

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

AGENDA #14

The School Committee will hold a regular meeting:

on: Thursday, April 28, 2016
at: 6:45 p.m. – Regular Session
in the: Esther Howland South Chamber, City Hall

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ACTION

- I. CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR MEETING
 - INVOCATION - NONE
 - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/NATIONAL ANTHEM
- II. ROLL CALL
- 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. REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE - NONE
- IX. PERSONNEL - NONE
- X. GENERAL BUSINESS
 - gb #6-77.1 - Administration/Administration
(April 8, 2016)
 - To hold a public hearing on School Choice.
- XI. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

AGENDA #15

The School Committee will hold a regular meeting:

on: Thursday, April 28, 2016
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

INVOCATION – Reverend Carla Dietz
Greendale People's Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/NATIONAL ANTHEM

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #6-11 - Clerk
(April 19, 2016)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, April 7, 2016.

IV. MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

gb #6-167 - Miss Biancheria
April 8, 2016

To reconsider the motion to deny Grievance #15/16-20.

V. IMMEDIATE ACTION

ACTION

gb #6-20.2 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/
Miss Biancheria/Ms. Colorio/Miss McCullough/
Mayor Petty
(March 1, 2016)

To recognize, with gratitude and appreciation, the many donations of defibrillators to the Worcester Public Schools by the Josh Thibodeau Helping Hearts Foundation.

gb #6-112.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. Foley/
Mr. O'Connell/Miss McCullough/
Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty
(April 13, 2016)

To recognize the Worcester Educational Development Foundation for awarding grants to the following schools:

Woodland Academy	Multicultural Gala	\$1,000
North High School	Community and Educational Fair	\$1,000
May Street School	Put Down Your Technology– Pick up a Classic	\$1,000
Lake View School	The Music of Sound	\$193
Burncoat Middle School/ Health and Physical Education Department	Stayin Alive	\$1,000
Gates Lane School of International Studies	Mom, Dad Look What We Can Do! (STEM)	\$1,000
Worcester Arts Magnet School	Ready for Summer Learning Through Play	\$1,000
Chandler Magnet School	Helping Young Children's Science Minds Grow	\$543
Elm Park Community School	Focusing on Science	\$980

gb #6-126.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/
Ms. Colorio/Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough/
Mayor Petty
(April 13, 2016)

To recognize Jeffrey Lane, Judith Millott and the students at Worcester Technical High School for their fundraising efforts for Tedy's Team to benefit the American Heart/American Stroke Association for Heart Month.

IMMEDIATE ACTION (continued)

ACTION

gb #6-130.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/
Ms. Colorio/Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough/
Mayor Petty
(April 13, 2016)

To recognize Margaret Bondar, Principal and staff members of Lake View School for receiving a MA Commendation Schools/MA Blue Ribbon School Grant from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in the amount of \$15,000.

gb #6-140 - Administration
(April 14, 2016)

To consider input from the School Committee's student representatives.

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT - NONE

VII. COMMUNICATION AND PETITION

c&p #6-4 - Clerk
(April 20, 2016)

To consider a communication from a citizen with a request to install a portrait of Maureen Binienda, Superintendent-Elect in the entranceway of every public school building as a welcoming sign to parents, students, educators and educational support professionals.

VIII. REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

The Joint Standing Committee on Finance and Operations and the City Council's Standing Committee on Education met at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 25, 2016 in Room 410 at the Dr. John E. Durkin Administration Building.

The Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues met at 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 in Room 410 at the Dr. John E. Durkin Administration Building.

The Standing Committee on Accountability and Student Achievements met at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 in Room 410 at the Dr. John E. Durkin Administration Building.

IX. PERSONNEL

ACTION

- 6-15 The Superintendent ACKNOWLEDGES the RESIGNATION of the person named below:

Martinez, Patzy, Teacher, Elementary, Woodland effective April 19, 2016.

Perez, Randy, Teacher, Science, Doherty, effective April 8, 2016.

- 6-16 The Superintendent has APPROVED the APPOINTMENT of the person named below:

Shields, Jennifer, Teacher, Special Education, Norrback, MA+15, Step 8, \$73,602, effective March 11, 2016

- 6-17 The Superintendent has provisionally APPOINTED the persons named below to the position of Senior Custodian, permanent/fulltime at a salary of \$17.52 (minimum) per hour to \$22.51 (maximum), per hour, effective as shown:

O'Brien, Paul	12/14/2015
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- 6-18 The Superintendent has provisionally APPOINTED the persons named below to the position of Junior Custodian, permanent/fulltime at a salary of \$15.28 (minimum) to \$19.17 (maximum), per hour, effective as shown:

Navarro, Luis	4/19/16
Boamah, Kwabena	4/19/16

- 6-19 The Superintendent has APPOINTED the persons named below to the position of Aide to the Physically Handicapped, permanent/fulltime at a salary of \$15.90 (minimum) to \$18.64 (maximum) per hour, from Civil Service List #315-078, effective as follows:

Ayala, Juan	4/4/16
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X. GENERAL BUSINESS

ACTION

gb #6-141 - Mr. Monfredo
(April 1, 2016)

Request that the Administration, on behalf of the School Committee, forward an e-mail to all teachers and nurses in the Worcester Public Schools during National Teacher's Week May 4 – 8 and Nurses' Appreciation Week May 6-12 in appreciation for their efforts for the students in the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #6-142 - Mr. Monfredo
(April 1, 2016)

To set a date to recognize the Worcester Public Schools' Teacher of the Year, the finalists and the Nurse of the Year when the selection is completed.

gb #6-143 - Mr. O'Connell
(April 4, 2016)

To review, and to prepare recommendations for the Worcester legislative delegation, regarding Senate Bill 2203 - "an act enhancing reform, innovation and success in education."

gb #6-144 - Mr. O'Connell
(April 4, 2016)

To update Worcester Public Schools' policies regarding substance abuse prevention and education, and to post the updated policies on the Worcester Public Schools website, in compliance with Chapter 71, Section 96 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

gb #6-145 - Mr. O'Connell
(April 4, 2016)

To consider adoption of Policy JLCD of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, regarding administration of medications to students.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #6-146 - Mr. O'Connell
(April 4, 2016)

To consider adoption of Policy JJF of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, regarding student activity accounts, to reflect the audit guidelines recently updated by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

gb #6-147 - Mr. Monfredo
(April 4, 2016)

Request that the Administration support the reading incentive program of Worcester's baseball team, the Worcester Bravehearts, by encouraging students in grades K-6 to participate in the "Home Run Club" during the month of May.

gb #6-148 - Mr. Monfredo
(April 11, 2016)

To set a date to recognize South High Community School's music teacher Angela Poirier and the students in the "South Harmonies" group for placing first in the first "WEC'appella" high school competition sponsored by the Worcester Educational Collaborative.

gb #6-149 - Mr. O'Connell
(April 11, 2016)

To forward a letter to congratulate the Quadrivium Chorus of Burncoat High School for achieving a first-place tie, and a Platinum rating, in the 2016 Disney Sings Choral Festival, with a score of 48 of 50 possible points.

gb #6-150 - Miss Biancheria
(April 12, 2016)

Request that Administration forward a letter, on behalf of the School Committee, to UMASS Memorial Hospital for its support for the Health and Science Career Expo held at the College of the Holy Cross for our students.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #6-151 - Administration
(April 13, 2016)

To review the reports on compliance and internal controls for the City of Worcester, including the Worcester Public Schools, from the Certified Public Accounting firm of CliftonLarsenAllen, LLP for the year ended June 30, 2015 which include the GAO and OMB A-133 Reports and the Management Letter and the Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed Upon Procedures for the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education End of Year Financial Report for fiscal year 2015, prepared by Robert C. Alario, CPA, P.C.

gb #6-152 - Mr. Monfredo
(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.

gb #6-153 - Administration
(April 13, 2016)

To set the dates for the FY17 Budget Hearings.

gb #6-154 - Mr. Monfredo
(April 14, 2016)

To forward a letter of support, on behalf of the School Committee, to the Legislative Delegation to support the Fair Share Amendment known as the "Millionaire Tax," sponsored by the Raise Up Coalition, which would allow the state to charge an additional 4% tax on incomes above one million dollars per year and the money collected would be used to fund transportation and education initiatives.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #6-155 - Mr. O'Connell
(April 15, 2016)

To set a date to recognize, with gratitude and appreciation, the donation of a "hybrid food truck" to the Worcester Public Schools, by the Stop and Shop Family Foundation and the Worcester County Food Bank.

gb #6-156 - Administration
(April 15, 2016)

To accept a donation from the Worcester Refugee Assistance Project, Inc. in the amount of \$100.00 in memory of Diane MacConnell for the Greendale Head Start Program on Grove Street.

gb #6-157 - Administration
(April 15, 2016)

To accept a donation from the Worcester District Medical Society in the amount of \$1,000.00 to support the CPR Project.

gb #6-158 - Administration
(April 15, 2016)

To accept a donation from Digital Federal Credit Union and the DCU for Kids Charitable Foundation in the amount of \$10,000.00 which is intended for scholarships to graduating seniors in the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #6-159 - Mr. O'Connell
(April 19, 2016)

To forward a letter of congratulations to the Green Reapers Team 1735 of Burncoat High School on winning the Judges Award at the robotics' New England District Championships for its "unique efforts, performance or dynamics".

