

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

AGENDA #21

The School Committee will hold a regular meeting:

on: Thursday, December 19, 2013
at: 6:00 p.m. – Executive Session
7:00 p.m. – Regular Session
in: Esther Howland South Chamber, City Hall

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ACTION

I. CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR MEETING

INVOCATION - Reverend Warren Hicks
Saint Luke's Episcopal Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/NATIONAL ANTHEM

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #3-18 - Clerk
(December 11, 2013)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, December 5, 2013.

IV. MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION - NONE

V. IMMEDIATE ACTION

gb #3-296.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/
Miss Biancheria/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Foley/Ms. Novick/
Mayor Petty
(December 10, 2013)

To recognize Dr. Sheila Harrity upon her selection as recipient of the Terrel H. Bell Award for Outstanding School Leadership by the United States Department of Education.

IMMEDIATE ACTION (continued)

ACTION

gb #3-303.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/
Ms. Colorio/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick/
Mayor Petty
(December 10, 2013)

To recognize the "Worcester on the Move" program of South High Community School and Columbus Park Preparatory Academy.

gb #3-324 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/Mr.
Monfredo/
Ms. Novick/Mr. O'Connell/Mayor Petty
(December 11, 2013)

To recognize Donna Colorio for her years of dedicated service to the Worcester Public Schools.

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

ros #3-7.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell
(December 10, 2013)

Response of the Administration to the request to seek a legal opinion from the City Solicitor and the Massachusetts Association of School Committees as to whether the Worcester Public Schools can opt out of the PARCC field testing and indicate whether there would be an impact on grant funding.

ros #3-9 - Administration
(December 11, 2013)

ACHIEVING RESULTS: SUPERINTENDENT 'S REPORT ON THE 2013-14 GOALS

VII. COMMUNICATION AND PETITION

c&p #3-11 - Clerk
(December 11, 2013)

To consider a petition from a citizen regarding funds to purchase security cameras at Woodland Academy.

VIII. REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

The Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports met at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, November 25, 2013 in Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building.

IX. PERSONNEL

ACTION

3-55 The Superintendent has ACCEPTED the RETIREMENT of the person named below:

McCorkindale, Edward, Special Education, North, effective November 30, 2013

3-56 The Superintendent ACKNOWLEDGES the RESIGNATION of the persons named below:

Butcher, Carrie, Science, Doherty, effective December 4, 2013
Huff, Donielle, Special Education, South, effective December 6, 2013

3-57 The Superintendent has APPROVED the APPOINTMENT of the person named below to the position of Teacher effective as noted below:

Bossolt, Kathleen, Special Education ABA, Systemwide, MA+15, Step 6, \$61,894 effective December 4, 2013. License: NA

Kodra, Rachel, Special Education, Worcester Arts Magnet, CAGS/Step 8, \$72,928 effective December 9, 2013. License: Moderate Disabilities Prek-8.

Masiello, Allyssa, Special Education, Sullivan Middle, MA, Step 1, \$48,033 effective December 2, 2013. License: Moderate Disabilities Prek-8.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS

ACTION

gb #3-250.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell
(December 10, 2013)

Response of the Law Department to the request to interpret the following proposed language from Mr. O'Connell regarding procedures for co-sponsorship of items and whether or not such language, if approved, would necessitate an amendment to the Rules of the School Committee:

- Request that School Committee members may contact the Clerk until noon of the Wednesday prior to a School Committee meeting to inquire as to items filed for the meeting. They may identify items they choose to co-sponsor in which case they shall be listed as co-sponsors of the selected items on the agenda distributed for the meeting.
- Request that the School Committee seek a legal opinion as to the need for an amendment to the Rules of the School Committee for the procedure to be followed for the co-sponsorship of items and if in fact it would be binding if it isn't included in the Rules and adopted into the Rules by a 2/3 vote under Rule 20.

