

**The following item will be discussed at the meeting of the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports to be held on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 410 at the Durkin Administratin Building:**

ROS #4-12 - Administration (October 8, 2014)

DISTRICT LITERACY PLAN

gb #4-39 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Mayor Petty (February 4, 2014)

To review and consider the report which sets forth "The Gateway Cities Vision for Dynamic Community-Wide Learning Systems."

gb #4-226 - Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Novick/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (August 13, 2014)

To review the level of instruction in computer "coding" provided to students of the Worcester Public Schools who would like to explore coding as a potential career.

gb #5-14 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Ramirez/Miss Biancheria (January 7, 2015)

To invite a representative of Tenacity to meet with the Worcester Public Schools, to consider cooperative opportunities to expand the Tenacity Summer Tennis and Reading Program for the benefit of the students of the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #5-207 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria (August 7, 2015)

Request that the Worcester Public Schools consider sharing information regarding the National Attendance Awareness Month movement sponsored by 40 national partners.

gb #5-269 - Mr. Foley/Miss Ramirez/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria (October 5, 2015)

Request that the Administration research the opportunities available to Worcester public school students through Unified Theater, an inclusive, student-led creative program that builds relationships and leadership.

gb #6-315 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/Miss McCullough/Miss Biancheria (September 7, 2016)

Request that the Administration consider establishing a learning committee to include service learning advocates at all the high schools and within the community whose mission would be to develop a plan at the secondary level and have all secondary schools engage in a service learning project during the 2016-17 school year.

gb #7-60 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Colorio/Miss McCullough (February 7, 2017)

Request that the Administration study the feasibility of establishing competitive wrestling teams in the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #7-282 - Administration (August 2, 2017)

To approve the proposed 2018-19, 2019-20 and the 2020-21 School Calendars.

gb #8-29 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Comparetto/Miss McCullough (January 16, 2018)

To engage in a comprehensive plan in an effort to have children read on grade level by the end of grade three.

gb #8-39 - Administration (January 23, 2018)

To consider an amendment to the Innovation Plan for Worcester East Middle School which will eliminate the admission of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students commencing in the 2018-19 academic school year in order to prepare a proposed Citywide Health and Science Gifted Academy for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students for the 2019-20 academic school year.

gb #8-45 - Administration (January 24, 2018)

To consider approval of the Read Side by Side reading program to be implemented in grades 3-6 and also for the Fountas & Pinnell Classroom to be implemented in grades K-2.

Committee Members  
Brian A. O'Connell, Chairman  
John F. Monfredo, Vice-Chairman  
Molly O. McCullough

Administrative  
Representative  
Susan O'Neil, Ph.D.

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

AGENDA #2

The Standing Committee on TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS  
will hold a meeting:

on: Tuesday, February 13, 2018  
at: 5:00 p.m.  
in: Room 410, Durkin Administration Building

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #2-139 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio (April 11, 2012)

To consider development of a partnership with the Boston Debate League to support academic debate teams in high schools in Worcester.

ROS #4-12 - Administration (October 8, 2014)

DISTRICT LITERACY PLAN

gb #4-39 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Mayor Petty (February 4, 2014)

To review and consider the report which sets forth "The Gateway Cities Vision for Dynamic Community-Wide Learning Systems."

gb #4-175 - Ms. Novick/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell (May 28, 2014)

To consider the possible benefits and drawbacks of later secondary school start times on teaching and learning.

gb #4-226 - Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Novick/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (August 13, 2014)

To review the level of instruction in computer "coding" provided to students of the Worcester Public Schools who would like to explore coding as a potential career.

gb #4-259 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (September 17, 2014)

To initiate a course in Mandarin Chinese at the Advanced Placement level, offered either in a customary classroom setting or through Virtual High School.

gb #5-14 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Ramirez/Miss Biancheria (January 7, 2015)

To invite a representative of Tenacity to meet with the Worcester Public Schools, to consider cooperative opportunities to expand the Tenacity Summer Tennis and Reading Program for the benefit of the students of the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #5-207 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria (August 7, 2015)

Request that the Worcester Public Schools consider sharing information regarding the National Attendance Awareness Month movement sponsored by 40 national partners.

gb #5-269 - Mr. Foley/Miss Ramirez/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria (October 5, 2015)

Request that the Administration research the opportunities available to Worcester public school students through Unified Theater, an inclusive, student-led creative program that builds relationships and leadership.

gb #5-328 - Administration (November 24, 2015)

To consider the Coordinated Program Review (CPR).

