

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

AGENDA #8

The School Committee will hold a special meeting:

on: Friday, March 17, 2017
at: 9:00 a.m.
in: Multi-Purpose Room #A148, Worcester Technical High School

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ACTION

- I. CALL TO ORDER
INVOCATION - NONE
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/NATIONAL ANTHEM
- II. ROLL CALL
Ms. Colorio, Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo and Chairman Biancheria
- There were absent: Miss McCullough, Mr. O'Connell and
Mayor Petty
- III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS - NONE
IV. MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION - NONE
V. IMMEDIATE ACTION - NONE
VI. COMMUNICATION AND PETITION - NONE
VII. REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES - NONE
VIII. PERSONNEL - NONE
IX. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT - NONE
- X. GENERAL BUSINESS
- gb #7-101 - Administration
(March 8, 2017)
- To meet with the Legislative Delegation to discuss:
- the FY18 Preliminary Budget Estimates
 - the visit to the new Nelson Place School
Invitation: March 30, 2017,
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
 - plans for the Hanover Insurance Academy of the Arts, an advanced academy at Burncoat Middle School
 - MSBA projects
 - funding for administration of the Advanced Placement Exams
 - the Adopt-a-School Program
- X. ADJOURNMENT
- Helen A. Friel, Ed.D.
Clerk of the School Committee

**Convened in Open
Session at 9:10 a.m.**

See notes

10:25 a.m.

Others in attendance: B. Allen, M. Binienda, Representative Campanale, Senator Chandler, Representative Donahue, Representative Mahoney, Senator Moore, Representative O'Day and Dr. Rodrigues

GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #7-101

FY18 Preliminary Budget Estimates

Mr. Allen provided an overview of the FY18 Preliminary Budget Estimates.

Senator Moore stated that this is the second year in a row that the Governor has come forward with a budget in which the minimum per pupil cost is lower than what the legislature has funded over the last several years. He further stated that it is trying to increase the funding in the areas that are deficient.

Mr. Foley spoke about the forum on poverty, sponsored by the MASC and MASS, regarding the underfunding of special education and ELL services for students who are new immigrants to this country. He suggested working with the MASC to try to bring together the urban districts, but not to exclude the rural ones, to help build a political coalition across the Commonwealth.

Visit to the new Nelson Place School

Senator Chandler requested that the date of the walking tour be changed to Friday, March 31, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Plans for the Hanover Insurance Academy of the Arts, an advanced academy at Burncoat Middle School

Superintendent Binienda stated that this program is similar to the Goddard Scholars Program in the South Quadrant. It will start in grade 7, then 8 and then go to 9 to 12 at Burncoat Middle and Burncoat High schools. It has arts included in all curricular areas. Hanover Insurance is really interested in getting more involved in programming at Burncoat Middle and Burncoat High schools. The academy will open in August with 50 students and 50 more will be added next year until the school has 300 students.

Ms. Colorio requested a report to contain the number of applicants and teachers indicating interest in being part of this academy.

NOTES (continued)

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

gb #7-101 (continued)

MSBA Projects

Mr. Allen gave a brief update on the MSBA projects.

Miss Biancheria requested that the Administration provide an updated list of summer projects to the members of the local delegation.

Funding for Administration of the Advanced Placement Exams

The cost to administer the AP exam is approximately \$80,000. To date, the Administration is collecting \$15 per exam from all the students. The state has not received the funding from the Federal Government and it is not clear if that funding will be available.

Senator Chandler suggested that the costs for the AP tests be included in each school's educational allotment.

Senator Moore stated that he has filed a bill to establish a pilot early college high school which is tied into AP and dual enrollment, which would allow students to accumulate up to 12 credits or an associate's degree by the time they graduate from high school for an estimated cost of \$1,000,000.

Adopt a School Program

Senator Chandler indicated interest in establishing a program with Cool Smiles. She suggested that each legislator partner with a school to implement the program.

PCBs

Mr. Allen provided an update on PCBs.