
(June 20, 2016)

To set a date to recognize, with gratitude and appreciation, Science from Scientists, its founder, Dr. Erika Ebbel Angle, an MIT graduate with a doctorate in biochemistry from Boston University School of Medicine, and Dr. Don Gammon, a virologist engaged in postdoctoral research at UMass Medical School, for their support for the education of the children of Burncoat Preparatory School in science.

gb #6-240 - Mr. O'Connell
(June 20, 2016)

To forward letters of congratulations to the following recent graduates of the Worcester Public Schools who have been awarded scholarships by Bay State Savings Bank based on their academic achievements, character, and service to their community:

Claremont Academy – Akua Sarpomaah
Doherty Memorial High School – Morgaine Payson
North High School – Elena Jacques
Worcester Technical High School – Kimberly Davis

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #6-241 - Mr. O'Connell
(June 20, 2016)

To forward letters of congratulations to Adja Sackor, of Worcester Technical High School, on earning All-America Honors in the triple jump, and Francis Konneh, Levone Thomas, George Biney, and Edward Bohmah on earning fourth in the Emerging Elite class, all at the New Balance Outdoor Nationals at North Carolina A & T University.

gb #6-242 - Administration
(June 22, 2016)

To accept a donation from Furniture Trust Organization, Inc. in the amount of \$2000.00 for students at St. Casimir's receiving first place in the 2016 Furniture Trust's Eco Carpentry Challenge.

gb #6-243 - Administration
(June 22, 2016)

To accept a donation from Ryder System, Inc. in the amount of \$200 to go towards South High School's Diesel Tech Program.

gb #6-244 - Administration
(June 22, 2016)

To accept a donation from UMASS Memorial Health Care, Inc. in the amount of \$2,800.00 to help support the Belmont Community School's summer physical education and healthy eating programs.

gb #6-245 - Administration
(June 22, 2016)

To accept a donation from Main South Community Development Corp in the amount of \$75.00 to the Goddard School of Science and Technology.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #6-246 - Administration
(June 22, 2016)

To accept a donation from Worcester Educational Development Foundation, Inc. in the amount of \$500.00 to Chandler Magnet School.

gb #6-247 - Mr. O'Connell
(June 22, 2016)

To forward a letter of congratulations to Oved Rico, a junior at South High Community School, on receiving the Artistic Director's Scholarship Award and a Merit Scholarship from the Robert Booth Fund of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation.

gb #6-248 - Mr. O'Connell
(June 23, 2016)

To set a date to recognize AbbVie, with gratitude and appreciation, for the time and effort devoted by its staff to refurbishment of the Burncoat High School Library, as part of its "Week of Possibilities" volunteer initiative.

gb #6-249 - Administration
(June 24, 2016)

To accept donations in the total amount of \$785 for the Special Education Transitions Program.

gb #6-250 - Administration
(June 24, 2016)

To accept a donation in the amount of \$40,000 for Chandler Magnet School from the "Growing Our Vision" Gala Fundraiser Event and Celebrity Fashion Show.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #6-251 - Mr. O'Connell
(June 30, 2016)

To review the technology capabilities of the Worcester schools, to determine whether they are equipped to implement the computer-based MCAS testing regimen in grades four and eight during the 2016-2017 academic year, as to number of computers available, internet bandwidth, and device compatibility, without significantly impeding computer-based instruction during the weeks of testing.

gb #6-252 - Mr. O'Connell
(June 30, 2016)

To review the approved FY17 state budget as to its impact on funding of the Worcester Public Schools, and to make any necessary or appropriate adjustments to the school district budget, ideally prior to the start of the school year as to staffing.

gb #6-253 - Mayor Petty
(July 7, 2016)

To consider an update to the FY17 Budget based upon the final state budget.

gb #6-254 - Mr. Monfredo
(July 7, 2016)

Request that the Administration provide an update on the 2015-16 teacher survey in a Friday Letter this month.

gb #6-255 - Administration
(July 7, 2016)

Request that any items or motions that were referred for responses in a Friday Letter, that are not acted upon within 24 months, should automatically be filed.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #6-256 - Miss Biancheria
(July 7, 2016)

Request that the Administration provide a report regarding the number of students and the school sites that have received the MCAS appeals for 2013-14 and 2014-15.

gb #6-257 - Miss Biancheria
(July 7, 2016)

Request that the Administration make certain that the grounds at City View School and Belmont Street Community School are well trimmed.

gb #6-258 - Miss Biancheria
(July 7, 2016)

Request that the Administration provide an inventory in October 2016 of the recess equipment by school.

gb #6-259 - Miss Biancheria
(July 7, 2016)

Request that the Administration provide a report on the progress or completion of painting crosswalks near schools, especially Belmont Street Community School's crosswalk.

gb #6-260 - Miss Biancheria
(July 7, 2016)

Request that the Administration provide a report indicating by individual school its designated level (I, II, III, IV or V) and outline ways in which these levels can be improved.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #6-261 - Administration
(July 7, 2016)

To accept the following donations for Chandler Elementary School:

\$1,619.70 from Jesse Kim
\$1,000 from METSO and
\$500 from Nouria Energy Corporation

gb #6-262 - Mr. O'Connell
(July 7, 2016)

To set a date to congratulate Albert G. Ganem Jr., Manager of Professional Learning, on his selection as Superintendent of the Hampden-Wilbraham Regional School District.

gb #6-263 -Administration
(July 7, 2016)

- Finding that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee, the committee votes to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to litigation and strategy for collective bargaining for a denial of access.
- To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for the following Collective Bargaining Agreements, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the collective bargaining position of the School Committee and the chair so declares:
 - Plumbers and Steamfitters
 - Tradesmen
 - Custodians
 - Nurses
 - Drivers and Monitors
 - Cafeteria Workers
 - Administrative Secretaries
 - Teachers

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #6-263 (continued)

- Finding that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee, the committee votes to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Grievance #15/16-18.

- Finding that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee, the committee votes to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to a Collective Bargaining request for voluntary recognition and accretion for Speech Pathology Assistants.

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Worcester, Massachusetts
Thursday, June 16, 2016
Agenda #19

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met in Open Session at 4:11 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall on Thursday, June 16, 2016.