ROS #6-3 - Administration (March 9, 2016)

THE OPIATE EPIDEMIC: IMPACT ON THE WORCESTER COMMUNITY

gb #6-28.1 - Administration/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (February 17, 2016)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a list of assessments that were administered to kindergarten students for the 2015-16 academic year.

gb #6-37 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio/Miss McCullough  
(January 11, 2016)

To address the incidents of violent and aggressive behavior on the part of students toward teachers, administrators and other staff members in school, including staff development training in responses to student aggression, and consideration of appropriate policies and practices to curtail such incidents.

gb #6-260.1 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/  
Mr. Monfredo (November 1, 2016)

Response of the Administration to the request to 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.

gb #6-264 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio/Miss  
McCullough/Miss Biancheria (July 6, 2016)

To consider opportunities to enhance the education of the academically gifted students of the Worcester Public Schools, at all appropriate levels.

gb #6-270 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/Miss McCullough/Miss  
Biancheria (July 22, 2016)

Request that the Administration provide a report on the summer school programs to include:

- academic progress
- attendance
- community involvement
- engagement of colleges in summer activities
- number of ELL students
- number of grade 1 and 2 students

and suggest improvements for next year.

gb #6-315 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/Miss McCullough/Miss  
Biancheria (September 7, 2016)

Request that the Administration consider establishing a learning committee to include service learning advocates at all the high schools and within the community whose mission would be to develop a plan at the secondary level and have all secondary schools engage in a service learning project during the 2016-17 school year.

gb #6-334 - Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (September 26, 2016)

Request that the Administration consider the feasibility of establishing a citywide girl's ice hockey team.

gb #7-2 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Miss McCullough (December 16, 2016)

To review the 2016 Successor Settlement Agreement between the United States of America and the Worcester Public Schools, and to determine the financial costs of implementing it in full, for use in preparation of the fiscal year 2018 Budget.

gb #7-4 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/Miss McCullough (December 16, 2016)

To urge the individual Worcester public schools, and departments, to review and expand their websites, as a means of (1) increasing the information available through them, (2) showcasing student work and achievements, (3) sharing detailed curricular and programmatic information, and (4) assisting prospective students and parents in making informed decisions as to selection of an appropriate school.

ROS #7-6 - Administration (March 20, 2017)

UPDATE ON THE AVID (ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION) SYSTEM IN THE WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ROS #7-9 - Administration (May 10, 2017)

INNOVATION SCHOOL END OF CYCLE REPORT

gb #7-23 - Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/Miss McCullough/Miss Biancheria (January 3, 2017)

To consider making an online grading system available to all teachers for the 2017-18 academic and fiscal year.

gb #7-59 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Colorio/Miss Biancheria/Miss McCullough (February 6, 2017)

To reestablish the PEAK ("Providing Enrichment for Able Kids") Program in the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #7-60 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Colorio/  
Miss McCullough (February 7, 2017)

Request that the Administration study the feasibility of establishing competitive wrestling teams in the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #7-127 - Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (March 21,  
2017)

To consider establishing a literary magazine for the Worcester Public Schools, to publish the writings, paintings, drawings, and other creative work of WPS students, teachers and other staff members.

gb #7-201 - Mr. O'Connell (May 8, 2017)

To implement the new Chinese Language and Culture Advanced Placement course in the Worcester public secondary schools as soon as a sufficient number of students have completed all prerequisites required to enable them to take the course.

gb #7-207 - Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria (May 17, 2017)

To discuss with appropriate members of the staff of Elm Park Community School the possible conversion of the school into an autonomous Horace Mann Charter School.

gb #7-275 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley (July 25, 2017)

To consider participating in the Harvard University's Teacher Fellows Program, with placement of Fellows in the Worcester high schools.

gb #7-282 - Administration (August 2, 2017)

To approve the proposed 2018-19, 2019-20 and the 2020-21 School Calendars.

gb #7-285 - Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O'Connell  
(August 7, 2017)