gb #3-305.1 - Administration/Miss Biancheria
(December 11, 2013)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide an updated report on the financial strategy to insure that the budget for each school is inclusive of the enrollment increases to date.

gb #3-308 - Miss Biancheria
(November 27, 2013)

Request that the Administration review and report on the equipment problems within the system that are not covered by warranties.

gb #3-309 - Miss Biancheria
(December 3, 2013)

Request that the Administration forward a letter on behalf of the School Committee to City Manager Michael O'Brien thanking him for his dedicated years of service to the City of Worcester and wish him well in his new position.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #3-310 - Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria
(December 5, 2013)

To dedicate additional resources to the funding of alternative placements for students unable to function effectively in the context of Worcester secondary schools, and to seek additional classroom space for these programs.

gb #3-311 - Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria
(December 5, 2013)

To discuss with the Diocese of Worcester the possible lease or purchase of the site of the former St. Paul's Elementary School, recently vacated by the Spirit of Knowledge Charter School, and the possible lease of any space available at All Saints Church formerly occupied by the Nativity School of Worcester.

gb #3-312 - Mr. O'Connell
(December 8, 2013)

To set a date to recognize and congratulate the Doherty Memorial High School varsity football team on winning the 2013 MIAA Division 4 Massachusetts state championship.

gb #3-313 - Mr. O'Connell
(December 9, 2013)

To set a date to recognize Sean Mulcahy upon his selection as the New England Patriots High School Coach of the Year for 2013.

gb #3-314 - Administration
(December 9, 2013)

To consider approval of a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$1,305.65.

gb #3-315 - Administration
(December 9, 2013)

To approve a decrease in the mileage reimbursement rate from \$0.565 per mile to \$0.56 per mile, effective January 1, 2014, for all non-represented and represented personnel in accordance with the 2014 standard mileage rate established by the Internal Revenue Service.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #3-316 - Mr. O'Connell
(December 11, 2013)

To review and, as appropriate, to modify current academic eligibility standards for participation in competitive secondary school sports of the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #3-317 - Mr. O'Connell
(December 11, 2013)

To establish advisory procedures and guidelines for evenings held for prospective parents/guardians at Worcester high schools, designed to provide them with a comprehensive presentation of the programs, services and opportunities offered to students at the schools.

gb #3-318 - Ms. Colorio
(December 11, 2013)

To oppose Health Bill H450, currently pending in the Massachusetts legislature, which would remove local control of key aspects of health education from local parents and School Boards.

gb #3-319 - Ms. Colorio
(December 11, 2013)

Request that the Administration report as to the full cost of mandating the PARCC pilot test in the Worcester Public Schools, including, but not being limited to, the cost of time spent in instructing teachers and students as to test methodology, and the cost of accommodations and equipment which will be required for the test.

gb #3-320 - Administration
(December 11, 2013)

To consider an adjustment in the FY14 Budget.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #3-321 - Administration
(December 11, 2013)

To consider projects for building repair, renovation and/or new school building construction, as well as projects under the Accelerated Repair Program through the 2014 Statement of Interest process of the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

gb #3-322 - Administration
(December 11, 2013)

To accept at grant in the amount of \$5,000 from the Massachusetts Cultural Council to support the STARS Residencies program at Jacob Hiatt Magnet School.

gb #3-323 - Ms. Colorio
(December 11, 2013)

To develop a process which offers parents and guardians the option to “opt out” of the PARCC pilot test for their children, and to communicate notice of this option to all parents and guardians.

gb #3-325 - Administration
(December 11, 2013)

To conduct the disciplinary hearing of a student and to do so in Executive Session to protect the statutory privacy rights of the students under Chapter 30, Section 21, paragraph 7 and Chapter 214, Section 1B of the Massachusetts General Laws.

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for the following groups if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares:

Teachers
Tradesmen
Plumbers and Steamfitters

To conduct contract negotiations with non-union personnel

Non-represented Employees

XI. ADJOURNMENT

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