There were present at the Call to Order:

Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell and Mayor Petty

FY17 Budget

1. gb #6-153.2 - Administration/Administration
(June 7, 2016)

To consider the proposed FY17 Budget and the responses to the following motions:

- A. Request that the Administration identify the source for an additional \$25,000 for School Safety Equipment prior to the conclusion of the FY17 Budget hearings.
- B. Request that the Administration provide a list of programs provided in the Staff Development Division prior to the next meeting.
- C. Request that the Administration prepare, on or before the June 16th Budget session, its recommendations as to reallocation of the sum of \$1,000,000 from non-instructional accounts directly into the account for instructional personnel.

500-91110 Administration Salaries

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that Account 500-91110 be reduced cumulatively by \$1,000,00 and prepare recommendations as to how funds will be allocated for instructional purposes and report back to the School Committee in July.

On a roll call of 3-4 (yeas-Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, Mr. O'Connell), the motion was defeated.

Ms. Colorio stated that her focus would be to increase the number of tutors in schools if we cannot add teachers and also to transfer some funds to the Allied Health Program at Worcester Technical High School since the program is down one teacher.

Mr. Monfredo suggested that the School Committee make a wish list for next year.

Miss Biancheria suggested that the Manager of Human Resources for the City oversee the Human Resources Office in the Worcester Public Schools and further suggested that the liaisons at DAB have classes in the morning.

Mayor Petty stated that the complement of Administrators is low in comparison to the number of teachers.

Mr. Allen indicated that he would provide a report that illustrates that not only does the system spend well below the Foundation Budget allocation for administrators but also has as part of our Seven Point Financial Plan a cap on administrative spending.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that Account 500-91110 be reduced by \$5,000 on page 340 under Superintendent.

On a roll call of 3-4 (yeas-Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, Mr. O'Connell), the motion was defeated.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500-91110 in the amount of \$12,130,258.

On a roll call of 4-3 (nays-Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, Mr. O'Connell), the motion was approved.

500-91121 Administrative Clerical Salaries

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500-91121 in the amount of \$3,065,868.

500-91123 Non-Instructional Support Salaries

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report as to costs expended by the Worcester Public Schools directly

and indirectly for submitting documentation necessary to obtain Medicaid reimbursement for the benefit of the City of Worcester.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration roll out a plan as to how the Administration is going to handle the responsibilities of the Community and Outreach Coordinator position that is not being filled.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report on the number of the translators in the system.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide an update on the landscape improvements at the Parent Information Center.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Ms. Colorio made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide bullet points in future Budgets to differentiate grant funded vs. city funded positions.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500-91123 in the amount of \$2,202,195.

500-97205 Support Overtime

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500-97205 in the amount of \$68,837.

500-91119 Custodial Salaries

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration study the feasibility of providing the Civil Service Exam for Custodians so they

can become permanent employees and gain benefits and promotions.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500-91119 in the amount of \$6,668,155.

500-97203 Custodian Overtime

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500-97203 in the amount of \$1,046,865.

500-91120 Maintenance Services Salaries

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500-91120 in the amount of \$2,060,730.

500-97204 Maintenance Services Overtime

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500-91120 in the amount of \$150,797.

500152-92000 Facilities Department Non-Salary

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500152-92000 in the amount of \$2,695,925.

500146-92000 Building Utilities

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500146-92000 in the amount of \$6,456,119.

500141-92000 Vehicle Maintenance

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500141-92000 in the amount of \$505,601.

540-91117 Transportation Salaries

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report in January 2017 as to the dollar figure from Durham Transportation due to failure to fulfill contract obligations.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Ms. Colorio made the following motion:

Request that the Administration compare the credits gained from Durham Transportation due to the failure to fulfill contract obligations to the credits received next year with a new person hired to monitor this process.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Mr. Allen indicated that he could provide the response in the next Friday Letter in terms of the settlement that was reached with Durham Transportation this year.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 540-91117 in the amount of \$2,564,061.

540-97201 Transportation Overtime

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 540-97201 in the amount of \$473,736.

540103-92000 Transportation

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report on how other cities and towns put monies received by McKinney Vento back into their school district's accounts.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 540103-92000 in the amount of \$14,389,893.

500125-92000 Other Insurance Programs

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500125-92000 in the amount of \$53,491.

500101-96000 Retirement

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500101-96000 in the amount of \$16,751,681.

500129-91000 Workers Compensation Salaries
500129-92000 Workers Compensation Non Salary
50012-96000 Workers Compensation Fringe

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500129-91000 in the amount of \$886,300.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500129-92000 in the amount of \$72,305.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500129-96000 in the amount of \$393,700.

500123-96000 Health Insurance

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500123-96000 in the amount of \$44,806,753.

500137-96000 Unemployment Compensation

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500137-96000 in the amount of \$318,226.

500133-92000 Printing & Postage

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration furnish the School Committee, in a Friday Letter, any details it may have in terms of the postage savings program.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500133-92000 in the amount of \$224,595.

500138-92000 In-State Travel

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500138-92000 in the amount of \$81,000.

500105-92000 Retirement

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500105-92000 in the amount of \$5,000.

500-91116 Athletic Coach Salaries

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a list of teams fielded at each of the secondary schools.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria suggested that the Administration include cheerleading teams in the summary on page 151 in the FY17 Budget book.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a list of crew equipment that would be appropriate for the team to request over the course of the next year with a view to using that list as a means of seeking funds whether it be from the Worcester Foundation or through other opportunities to specifically get what it needs.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500-91116 in the amount of \$524,427.

500122-92000 – Athletics Ordinary Maintenance

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 500122-92000 in the amount of \$92,820.

50S502 Nutrition Program

It was moved and voice voted to approve Account 50S502 in the amount of \$13,850,185.

Various – Grant Programs

It was moved and voice voted to approve Grant Programs in the amount of \$35,521,433.

It was moved and voice voted to accept and file the Administration's responses as contained in the backup for the item.