To explore options and policies regarding work assigned and performed at home on snow days in an effort not to extend the school year.

gb #7-322 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/Ms. Colorio (September 25,  
2017)

Request that the Administration consider developing a student program to instruct secondary students about food allergies and anaphylactic risks.

gb #7-333 - Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria (September 27, 2017)

Request that the Administration consider establishing a confidential student drug and alcohol hotline and indicate how it would be implemented in the schools.

gb #7-367 - Miss Biancheria/Miss McCullough/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo (October 24, 2017)

Request that the Administration provide a report on the UNITEY Program at North High School that involves civic engagement and internships for students.

gb #8-29 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Comparetto/Miss McCullough (January 16, 2018)

To engage in a comprehensive plan in an effort to have children read on grade level by the end of grade three.

gb #8-39 - Administration (January 23, 2018)

To consider an amendment to the Innovation Plan for Worcester East Middle School which will eliminate the admission of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students commencing in the 2018-19 academic school year in order to prepare a proposed Citywide Health and Science Gifted Academy for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students for the 2019-20 academic school year.

gb #8-42 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Comparetto/Miss McCullough (January 23, 2018)

Request that the Administration study the feasibility of involving students in community service projects at the Senior Center.

gb #8-45 - Administration (January 24, 2018)

To consider approval of the Read Side by Side reading program to be implemented in grades 3-6 and also for the Fountas & Pinnell Classroom to be implemented in grades K-2.

motion (gb #7-148.2) Mr. O'Connell (June 15, 2017)

Request that the report of the actual grants be referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports for a review of the grants and the programs operated under the grants.



motion (gb #7-220) Miss Biancheria (June 1, 2017)

Request that the approved Admission Policy for Worcester Technical High School be referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.

motion (ros #7-14) Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio

Request that the Administration provide a breakdown of the backup by sections as follows:

- Elementary Education
- Secondary Education
- Curriculum and Professional Learning
- Instructional and Digital Learning

IV. ADJOURNMENT

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

ITEM: ros #4-12

STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, February 13, 2018

ITEM: Administration (October 8, 2014)

DISTRICT LITERACY PLAN

PRIOR ACTION:

- 10-16-14 - Dr. Rodrigues presented the Report of the Superintendent regarding the District Literacy Plan.  
Miss Ramirez asked the Administration and the School Committee to consider how to connect this plan to the real world through professional development.  
Miss Ramirez made the following motion:  
Request that the item be referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports in order to monitor the goals.  
On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

BACKUP:

Due to the outdated backup from 2014, the Administration recommends that the item be filed.

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

- 10-16-14 - Mr. Monfredo stated that the School Committee should meet with state officials and ask for their support, through the Foundation Budget, for full day pre-school programs either in the Worcester Public Schools or in the private sector.  
Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:  
Request that the Administration provide an update on the four goals in May or June, 2015.  
On a voice vote, the motion was approved.  
Miss Biancheria made the following motion:  
Request that the Administration provide a progress report on Goal #4.  
On a voice vote, the motion was approved.  
Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:  
Request that the Administration consider including in the Family and Community Literacy Advisory group representatives from the Latino community, CPPAC and other community agencies.  
On a voice vote, the motion was approved.  
Ms. Novick requested that the Administration review the phrasing of the theory of action and the definition of literacy.
- 8-16-16 - It was moved and voice voted to request that the Administration respond to the item in February 2017.

ITEM: gb #4-39

STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, February 13, 2018

ITEM: Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Mayor Petty (February 4, 2014)

To review and consider the report which sets forth "The Gateway Cities Vision for Dynamic Community-Wide Learning Systems."

PRIOR ACTION:

- 2-27-14 - Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.
- 12-8-15 - Dr. Rojas made a presentation relative to a multi-tiered system of supports which tied into "The Gateway Cities Vision for Dynamic Community-Wide Learning Systems."  
Mr. Monfredo and Mr. O'Connell made the following motions:  
Request that the Administration provide a report to the Standing Committee during the month of February with regard to progress made in the formulation of its multi-tiered system of supports.  
Request that the Administration also provide any recommendations it has for budgetary investment by the School Committee in connection with the program for FY17.  
On a voice vote, the motions were approved.
- 8-16-16 - It was moved and voice voted to request that the Administration respond to the item in February 2017.