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #6-160 - Mr. Monfredo
(April 19, 2016)

Request that the Administration continue in May or June the Annual Evening of Celebration which honors:

- staff (Thomas Jefferson Award)
- female Administrator of the Year (Frances Perkins)
- male Administrator of the Year (John Adams)
- Teacher of the Year
- Nurse of the Year

gb #6-161 - Mr. Monfredo
(April 19, 2016)

Request that the Administration place posters in locations throughout the community to alert the public about the importance of summer reading.

gb #6-162 - Mr. Foley
(April 19, 2016)

To invite Treasurer Deborah Goldberg to a School Committee meeting in May to explain the pilot \$eedMA program whose goal is to encourage Worcester kindergarten students and their families to plan and save for college.

gb #6-163 - Mr. Monfredo
(April 19, 2016)

Request that all schools participate in the “Stand for the Silent” anti-bullying program which will take place on April 29th and to thank Mr. Pezzella for spearheading the movement.

gb #6-164 - Administration
(April 19, 2016)

To accept a donation from The Hanover Insurance Group in the amount of \$2,500.00 to support the South High Community School’s Band trip to Philadelphia.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #6-165 - Mr. O'Connell
(April 20, 2016)

To set a date to recognize Sebastian Kopacz, a 12th grade student in the Worcester Technical High School electrical program, on his selection by The Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators (MAVA) and the Massachusetts Vocational Association (MVA) as one of 52 Massachusetts students honored at the 30th Annual Outstanding Vocational Technical Student Award Banquet at Mechanics Hall.

gb #6-166 - Mr. O'Connell
(April 20, 2016)

To congratulate the Gates Lane School of International Studies, Chandler Magnet School, Maureen Mohammed (South High Community School), and James Nowosacki (Francis J. McGrath Elementary School) upon their recognition, by the Worcester Educational Development Foundation, for their support of its 2016 Employee Payroll Deduction Campaign.

gb #6-168 - Administration
(April 20, 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 Grievance #15/16-20.

To discuss strategy in preparation for contract negotiations with nonunion personnel and to conduct negotiations with nonunion personnel – Superintendent-Elect.

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Worcester, Massachusetts
Thursday, April 7, 2016
Agenda #13 and #13A

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met in Open Session at 6:14 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall on Thursday, April 7 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

It was moved to recess to Executive Session:

Executive Session

- 1. gb #6-137 - Administration
(March 9, 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 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 Grievance #15/16-20.

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the governmental body to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations.

To discuss strategy in preparation for contract negotiations with nonunion personnel and to conduct negotiations with nonunion personnel – Superintendent-Elect.

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

The invocation was offered by Pastor Jarrett Allebach of Grace Presbyterian Church.

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

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

Grievance #15/16-18

- 2. Pursuant to action taken in Executive Session, it was moved and voice voted to hold Grievance #15/16-18.

Grievance #15/16-20

- 3. Pursuant to action taken in Executive Session, it was moved to deny Grievance #15/16-20.

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:		<u>0</u> 7
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The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF RECORDS

Minutes/ approval of

- 4. aor #6-7 - Clerk (March 16, 2016)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, March 3, 2016.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, March 3, 2016.

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

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Monday, March 7, 2016.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Monday, March 7, 2016.

6. aor #6-9 - Clerk
(March 16, 2016) Minutes/
approval of

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Monday, March 14, 2016.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Monday, March 7, 2016.

7. aor #6-10 - Clerk
(March 23, 2016) Minutes/
approval of

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, March 17, 2016.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, March 17, 2016.

IMMEDIATE ACTION

8. gb #6-74.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/
Ms. Colorio/Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell/
Miss Biancheria/Miss McCullough/
Mayor Petty
(March 25, 2016) Recognition/
Ivonne Perez

To recognize Ivonne Perez, Principal of Chandler Magnet School, for receiving the Dr. Stephen Mills award from the Worcester Educational Foundation for supporting its mission of "helping students and teachers thrive."

Mayor Petty and Dr. Rodriues presented a Certificate of Recognition to Ivonne Perez, Principal of Chandler Magnet School, for receiving the Dr. Stephen Mills award from the Worcester Educational Foundation for supporting its mission of "helping students and teachers thrive."