It was moved to approve the FY17 budget in the following amounts:

General Fund:	\$ 322,895,803
Grant Programs:	\$ 35,521,434
Nutrition Program:	\$ 3,850,185
Other Special Revenue	\$ <u>4,850,911</u>
Total	\$ 377,118,333

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mayor Petty 4

Against the motion: Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio,
Mr. O'Connell 3

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The motion carried.

It was moved to suspend the Rules of the School Committee.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio,
Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mayor Petty 6

Against the motion: Mr. O'Connell 1/7

The motion carried.

It was moved to reconsider the motion to approve the FY17 budget in the following amounts:

General Fund:	\$ 322,895,803
Grant Programs:	\$ 35,521,434
Nutrition Program:	\$ 3,850,185
Other Special Revenue	\$ <u>4,850,911</u>
Total	\$ 377,118,333

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio,
Mr. O'Connell 3

Against the motion: Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mayor Petty 4/7

The motion to reconsider was defeated.

It was moved to recess to Executive Session to discuss the following items:

- 2. gb #6-232 - Administration (June 8, 2016) Executive Session

Finding that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee, the committee votes to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Grievance #15/16-31.

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for all Collective Bargaining Agreements, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the collective bargaining position of the School Committee and the chair so declares – teachers.

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for all Collective Bargaining Agreements, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the collective bargaining position of the School Committee and the chair so declares – drivers and monitors.

Finding that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee, the committee votes to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to litigation and strategy for collective bargaining for a denial of access.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion:	Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell, 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 6:15 p.m. to 7:35 p.m.

The School Committee reconvened in Open Session at 7:40 p.m.

There were present at the second Call to Order:

Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell and Mayor Petty

There were present at the second Call to Order:

Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell and Mayor Petty

The invocation was offered by Reverend Dimitrios Moraitis from St. Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church.

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

APPROVAL OF RECORDS

3. aor #6-16 - Clerk
(June 8, 2016) Minutes/
approval of

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, June 2, 2016.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, June 2, 2016.

IMMEDIATE ACTION

4. gb #6-142.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/
Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell/
Ms. Colorio/Miss Biancheria/
Miss McCullough/Mayor Petty
(June 7, 2016) Recognition/
Joseph DiGregorio,
Anthony Pastrana and
Donna Quitadamo,
Teacher of the Year

To recognize Joseph DiGregorio, a teacher at Lake View and Lincoln Street schools and Anthony Pastrana, a teacher at North High School as semi-finalists in the Teacher of the Year selection process and Donna Quitadamo, a teacher at Nelson Place School, as the 2016 Teacher of the Year for the Worcester Public Schools.

Mayor Petty and Superintendent Binienda presented Certificates of Recognition to Joseph DiGregoria and Anthony Pastrana and a plaque to Donna Quitadamo.

5. gb #6-198.1 - Administration/Mr. Foley/
Ms. Colorio/Mr. O'Connell/
Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty
(June 7, 2016) Recognition/
University Park Campus
School/Edutopia

To recognize the University Park Campus School for the recent story in Edutopia under "Schools That Work" that highlights their team approach by the faculty, the support for the students, and the track record of academic success.

Mayor Petty and Superintendent Binienda presented a Certificate of Recognition to Mr. St. Louis.

Recognition/Worcester Telegram and Gazette 2016 Student Achievers

6. gb #6-201.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/
Mr. Foley/Ms. Colorio/
Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty
(June 7, 2016)

To recognize the following students who have been selected and honored by the Worcester Telegram and Gazette as its 2016 "Student Achievers:"

Laurana Nyman – Burncoat High School
Jacqueline Alvarez – Claremont Academy
Aubrey Leary – Doherty Memorial High School
Rachel Dao – North High School
Kenneth Adusei – South High Community School
Sibgha Javaid – University Park Campus School
Abeeku Bondzie – Worcester Technical High School

Mayor Petty and Superintendent Binienda presented Certificates of Recognition to the Worcester Telegram and Gazette as its 2016 "Student Achievers:"

Recognition/Shirley McAfee, Nurse of the Year

7. gb #6-214 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/
Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/
Miss Biancheria/Miss McCullough/
Mayor Petty
(June 8, 2016)

To recognize Shirley McAfee a nurse at Tatnuck Magnet School as the Worcester Public Schools' Nurse of the Year for 2016.

Mayor Petty and Superintendent Binienda presented a plaque to Certificates of Recognition to Shirley McAfee a nurse at Tatnuck Magnet School as the Worcester Public Schools' Nurse of the Year for 2016.

REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

8. The Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports met at 7:35 a.m. on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 in Room 410 at the Dr. John E. Durkin Administration Building.

gb #2-36 - Ms. Novick/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo
(January 25, 2012)

To review the status of the curriculum review process.

6-8-16 - STANDING COMMITTEE ACTION

It was moved and voice voted to approve the following new course request forms for Business Technology and Communications Skills, Presentation Skills and AP Computer Science Principles.

6-16-16 - SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACTION

The School Committee approved the action of the Standing Committee as stated.

gb #4-294 - Administration (October 27, 2014)

To share information on the elementary Report Card Pilot.

6-8-16 - STANDING COMMITTEE ACTION

Dr. Meade-Montaque spoke to the process of developing an electronic report card.

It was moved and voice voted to hold the item and request reports in mid-January and April to include:

- information with regard to feedback as to the implementation of the expanded version of the pilot at the elementary level
- a description of Professional Development activities related to the program and also any recommended changes in connection with supplementation as to Staff Development
- presentation of the report card to the Citywide Parent Planning Advisory Council and any feedback by late November or early December
- report as to the status of collective bargaining topics regarding the report card. That report can be made in Executive Session, if appropriate.

Curriculum Review
Process/ new course
request forms for
Business Technology and
Communications Skills,
Presentation Skills and
AP Computer Science
Principles

- recommended changes in connection with the report card or the timing or the method behind the report card itself
- utilization of Channel 11 to summarize and explain the various components of the report card
- related information that would be appropriate with regard to the report card itself
- recommended changes to the report card for the 2017-18 academic year

Miss McCullough made the following motion:

Request that the School Committee be informed of any Professional Development as far as training for the staff on the new electronic report card.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Dr. Rodrigues stated that he would provide, in a Friday Letter, a list all of the Professional Development that will be rolled out districtwide.