BACKUP:

Filed due to 2014 outdated backup.

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

- 8-16-17 - Mr. O'Connell made the following motions:
- Request that the Administration seek the findings of the MASC on the benefits of later start times especially for middle and high schools.
  - Request that the Administration establish a special study committee comprised of school personnel, community representatives and experts in the field of health to conduct its own research in connection with the advisability of a later start time for secondary school students and report back its findings at a meeting of the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports in December 2017.
  - Request that the Special Study Committee look into the experience of other districts, especially other urban districts that have scheduled later start times for secondary schools including but not limited to Minneapolis which has had 15 years of experience in later start time.
- On a voice vote, the motions were approved.  
HOLD

ITEM: gb #4-226

STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, February 13, 2018

ITEM: Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Novick/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (August 13, 2014)

To review the level of instruction in computer "coding" provided to students of the Worcester Public Schools who would like to explore coding as a potential career.

PRIOR ACTION:

- 8-21-14 - Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.
- 8-16-16 - It was moved and voice voted to request that the Administration respond to the item in February 2017.

BACKUP:

Annex A (1 page) contains a copy of the definition of computer program coding.

Due to the advanced knowledge by students in coding, the Administration recommends that the item be filed.

1. What is computer program coding?  
That line of code is written in the **Python** programming language. Put simply, a programming (or coding) language is a set of syntax rules that define how code should be written and formatted. Thousands of different programming languages make it possible for us to create computer software, apps and websites.

ITEM: gb #5-14

STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, February 13, 2018

ITEM: Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Ramirez/Miss Biancheria  
(January 7, 2015)

To invite a representative of Tenacity to meet with the Worcester Public Schools, to consider cooperative opportunities to expand the Tenacity Summer Tennis and Reading Program for the benefit of the students of the Worcester Public Schools.

PRIOR ACTION:

- 1-22-15 - Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.
- 8-16-16 - It was moved and voice voted to request that the Administration respond to the item in February 2017.
- 2-14-17 - HOLD for a meeting of the Standing Committee in April 2017.

BACKUP:

Due to the outdated nature of the item, the Administration recommends that the item be filed.



STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, February 13, 2018

ITEM: Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria (August 7, 2015)

Request that the Worcester Public Schools consider sharing information regarding the National Attendance Awareness Month movement sponsored by 40 national partners.

PRIOR ACTION:

- 8-20-15 - Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports for a report in November 2015.
- 8-16-16 - STANDING COMMITTEE ON TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS  
Mr. Monfredo made the following motions:  
Request that the Administration schedule an Attendance Matters kick-off event to promote the National Attendance Awareness Month in early September.

BACKUP:

The topic of chronic absenteeism has been taken up and developed as a top priority of the system. Therefore, this outdated item should be filed.

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

8-16-16 - Request that the Administration notify the Standing Committee  
(continued) regarding the date and time of the scheduled meeting of the Chronic Absenteeism Committee.

Request that the Administration ask the members of the Chronic Absenteeism Committee to consider developing specific benchmarks and guidelines for the individual schools and include them in their Accountability Plans.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

Miss McCullough made the following motion:

Request that the Administration forward information regarding the Whirlpool Initiative to the Administration to be forwarded for consideration by the Chronic Absenteeism Committee.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report in a Friday Letter during the month of September indicating the date and time of the kick-off.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, February 13, 2018

ITEM: Mr. Foley/Miss Ramirez/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria  
(October 5, 2015)

Request that the Administration research the opportunities available to Worcester public school students through Unified Theater, an inclusive, student-led creative program that builds relationships and leadership.

PRIOR ACTION:

- 10-15-15 - Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.  
Mr. Foley made the following motion:  
Request that the Administration invite a representative from the Unified Theater to the Standing Committee meeting when the item is discussed.  
On a voice vote, the motion was approved.
- 2-1-16 - Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:  
Request that the Administration invite a representative of the Unified Theater to make a presentation to include the cost factor.  
On a voice vote, the motion was approved.  
HOLD.
- 8-16-16 - **STANDING COMMITTEE ON TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**  
It was moved and voice voted to request that the Administration respond to the item in November 2016.
- 8-18-16 **SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING** - The School Committee approved the action of the Standing Committee as stated.

