

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

AGENDA #4

The School Committee will hold virtually a special meeting:

on: Thursday, February 11, 2021
at: 7:00 p.m.
in: Virtually in Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ACTION

I. CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION - NONE

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/NATIONAL ANTHEM

II. ROLL CALL

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

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS - NONE

IV. MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION - NONE

V. IMMEDIATE ACTION - NONE

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT - NONE

VII. COMMUNICATION AND PETITION - NONE

VIII. REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES - NONE

IX. PERSONNEL - NONE

X. GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #1-46 - Administration
(February 9, 2021)

(See notes)

Request that the School Committee approve participation of Fall 2
Sports.

X. ADJOURNMENT

7:56 p.m.

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

N O T E S

The School Committee convened in Open Session at 7:10 p.m.

There were present at the Call to Order:

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

GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #1-46

David Shea, Athletic Director, requested that the School Committee allow the Athletic Department to move forward with Field Hockey, Boys and Girls Soccer, Boys and Girls Cross-Country and Boys Golf, all sports that were left over from the Fall 1 Season. In addition, Football, Girls Volleyball, Cheering and Dance, and Unified Basketball will also be included. Indoor Track will be moved to the Spring Season. He stated that on September 3, 2020 and December 3, 2020, the School Committee approved by a vote of 6-1 to allow Fall 2 Sports to commence. Due to the metrics established by the state and the high level of COVID-19 cases, the September and December start dates were postponed.

Mayor Petty asked Mr. Shea to discuss the measures being taken to ensure the safety of the student athletes.

Mr. Shea stated that the Athletic Department is mandated by the Energy and Environmental Affairs Office (EEA) to follow their guidelines regarding practices and games and the COVID-19 Task Force governed by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA). He stated that the department follows the WPS COVID protocol. If athletes are not comfortable participating in Fall 2 Sports, they may opt out with no penalty.

Mayor Petty asked for the projected start dates. Mr. Shea stated that, per MIAA rules, the Fall 2 Season is supposed to take place between February 22 and April 25. Through the Central Massachusetts Athletic Directors, it was decided that Districts 2 and 3 practices will begin as follows:

- Football (February 22)
- Field Hockey, Soccer (Boys and Girls), Cross-Country (Boys and Girls), Boys Golf, Girls Volleyball, Cheering and Dance, and Unified Basketball (March 1)

The hope is to commence actual games in mid-March. Field conditions and weather will be a factor. According to Mr. Shea, Robert Antonelli, Assistant Commissioner of Parks may open Glodis Field and Foley Stadium. Practices may be held in parking lots and gyms until melting takes place.

Mayor Petty left at 7:43 p.m. and returned at 7:45 p.m.

Ms. Novick requested that a separate vote be taken specifically for Cross-Country and Golf.

Mayor Petty made the following motions:

Request that the School Committee approve Cross Country (Boys and Girls) and Golf.

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

Request that the School Committee approve the following Fall 2 Sports:

- Football
- Field Hockey
- Soccer (Boys and Girls)
- Girl's Volleyball
- Cheering and Dance and
- Unified Basketball.

On a roll call of 6-1 (nay Ms. Novick), the motion was approved.

Request that the School Committee approve moving Boys and Girls Indoor Track to the Spring Season.

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

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration forward letters to all coaches to remind them to have a supply of PPE available for student athletes at all times.

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

Mayor Petty thanked the WPS personnel who volunteered at the Senior Center during the distribution of vaccines.

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

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