6-16-16 - SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACTION

The School Committee approved the action of the Standing Committee as amended.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that gb #4-294 be held for the School Committee meeting on July 14, 2016.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

9. The Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues met at 8:10 a.m. on Thursday, June 9, 2016 in Room 410 at the Dr. John E. Durkin Administration Building.

Cell Phone Policy

gb #5-291 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley (October 19, 2015)

Request that the School Committee review the policy on cell phones and gather information from all secondary principals.

6-9-16 - STANDING COMMITTEE ACTION

It was moved and voice voted to approve the following amended Rule 13 Policy to be included in the Policies Handbook:

Rule 13. – Cell Phones, Electronic Devices, and Laser Pointing Devices

While on school premises or at a school sponsored event, a student shall not, without expressed permission of appropriate school personnel, use any cell phone, smart phone, tablet, camera or any other type of electronic device which may potentially be disruptive of school activities or a distraction to students. Electronic devices shall include any cell phone, smart phone, tablet or anything powered by electricity and is suitable for communicating any oral, voice, audio or text messages or postings or for recording or communicating any audio, voice, picture, image or video imagery. Students are not permitted to have their cell phones or electronic devices powered while in school.

Use of such devices in violation of this rule may result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to, out-of-school suspension time. The School Administration reserves the right to confiscate cellular phones or other electronic devices when a student is believed to be violating this rule.

A student shall not use or possess a laser pointing device of any type on school premises or at a school sponsored event, unless such device is distributed by a teacher or its use is authorized by a teacher in connection with school work. Use of a laser pointing device against the face, eyes, or head of another individual may be considered a weapon for disciplinary purposes including, but not limited to, the possibility of long-term suspension.

Enforcement and Penalties:

This cell phone policy may be enforced by the principal, any teacher (including substitutes) or by any other school official or employee designated by the principal.

Enforcement personnel shall have the right to confiscate any cell phone or electronic device possessed or used in violation of the code of conduct.

Penalties for students found in violation of the policy will be as follows:

- First offense: Student's cell phone/electronic device will be confiscated and returned to the student at the end of the school day.
- Second and subsequent offenses: Student's cell phone/electronic device will be confiscated and returned only to the student's parents or guardians. Any such parent or guardian may, within five days of any such confiscation, request a hearing to determine the validity of the violation of the code of conduct and resulting confiscation of the cell phone/electronic device. In such event the principal shall designate a hearing officer who shall: 1) give the student and/or his or her parents/guardians an opportunity to present their case; 2) hear or review the incident report from the enforcing person and any other person with relevant information; and, 3) provide a recommendation to the principal as to whether there is a reasonable basis to conclude that the cell phone policy of the code of conduct was violated by the student. Regardless of any request for a hearing, any confiscated cell phone/electronic device shall be returned to the parent/guardian at the first opportunity and shall not be dependent on the scheduling or outcome of any hearing.
- Student committing repeated violations of this policy may be subject to additional disciplinary action, consistent with the Worcester Public Schools Code of Conduct up to and including suspension from school.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motions:

Request that Rule 13. – Cell Phones, Electronic Devices and Laser Pointing Devices be reviewed in January for possible amendments, if needed.

Request that the Principals review Rule 13. – Cell Phones, Electronic Devices and Laser Pointing Devices with students and parents during the first week of school and include it in their newsletters.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

6-16-16 - SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACTION

The School Committee approved the action of the Standing Committee as amended.

Mr. O'Connell stated that he was opposed to the first paragraph because it clearly allows students to have cell phones within schools. The only violation of the rule is triggered when the cell phone is powered. He further stated that the rule the system should have is one that would not allow cell phones within the schools.

Mr. O'Connell requested to replace the first paragraph of Rule 13 with the current rule Rule 13 first paragraph.

Mr. Monfredo stated that the members of the Standing Committee met with the principals who stated that they did not want to have the cell phones in lockers because they get stolen.

It was moved to approve the following amended Rule 13 Policy to be included in the Policies Handbook:

Rule 13. – Cell Phones, Electronic Devices, and Laser Pointing Devices

While on school premises or at a school sponsored event, a student shall not, without expressed permission of appropriate school personnel, use any cell phone, smart phone, tablet, camera or any other type of electronic device which may potentially be disruptive of school activities or a distraction to students. Electronic devices shall include any cell phone, smart phone, tablet or anything powered by electricity and is suitable for communicating any oral, voice, audio or text messages or postings or for recording or communicating any audio, voice, picture, image or video imagery. Students are not permitted to have their cell phones or electronic devices powered while in school.

Use of such devices in violation of this rule may result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to, out-of-school suspension time. The School Administration reserves the right to confiscate cellular phones or other electronic devices when a student is believed to be violating this rule.

A student shall not use or possess a laser pointing device of any type on school premises or at a school sponsored event, unless such device is distributed by a teacher or its use is authorized by a teacher in connection with school work. Use of a laser pointing device against the face, eyes, or head of another individual may be considered a weapon for disciplinary purposes including, but not limited to, the possibility of long-term suspension.

Enforcement and Penalties:

This cell phone policy may be enforced by the principal, any teacher (including substitutes) or by any other school official or employee designated by the principal.

Enforcement personnel shall have the right to confiscate any cell phone or electronic device possessed or used in violation of the code of conduct.

Penalties for students found in violation of the policy will be as follows:

- First offense: Student's cell phone/electronic device will be confiscated and returned to the student at the end of the school day.
- Second and subsequent offenses: Student's cell phone/electronic device will be confiscated and returned only to the student's parents or guardians. Any such parent or guardian may, within five days of any such confiscation, request a hearing to determine the validity of the violation of the code of conduct and resulting confiscation of the cell phone/electronic device. In such event the principal shall designate a hearing officer who shall: 1) give the student and/or his or her parents/guardians an opportunity to present their case; 2) hear or review the incident report from the enforcing person and any other person with relevant information; and, 3) provide a recommendation to the principal as to whether there is a reasonable basis to conclude that the cell phone policy of the code of conduct was violated by the student. Regardless of any request for a hearing, any confiscated cell phone/electronic device shall be returned to the parent/guardian at the first opportunity and shall not be dependent on the scheduling or outcome of any hearing.