BACKUP:

Due to constraints in the Budget, the Administration recommends that the item be filed.

STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Wednesday, August 16, 2017

ITEM: - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/Miss McCullough/  
Miss Biancheria (September 7, 2016)

Request that the Administration consider establishing a service learning committee to include service learning advocates at all the high schools and within the community whose mission would be to develop a plan at the secondary level and have all secondary schools engage in a service learning project during the 2016-17 school year.

PRIOR ACTION:

- 9-15-16 - Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.
- 8-16-17 - Mr. O'Connell made the following motions:
  - Request that the Administration hold the item for the meeting of the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports in November 2017 and request that the administrators of each high school provide a report regarding service learning projects they wish to undertake.
  - Request that the Administration provide a report on the feasibility of having the middle and elementary schools become involved with service learning projects.
  - On a voice vote, the motions was approved.

BACKUP:

The Superintendent is bringing this to her student advisory committee. Each high school, through the student advisory, will identify a service project for the year in 17-18 by identifying a nonprofit organization within the community to partner with. This model will be explored for expansion as the high schools each grow their service learning committees this year.

ITEM: gb #7-60

STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, February 13, 2018

ITEM: Miss Biancheria/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio/  
Miss McCullough (February 7, 2017)

Request that the Administration study the feasibility of establishing competitive wrestling teams in the Worcester Public Schools.

PRIOR ACTION:

- 2-16-17 - Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.  
Miss Biancheria made the following motion:  
Request that when the item is discussed at the Standing Committee level, that a representative from the Wrestling Team at Worcester Technical High School and Andy Meier be invited to the meeting.  
On a voice vote, the motion was approved.
- 4-24-17 It was moved and voice voted to hold the item for the next meeting of the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.

BACKUP:

Annex A (1 page) contains a copy of the Administration's response to the item.

Filed due to the fact that the Worcester Public Schools has a city-wide wrestling team.

The Worcester Public Schools already has an active city-wide wrestling team. This team was established over a decade ago and it involves the seven high schools in the district. Students are eligible to try out for the team which season starts the Monday after Thanksgiving and continues until the first week of March.

The city-wide wrestling team competes in Division 2 - Central Region. The Team is a member of the MIAA and competes both in the regular season and the post season. The WPS team participates in regular head to head matches, competes in tri-matches with 2 other teams and, at times, competes in quad matches with three other teams. The team typically has 12 to 15 wrestling matches each year.

The city-wide wrestling team consists of a head coach and two volunteer coaches and holds practice sessions at Doherty Memorial High School. The team has a range of 8 to 20 student athletes each year, with 21 student athletes participating this past season.

ITEM: gb #7-282

STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, February 13, 2018

ITEM: Administration (August 2, 2017)

To approve the proposed 2018-19, 2019-20 and the 2020-21 School Calendars.

PRIOR ACTION:

8-24-17 - Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.

BACKUP:

Annex A (3 pages) contains a copy of the Proposed 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21 School Calendars

## Worcester Public Schools Calendar 2018-2019

AUGUST 2018							SEPTEMBER 2018							OCTOBER 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
							30													
NOVEMBER 2018							DECEMBER 2018							JANUARY 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	31		
							30	31												
FEBRUARY 2019							MARCH 2019							APRIL 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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MAY 2019							JUNE 2019							JULY 2019						
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			
							30													

**2018**

August 23, 2018 and August 24, 2018  
Teacher/Staff Reporting

August 27, 2018- First Day of School

August 30, 2018  
First day of School for PreK-Kindergarten

September 3, 2018- Labor Day

October 5, 2018 - Staff Development

October 8, 2018 - Columbus Day

November 12, 2018 - Veterans' Day

Nov. 21, 2018 - Nov. 23, 2018 - Thanksgiving

December 24, 2018 - January 1, 2019 - Holiday Vacation

**2019**

January 1, 2019 - New Year's Day

January 21, 2019 - Martin Luther King

February 18, 2019 - Presidents' Day

Feb. 19, 2019 - Feb. 22, 2019- Winter Vacation

April 15, 2019 - Patriots' Day

April 16, 2019 - April 19, 2019 - Spring Vacation

May 24, 2019  
Last day of school for seniors

May 27, 2019 - Memorial Day

\*June 10, 2019 - Last day of School

☐ = DAYS WHEN SCHOOL IS NOT IN SESSION FOR STUDENTS

\*Last day of school may change in response to the number of snow days used during the school year

End of marking quarters:    November 2, 2018    January 18, 2019    April 5, 2019    June 10, 2019 or last day of school

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## Worcester Public Schools Calendar 2019-2020

AUGUST 2019						
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JUNE 2020						
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JULY 2020						
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2019</b></p> <p>August 22, 2019 and August 23, 2019 Teacher/Staff Reporting</p> <p>August 26, 2019- First Day of School</p> <p>August 29, 2019 First day of school for PreK-Kindergarten</p> <p>September 2, 2019- Labor Day</p> <p>October 11, 2019 - Staff Development</p> <p>October 14, 2019 - Columbus Day</p> <p>November 11, 2019 - Veterans' Day</p> <p>Nov. 27, 2019-Nov. 29, 2019 - Thanksgiving</p> <p>December 23, 2019 -January 1, 2020 Holiday Vacation</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2020</b></p> <p>January 1, 2020 - New Year's Day</p> <p>January 20, 2020 - Martin Luther King</p> <p>February 17, 2020 - Presidents' Day</p> <p>Feb. 18, 2020 – Feb. 21, 2020 Winter Vacation</p> <p>April 10, 2020 - Non-School Day</p> <p>April 20, 2020 - Patriots' Day</p> <p>April 21, 2020 –April 24, 2020 Spring Vacation</p> <p>May 25, 2020 - Memorial Day</p> <p>May 27, 2020 - Last day of school for seniors</p> <p>*June 10, 2020- Last Day of School</p>
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☐ = DAYS WHEN SCHOOL IS NOT IN SESSION FOR STUDENTS

\*Last day of school may change in response to the number of snow days used during the school year

End of marking quarters:    November 1, 2019    January 17, 2020    April 3, 2020    June 10, 2020 or last day of school

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## Worcester Public Schools Calendar 2020-2021

AUGUST 2020						
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SEPTEMBER 2020						
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OCTOBER 2020						
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NOVEMBER 2020						
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DECEMBER 2020						
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JANUARY 2021						
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FEBRUARY 2021						
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MARCH 2021						
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APRIL 2021						
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MAY 2021						
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JUNE 2021						
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JULY 2021						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2020</b></p> <p>August 27, 2020 and August 28, 2020 Teacher/Staff Reporting</p> <p>August 31, 2020 - First Day of School</p> <p style="text-align: center;">September 3, 2020</p> <p>First day of school for PreK-Kindergarten</p> <p>September 7, 2020- Labor Day</p> <p>October 9, 2020- Staff Development</p> <p>October 12, 2020- Columbus Day</p> <p>November 11, 2020- Veterans' Day</p> <p>Nov. 25, 2020-Nov. 27, 2020 - Thanksgiving</p> <p>December 24, 2020 - January 1, 2021 Holiday Vacation</p> <p style="text-align: center;">☐ = DAYS WHEN SCHOOL IS NOT IN SESSION FOR STUDENTS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*Last day of school may change in response to the number of snow days used during the school year</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2021</b></p> <p>January 1, 2021 - New Year's Day</p> <p>January 18, 2021 - Martin Luther King</p> <p>February 15, 2021 - Presidents' Day</p> <p>February 16, 2021-February 19, 2021 Winter Vacation</p> <p>April 2, 2021 - Non-School Day</p> <p>April 19, 2021 - Patriots' Day</p> <p>April 20, 2021 -April 23, 2021 - Spring Vacation</p> <p style="background-color: #e0e0e0; padding: 2px;"><i>If the number of snow days extends by 8 days, subsequent days will be taken from April's Vacation.</i></p> <p>June 1, 2021- Last day of school for seniors</p> <p>May 31, 2021 - Memorial Day</p> <p>*June 15, 2021 - Last day of School</p>
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**End of marking quarters:**    November 6, 2020    January 22, 2021    April 9, 2021    June 15, 2021 or last day of school

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ITEM: gb #8-29

STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, February 13, 2018

ITEM: Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Comparetto/  
Miss McCullough (January 16, 2018)

To engage in a comprehensive plan in an effort to have children read on grade level by the end of grade three.