· Student committing repeated violations of this policy may be subject to additional disciplinary action, consistent with the Worcester Public Schools Code of Conduct up to and including suspension from school.

On a roll call 6-1 (nay-Mr. O'Connell), the motion was approved.

It was moved to suspend the Rules of the School Committee.

On a roll call of 6-1 (nay-Mr. O'Connell), the motion was approved.

It was moved to reconsider the motion to approve the following amended Rule 13 Policy to be included in the Policies Handbook:

Rule 13. – Cell Phones, Electronic Devices, and Laser Pointing Devices

While on school premises or at a school sponsored event, a student shall not, without expressed permission of appropriate school personnel, use any cell phone, smart phone, tablet, camera or any other type of electronic device which may potentially be disruptive of school activities or a distraction to students. Electronic devices shall include any cell phone, smart phone, tablet or anything powered by electricity and is suitable for communicating any oral, voice, audio or text messages or postings or for recording or communicating any audio, voice, picture, image or video imagery. Students are not permitted to have their cell phones or electronic devices powered while in school.

Use of such devices in violation of this rule may result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to, out-of-school suspension time. The School Administration reserves the right to confiscate cellular phones or other electronic devices when a student is believed to be violating this rule.

A student shall not use or possess a laser pointing device of any type on school premises or at a school sponsored event, unless such device is distributed by a teacher or its use is authorized by a teacher in

connection with school work. Use of a laser pointing device against the face, eyes, or head of another individual may be considered a weapon for disciplinary purposes including, but not limited to, the possibility of long-term suspension.

Enforcement and Penalties:

This cell phone policy may be enforced by the principal, any teacher (including substitutes) or by any other school official or employee designated by the principal.

Enforcement personnel shall have the right to confiscate any cell phone or electronic device possessed or used in violation of the code of conduct.

Penalties for students found in violation of the policy will be as follows:

- First offense: Student's cell phone/electronic device will be confiscated and returned to the student at the end of the school day.
- Second and subsequent offenses: Student's cell phone/electronic device will be confiscated and returned only to the student's parents or guardians. Any such parent or guardian may, within five days of any such confiscation, request a hearing to determine the validity of the violation of the code of conduct and resulting confiscation of the cell phone/electronic device. In such event the principal shall designate a hearing officer who shall: 1) give the student and/or his or her parents/guardians an opportunity to present their case; 2) hear or review the incident report from the enforcing person and any other person with relevant information; and, 3) provide a recommendation to the principal as to whether there is a reasonable basis to conclude that the cell phone policy of the code of conduct was violated by the student. Regardless of any request for a hearing, any confiscated cell phone/electronic device shall be returned to the parent/guardian at the first opportunity and shall not be dependent on the scheduling or outcome of any hearing.
- Student committing repeated violations of this policy may be subject to additional disciplinary action,

consistent with the Worcester Public Schools Code of Conduct up to and including suspension from school.

On a roll call of 1-6 (yea-Mr. O'Connell), the motion to reconsider was defeated.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motions:

Request that Rule 13. – Cell Phones, Electronic Devices and Laser Pointing Devices be reviewed in January for possible amendments, if needed.

Request that the Principals review Rule 13. – Cell Phones, Electronic Devices and Laser Pointing Devices with students and parents during the first week of school and include it in their newsletters.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- 10. gb #6-215 - Administration
(May 27, 2016)

Donations/Heard Street School

To accept the following donations for Heard Street School:

P&J Vending	\$ 22.42
Target Take Charge of Education	\$ 83.01
Intel Volunteer Grant Program	\$ 300.00
The Winchester Children in Memory of their father Harry Winchester	\$5,000.00

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion:	Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell, Mayor Petty	7
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Against the motion:		$\frac{0}{7}$
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The motion carried.

Mr. Monfredo requested that a letter of thanks be forwarded to P&J Vending, Target Take Charge for Education, Intel Volunteer Grant Program and the Winchester Children for their generous donations to Heard Street School.

Donation/Hanover
Insurance Group/
\$4,200

11. gb #6-216 - Administration
(May 27, 2016)

To accept a donation from Hanover Insurance Group in the amount of \$4,200.00 for the Worcester Public Schools CPR Project.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio,
Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

Mr. Monfredo requested that a letter of thanks be forwarded to the Hanover Insurance Group for its generous donation to the Worcester Public Schools CPR Project.

Recognitions/video
contest/League of
Women Voters

12. gb #6-217 - Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. Monfredo/Mayor Petty
(May 27, 2016)

To forward letters of congratulations to Gabe Mangrum, Malachi Waller, Trey Carter, CJ Gallagher, Obed Konadu, Aaron Adu and Zane Freeman, students from Doherty Memorial High School, for being awarded honorable mention ranking, among 300 student participants, for their video "I Can Pick", in the League of Women Voters of Massachusetts "YOUth Should Vote!" student video contest.

It was moved and voice voted to forward letters.

Grant/Toolbox for
Education/\$5,000

13. gb #6-218 - Administration
(June 1, 2016)

To accept the Toolbox For Education grant in the amount of \$5,000.00.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion:	Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell, Mayor Petty	7
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Against the motion:		$\frac{0}{7}$
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The motion carried.

It was moved and voice voted to suspend the Rules of the School Committee to allow John Stewart to speak to the item.

- 14. gb #6-219 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/
Mayor Petty
(June 6, 2016)

Recognition/
schools which had low
chronic absentee levels

Request that the Administration forward letters of congratulations to the following schools which had a low chronic absentee level:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Heard Street School | Flagg Street School |
| Midland Street School | May Street School |
| Nelson Place School | Tatnuck Magnet School |
| Worcester Arts Magnet | Waweus Road School |
| Worcester Technical High | Thorndyke Road School |
| University Park Campus | Roosevelt School |
| Woodland Academy | Burncoat Middle School |

It was moved and voice voted to forward letters.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motions:

Request that the Administration rollout a campaign in September and have an "Attendance Awareness Month."

Request that Administration provide a report in August relative to a sustainability plan in conjunction with the "Attendance Awareness Month" with benchmarks and progress reports. He also indicated that Superintendent Binienda could get the South High Community School Marching Band to be part of the kickoff.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

Mr. Monfredo stated that he submitted to Dr. Friel some suggestions for the Administration to consider as part of the attendance plan that will be rolled out in August.

- Video 15. gb #6-220 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/
Miss Biancheria
(June 6, 2016)
- Request that the Administration work with community groups such as the Worcester Chamber of Commerce, Media Outlets, and the Colleges to create a video/dvd about the successes in the Worcester Public Schools and share it with real estate brokers and other agencies in the city.
- It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Administration for completion of a video prior to the end of August.
- Recognition/
set date 16. gb #6-221 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/
Mayor Petty
(June 6, 2016)
- To set a date to recognize David Peterson, General Manager of the Worcester Bravehearts Baseball Team, for partnering with the Worcester Public Schools on the many literacy initiatives throughout the year including the distribution of 1,000 tickets to a Bravehearts game to the students who participated in the Home Run Reading Club as an incentive to read.
- It was moved and voice voted to set the date of Thursday, July 14, 2016.
- Recognition/
forward letter/
Gwendolyn Bui 17. gb #6-222 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell/
Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty
(June 7, 2016)
- To forward a letter of congratulations to Gwendolyn Bui, a Burncoat High School senior, for receiving the WEDF Paul Gervais Memorial Music Scholarship Award.
- It was moved and voice voted to forward a letter.
- Free Fun Fridays 18. gb #6-223 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/
Miss Biancheria
(June 7, 2016)
- Request that the Administration inform parents of the "Free Fun Friday's" event coordinated by the Highland Street Foundation that provides free entry to 80 museums and cultural events across the Commonwealth.
- It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Administration for implementation.

19. gb #6-224 - Administration
(June 8, 2016) Donation/Tufts University/
\$200.00

To accept a donation from Tufts University in the amount of \$200.00 for Chandler Magnet School.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio,
Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

20. gb #6-225 - Administration
(June 8, 2016) Donation/United Way/
\$500.00

To accept a donation from the United Way in the amount of \$500.00 for Burncoat Street Preparatory School.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio,
Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell,
Mayor Petty 7

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

The motion carried.

21. gb #6-226 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo
(June 8, 2016) Screening Brief
Intervention and Referral
Treatment

Request that the School Safety Liaison and other school administrators present the 'Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment' pilot program at Sullivan Middle and Burncoat Middle schools.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Administration for a report on August 18, 2016.

- City View and Belmont Street Community School/keep grounds cleared and maintained through the summer and fall
22. gb #6-227 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo (June 8, 2016)
- Request that the Administration schedule work with the staff from facilities in the Worcester Public Schools to make certain that the grounds at City View and Belmont Street Community schools are cleared and maintained through the Summer into the Fall.
- It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Administration.
- FY17 Budget/file items that have budgetary implications
23. gb #6-228 - Administration (June 8, 2016)
- To consider all items filed by the School Committee that have budgetary implications in light of the FY17 Budget.
- It was moved and voice voted to file the item.
- Meeting Date Change/ July 14, 2016
24. gb #6-229 - Administration (June 8, 2016)
- To approve the School Committee meeting date change from Thursday, July 21, 2016 to July 14, 2016.
- It was moved to approve the item.
- On a roll call, the vote was as follows:
- | | | |
|---------------------|---|---------------|
| For the motion: | Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio,
Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell,
Mayor Petty | 7 |
| Against the motion: | | $\frac{0}{7}$ |
- The motion carried.
- Chapter 74 Courses
25. gb #6-230 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo (June 8, 2016)
- Request that the Administration provide a review of the new Chapter 74 courses that are being considered for classroom use.
- It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Administration.

26. gb #6-231 - Administration
(June 8, 2016)

Murphy, Lamere and
Murphy Contract

To extend the proposed contract of Attorney Paige L. Tobin from Murphy, Lamere and Murphy for three years.

Mr. O'Connell requested that the Administration provide a copy of Attorney Tobin's 2013-16 contract.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration interact with Attorney Tobin to determine whether, given some of the financial limitations, Attorney Tobin will scale back on the increases in her proposed contract for FY18 and FY19.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved and voice voted to hold the item for the School Committee on July 14, 2016.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

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

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. Foley/
Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/
Miss McCullough/Mayor Petty
(June 30, 2016)

CURRENT ITEM - gb #6-152.1
S.C. MEETING - 7-14-16

1ST ITEM gb #6-152 S.C.MTG. 4-28-16
2ND ITEM gb #6-152.1 S.C.MTG. 7-14-16

ITEM:

Response of the Administration to the request to set up tentative dates to meet with our local delegation in late October 2016 and in January and March 2017.

ORIGINAL ITEM: Mr. Monfredo/Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/
Miss McCullough/Mayor Petty (April 13, 2016)

Request that the Administration set up tentative dates to meet with our local delegation in late October 2016 and in January and March 2017.

PRIOR ACTION:

4-28-16 - Referred to the Administration for implementation and provide the School Committee with the dates at one of our meetings in June.

BACKUP:

The Administration recommends the following dates to meet with the local delegation:

Friday, November 4, 2016
Friday January 20, 2017
Friday, March 10, 2017

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve.

Teachers who are scheduled to be at one school full-time are listed in the location-based budget section of the budget book (pages 247-349) with a full time equivalency (FTE) of 1.0. There are other teachers that are assigned to more than one school during the span of the week. The following table shows the amount of time a teacher would spend at a school based upon the FTE basis:

<u>FTE</u>	<u>Days at School</u>
0.1	1/2 day per week
0.2	1 day per week
0.3	1 1/2 days per week
0.4	2 days per week
0.5	2 1/2 days per week
0.6	3 days per week
0.7	3 1/2 days per week
0.8	4 days per week
0.9	4 1/2 days per week
1.0	5 days per week

Motion: Request that the Administration provide a report on how other cities and towns put monies received by McKinney Vento back into their school district's accounts.

Response: The Administration requested information from other districts through the MASBO/DESE List Serve. Eight school districts responded to the request and four districts (Marlborough, Reading, Leominster, and Bedford) place the funds into the city/town general fund, while four districts (Dracut, Northampton, Lynn, and Danvers) have the funds appropriated to the school district for transportation costs.