PRIOR ACTION:

2-1-18 - (Considered with gb #8-45). Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.

BACKUP:

The plan is to adopt and implement the "Fountas and Pinnell Classroom" for grades K-2 and "Read Side by Side" for grades 3-6 in 2018-19 to initiate a common curriculum for literacy across the district that is standards based. The Administration will then work on professional development (February/March 2018 and forward) to prepare staff, establish benchmarks, and initiate a data cycle within each school to monitor student progress, the need for interventions and determine the effectiveness of them. This semester, five schools are working on a state Early Literacy Grant which will help to identify and establish evidenced based best practices in early literacy in assessment and instruction with support from state conferences and a consultant paid for by the state. This work will set a structure for expected practices, assessment and data meetings in 2018-19 as we implement "The Fountas and Pinnell Classroom".

ITEM: gb #8-39

STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, February 13, 2018

ITEM: Administration (January 23, 2018)

To consider an amendment to the Innovation Plan for Worcester East Middle School which will eliminate the admission of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students commencing in the 2018-19 academic school year in order to prepare a proposed Citywide Health and Science Gifted Academy for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students for the 2019-20 academic school year.

PRIOR ACTION:

- 2-1-18 - Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.  
Mr. Foley suggested to all School Committee members to forward any questions relative to this item to the Superintendent before the meeting of the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports so that they can be discussed at the meeting.

BACKUP:

Annex A (1 page) contains a copy of the Administration's response to the item.

Worcester East Middle School  
Enrollment History and Projection

Year	Grade			Total
	6	7	8	
2018-19 projected*	0	417**	380	797
2017-18	91	380	335	806
2016-17	79	365	369	813
2015-16	81	375	331	787
2014-15	84	355	348	787

\* without Grade 6 enrollment

\*\* current 6th grade enrollment plus sending quadrant 6th grade enrollment  
less 10% attrition (to other schools)

The Administration recommends that the School Committee amend the Innovation Plan for Worcester East Middle School by eliminating the admission of 6th grade students commencing in the 2018-19 academic school year.

ITEM: gb #8-45

STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Tuesday, February 13, 2018

ITEM: Administration (January 24, 2018)

To consider approval of the Read Side by Side reading program to be implemented in grades 3-6 and also for the Fountas & Pinnell Classroom to be implemented in grades K-2.

PRIOR ACTION:

2-1-18 - (Considered with gb # 8-29).  
Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.

BACKUP:

Annex A (1 page) contains a copy of information regarding the item.

***Reading Side by Side*** is a reading program for grades 3-6 with three components that are related thematically and occur throughout the units: 1. read aloud, 2. book clubs and 3. independent reading. Teacher manuals guide the instruction embedded in high interest trade books. The program is a vehicle for the teaching and learning of the state's English Language Arts (ELA) standards. Elementary principals, teachers and coaches were invited to a 2 day preview in January. Subsequent professional development will be planned for the spring and August. Please see <https://readsidebyside.com/shop/> and <https://readsidebyside.com/faqs/> for more information including a list of the trade books used in each component at each grade level. Samples will be available in the School Committee Office.

The "***Fountas & Pinnell Classroom™ (FPC)*** is a cohesive, multi-text approach to literacy instruction for all students in grades PreK–6. The System is designed to support whole-group, small-group and independent learning opportunities including: interactive read-aloud, reading minilessons, shared reading, phonics/spelling/word study lessons, guided reading, book clubs, and independent reading collections. *Fountas & Pinnell Classroom™* is rich with authentic texts, lessons or conferring cards, minilessons and professional tools & learning for a systematic, transformative approach to literacy instruction...creat[ing] authentic experiences in reading, thinking, talking, writing, and reflecting..."

The preceding description was copied from the Heinnean website. More information is available at: <http://www.fountasandpinnell.com/fpc/>. The program is a vehicle for the teaching and learning of the state's English Language Arts (ELA) standards Professional development to prepare teachers, instructional coaches and principals will begin in March 2018. Samples will be available in the School Committee Office.