Motion: Request that the Administration provide information with regard to the Instructional Assistant involved in the processing of the CORI checks in Section E. - Other.

Response: The current Instructional Assistant (IA) who is in the position was hired in October 2000. The position was an IA position when she was hired and she has always been classified as an IA.

This position is responsible for:

- gathering and verifying CORI authorization forms; submitting the CORI requests; receiving the results; preparing the results for administrative review, when necessary;
- preparing and sending Suitability Determination letters to other districts and requesting Suitability Determination letters from other districts;
- receiving results of national criminal records requests ("fingerprinting") and serving as a resource to current and prospective employees for assistance with the process for submitting fingerprints;
- managing the storage and retrieval of criminal history information in accordance with district policy and state and federal laws;
- preparing reports at the request of administration on the status of criminal records requests;
- preparing communications to current and prospective employees pertaining to all aspects of state and national criminal background checks, and for ensuring that such communications are written and executed in accordance with all relevant policies , regulations, and laws.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/
Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
Miss Biancheria
(June 15, 2016)

CURRENT ITEM - gb #6-199.1
S.C. MEETING - 7-14-16

1ST ITEM gb #6-199 S.C.MTG. 6-2-16
2ND ITEM gb #6-199.1 S.C.MTG. 7-14-16

ITEM:

Response of the Administration to the request to address with Durham School Services the continued – and unauthorized –use by its buses of Granby Road as a short-cut between Belmont Street and Shrewsbury Street, and to obtain a workable, and enforceable, commitment from Durham to terminate this practice.

ORIGINAL ITEM: Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
Miss Biancheria (May 18, 2016)

To address with Durham School Services the continued – and unauthorized –use by its buses of Granby Road as a short-cut between Belmont Street and Shrewsbury Street, and to obtain a workable, and enforceable, commitment from Durham to terminate this practice.

PRIOR ACTION:

6-2-16 - Referred to the Administration.

BACKUP:

The Administration contacted Durham School Services and informed the management that the use of Granby Road should only be used in case of pre-authorized emergency access or an actual scheduled route as authorized by the Worcester Public Schools. The Worcester Public Schools Administration further communicated that the district will utilize any and all authority in the contract, up to and including dismissal, if any driver continues to ignore repeated instructions to avoid the use of both Granby Road.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Accept and file.

gb #4-210	gb #5-208
gb #4-245	gb #5-224
gb #4-253	gb #5-227
gb #4-262	gb #5-235
gb #4-264	gb #5-252
gb #4-274	gb #5-253
gb #4-275	gb #5-264
gb #4-286.1	gb #5-266
gb #4-301.1	gb #5-276
gb #4-319	gb #5-277
gb #4-320.1	gb #5-310
gb #4-330.1	gb #5-320
gb #5-73	gb #6-49
gb #5-76 gb #5-77 gb #5-91 (These items were considered together).	gb #6-67
gb #5-86	gb #6-88
gb #5-88	gb #6-89
gb #5-90	gb #6-96
gb #5-91	gb #6-97
gb #5-106	gb #6-98
gb #5-109.2	gb #6-116
gb #5-119	gb #6-177
gb #5-160	Other action
gb #5-187	gb #6-184
gb #5-191	gb #6-185
gb #5-196	
gb #5-199	

The FY17 adopted budget of the Worcester Public Schools is based upon the funding recommendations included in the House Ways and Means budget released in April. Recently, the state has been reporting a significant downturn in expected state revenues next year and the final state budget approved by the Massachusetts House and Senate last week contains several significant changes to the FY17 adopted budget of the Worcester Public Schools. The following is a description of changes to the budget:

Quality Kindergarten Grant:

The Worcester Public Schools relies on its support personnel to deliver high quality teaching and learning throughout our schools and programs. Instructional Assistants play a significant role in supporting students' academic, behavioral, and developmental needs. At the Kindergarten level, Instructional Assistants are strategically assigned to classrooms experiencing large student enrollment or with a specific student population that requires additional support to ensure that core instruction is maximized.

The typical composition of a Kindergarten classroom includes students entering the school systems without prior early childhood experience, some with identified disabilities, others with developmental delays, and over half of our Kindergartners are English Language Learners. The supports that Instructional Assistants provide at the Kindergarten level are vital to our students' educational needs and a necessary service to ensure that these students are receiving proper educational services during this important formative year.

There are approximately 90 Kindergarten classrooms in the district; 47 of the classrooms are expected to have enrollments of 23 or more students next year. Most surrounding school districts (those that have the ability to spend well above the state's underfunded foundation budget level) have an instructional assistant in every classroom.

The House budget level funded and the WPS budget reflected this level and the final state budget eliminated all funding for the grant. This grant has provided Worcester \$751,338 and was used to fund 21 Instructional Assistant positions (and associated health insurance and classroom materials).

The following is a summary of the funding of Kindergarten Instructional Assistants in the budget:

Funding Source	Positions	Amount
Quality Kindergarten Grant	21	\$751,338*
Title 1	14	\$401,700
General Fund	28	\$639,937
Total	63	\$1,720,719

*includes fringe and supplies from grant

The district had advocated on maintaining the Quality Kindergarten Grant at least until the state's foundation budget was addressed with regards to the appropriate funding levels for special education and employee benefits.

The previous practice at this level of funding between the three funding sources has been to provide all elementary schools with at least one Kindergarten Instructional Assistant position (33) while the remaining 30 positions were assigned based on number of Kindergarten classrooms and class sizes to lower the student-to-adult ratio in these classrooms. In FY16, the additional positions were assigned to the following schools:

<u>School</u>	<u>IA's</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>IA's</u>
Belmont Street:	3	McGrath Elementary:	1
Chandler Elementary:	2	Norrback Ave:	1
Chandler Magnet	1	Quinsigamond:	3
Columbus Park:	2	Rice Square	1
Elm Park	2	Roosevelt:	1
Gates Lane:	2	Thorndyke Road:	1
Goddard School:	2	Vernon Hill:	1
Jacob Hiatt Magnet:	1	Woodland Academy	2
Lake View:	1	Worcester Arts	1
Lincoln Street	1		
May Street	1	Total Additional:	30

Each year, these additional positions are reassigned based on enrollment changes at all of the schools. (This practice has become known in schools as the "Kindergarten Instructional Assistant shuffle". This reallocation was necessary because even at 63 positions, there has not been enough positions in order to provide the full support in the Kindergarten classrooms in each school.)

Now, with the Quality Kindergarten Grant elimination, based on remaining funding, there will be an instructional assistant in less than half of our Kindergarten classrooms next year.

It should also be noted that given Title 1 is funding 14 of the remaining positions; these instructional assistant positions must be provided at Title 1 schools in a manner that is supplemental, or in addition to, the number of instructional assistant positions provided at non-Title 1 schools. These remaining 42 positions can no longer be allocated to each school with a guaranteed minimum of one position per school (as there's no longer enough state grant (0) and general funded positions (28) to allocate them in this manner); meaning, at the current level, some schools may not even have a Kindergarten Instructional Assistant next year.

The current funding gap to return to the current level of 63 Kindergarten Instructional Assistants is \$736,360 (total FY16 grant award of \$751,388 less \$15,028 for the city's 2% grant indirect assessment on grants).

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Chapter 70: The final state budget adopted the Senate Chapter 70 amount, representing a \$63,139 increase to the Worcester Public Schools. The Senate version of the budget provided additional funding to achieve 85% effort reduction instead of only 70% as contained in the House budget. The state's formula to determine the annual city contribution is calculated by taking the prior year required contribution amount and increasing/decreasing the amount by the change in the Municipal Revenue Growth Factor (the amount of non-Chapter 70 revenue change for the city). The city's required contribution for FY17 is \$420,931 above the target level based on the calculated wealth of the community; so the state reduces (or adds additional requirements) incrementally. (This number is not related in any way to the amount the city is above/below net school spending requirement). The House version reduced the excess effort by 70% and the Senate reduced the amount by 85%. By using the Senate version, the formula then requires additional Chapter 70 state aid to keep communities, like Worcester, at the FY17 foundation budget level. The amount would allow the city to decrease their contribution by an equal amount. The WPS Administration assumes no change in the level of city contribution based on the approved City budget allocation to the WPS.

House Budget:	\$235,339,093
Final State Budget:	<u>\$235,402,232</u>
Difference:	\$ 63,139

Charter School Reimbursement:

The House budget only funded charter school reimbursement at 36% of the full funding level (excluding facilities reimbursement). The statewide tuition assessments and enrollments are expected to increase (3,100 seats), both the House and Senate version of the budget included increases to this line item; \$5 million and \$9.5 million, respectively. However, the final state budget is lower than both the House and Senate versions. **The final state budget is \$54 million underfunded in FY17; and approximately \$1 million for the Worcester Public Schools.**

The Based on the Conference Committee estimate, the following is the impact for Worcester:

House Budget:	\$2,179,528
Final State Budget:	<u>\$1,815,469</u>
Difference:	\$ -364,059

Charter School, School Choice, Special Education Assessments

The following table compares the tuition assessments (reductions to the WPS budget) included in the House budget (amounts included in WPS budget) and the final state budget:

	<u>House Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Charter School Assessment	\$24,579,722	\$24,542,124	-\$37,598
School Choice Assessment	\$2,686,481	\$2,767,477	\$80,996
Special Education Assessment*	\$147,618	\$187,085	\$39,407
Total Assessments	\$27,413,821	\$27,496,626	\$82,805

* The Commonwealth of Massachusetts reduces state aid to districts in order to partially reimburse the state for providing special needs education to children enrolled in state hospital schools. The cost that each municipality is charged is the average per pupil cost of education within the school district multiplied by the Full-time Equivalent of resident pupils served by the state. Current year charges are for pupils served in the prior school year.

Summary of General Fund Budget Changes:

Tuition Assessment - Budget Change:	-\$ 82,805
Charter School Reimbursement Change:	-\$364,059
Chapter 70 Change:	\$ 63,139
Total General Fund Budget Change:	-\$383,725

Combined, the final state budget represents a total reduction to the Worcester Public Schools in the amount of \$1,135,063.

It should be noted, however, that the WPS budget anticipates some change between the House version of the budget and the final state budget. The district set aside \$350,000 in the adopted budget (page 199, Line E.) in anticipation of the final state budget. As noted in the budget, historically, the charter school tuition assessments included in the House of Representative's budget are lower than the final assessment determined in July. Given this set aside, the impact to the general fund budget is a reduction of an additional \$33,725 instead of the full amount of the change, or \$785,063 total reductions that needs to be addressed through additional budget actions.

There are several other items that is having a significant impact on the budget:

Secondary Class Size:

Middle and high school principals are in the process of scheduling courses next year based on student enrollments and course selections. The FY17 budget, in order to be balanced, resulted in a reduction of 9 secondary positions. Preliminary information from the secondary schools are showing some difficulty scheduling as there are courses with full enrollment without budgeted teaching slots. In order to provide these content areas, the 9 teacher positions that were reduced are needed to allow for enrollment expansion of Chapter 74 and Career-Technical programs at Worcester Technical High School, South High, and North High; along with other content teaching positions or sections at many of the other secondary schools. Unlike positions held to adjust for elementary enrollment adjustments, the master schedules at the secondary schools are being created now and the most effective allocation of teacher positions for student course selections occurs at this time. In order to properly schedule the secondary schools, the additional 9 positions would be approximately \$750,000 (with fringe costs included).

Title I Federal Entitlement Grant

The district is awaiting the Title I allocation for FY17. The preliminary estimates showed a fairly significant drop in Worcester's school age (5-17) poverty population. However, these preliminary estimates did not include counts of all eligible children, such as foster and neglected children. State grant allocations are in the process of being awarded and additional updates on all grants will be provided to the School Committee as necessary.

Superintendent Binienda has discussed these budget impacts with City Manager Augustus and Mayor Joseph Petty to determine to what extent, if any, the City can provide any additional funds beyond the increases already included in the FY17 budget, to help mitigate the impact and reductions from the loss of the Quality Kindergarten Grant along with the scheduling challenges at the secondary schools.