Recognition/
Winners of the
Worcester
Technical High
School Tech Fair
2016 and Jocelyn
Coughlin

9. gb #6-86.1 - Administration/Miss McCullough/
Ms. Colorio/Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell/
Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty
(March 25, 2016)

To recognize the following winners of the Worcester Technical High School Tech Fair 2016 and its Coordinator, Jocelyn Coughlin:

1ST Place

Plumbing and Pipe fitting	Soamy Morales Xavier Sotomayor Tyler DaSilva	Pathogen Growth in Different Types of Pipes
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2ND Place

Environmental Tech	Angel Shenette Tehya Casey	You're Safe, but is the Water- Testing the Health of Bodies of Water
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3RD Place

Welding & Metal	Julian Damik Stephanie Delgado Heidi O'Connor	Virtual Welding vs. Real Life Welding
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4TH Place

Biotech	Melany Acosta Tatiana Beckford Jahlyn Hampton Adja Sackor	Can Worcester Support Microbial Growth in Water
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5TH Place

Programming and Web Development	Kendrick Henriquez Aaron Ofosuhene	Cross Platform Development
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Honorable Mention (in no particular order)

Allied Health	Sophia Avril Emilee Avril	The Relationship of Your Dominant Hand and Eating
Allied Health	Hoang Vo Casey Colon	Nail Polish at a Price
Painting and Design	Shanna Harden Yvonne Bui	Testing Mixtures of Oil Based and Water Based Paints

Mayor Petty and Dr. Rodrigues presented Certificates of Recognition to the winners of the Worcester Technical High School Tech Fair 2016 and its Coordinator, Jocelyn Coughlin.

- 10. gb #6-123 - Administration
(March 25, 2016)

Student Representative/
input

To consider input from the School Committee's student representatives.

It was moved and voice voted to file the item.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

- 11. ros #6-4 - Administration
(March 28, 2016)

Report of the
Superintendent/
FY17 School Committee
Budget Priority Session

FY17 SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUDGET PRIORITY SESSION

It was moved and voice voted to accept the report and file the item.

Mr. Allen made a PowerPoint presentation regarding the FY17 School Committee Budget Priority Session.

BUDGET PRIORITIES

Mr. Monfredo made the following suggestions and recommended that they be discussed between the Superintendent-Elect and the City Manager:

1. revert to 1% for grant processing which would save \$770,000
2. the 50/50 split of Medicaid monies between the City of Worcester and the Worcester Public Schools
3. achieve reading on grade level by grade 3
4. provide an instructional assistant in every kindergarten, especially at level III schools
5. hire an Administrator to oversee the curriculum
6. maintain school safety issues
7. maintain low pupil:teacher ratio
8. provide additional Advanced Placement courses
9. provide additional Chapter 74 programs

Mr. O'Connell

1. provide adequate number of teachers
2. quality Professional Development
3. upgraded textbooks
4. fund multi-year technology plan
5. provide adequate funding for nurses
6. refurbish computers and related technology
7. continue to maintain support and fund Alert
8. review positions that do not directly impact students such as:
 - non-instructional positions
 - positions paid within the Budget under Non-Administrative accounts
 - positions paid as consultantsand transfer dollars directly into the classroom to fund teachers.

Miss Biancheria

1. Instructional Assistants in every kindergarten classroom
2. develop career opportunities with City partners
3. consider additional evening classes at Worcester Technical High School
4. develop alternative programs that offer career pathways
5. review of positions that are non-instructional
6. review number and use of consultants
7. maintain safety in our schools

8. include within the budget or in a separate document the good work being done by partners in the community

Mr. Foley

1. classroom support
2. class sizes in K- grade 2
3. attempt to remediate proposed cuts at the secondary level
4. continuation of the computer peer mediation services
5. increase rigor in all classes

COMMUNICATION AND PETITION

12. c&p #6-3 - Clerk
(March 25, 2016)

To consider a communication from a citizen regarding possible revisions to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Worcester Public Schools and the Worcester Police Department.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Administration.

Mr. Gordon Davis petitioned the School Committee to adopt the following language for the Non-emergency Section of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Worcester Public Schools and the Worcester Police Department:

- When School Resource Officers are asked by the Administration to act in a non-emergency situation, including disruptions and disorderly conduct, the School Resource Officer shall work under the direction of the principal or his/her designee.
- In non-emergency situations, the School Resource Officers shall follow policies in Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 222.
- The mandatory screening of students for opioids shall not result in an arrest of students at school.

PERSONNEL

13. It was moved and voice voted to file Personnel Items 6-13 and 6-14.

Communication and
Petition/Memorandum of
Understanding between
the Worcester Public
Schools and the
Worcester Police
Department

- Resignation 6-13 The Interim Superintendent ACKNOWLEDGES the RESIGNATION of the person named below:
- Ans dell, Nicola, Teacher, Elementary, Woodland effective March 11, 2016.
- Appointment/ teacher 6-14 The Interim Superintendent has APPROVED the APPOINTMENT of the person named below:
- Blanchard, Stefanie, Teacher, Special Education, Roosevelt, MA, Step 4, \$59,449, effective March 7, 2016.
- GENERAL BUSINESS
- Prior Fiscal Year Payment/McKinney Vento transportation/ \$3,536 14. gb #6-124 - Administration (March 17, 2016)
- To approve a prior fiscal year payment as a cost share in the amount of \$3,536 for McKinney Vento transportation services for a student attending another school district.
- 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.
- Goddard Scholars Program 15. gb #6-125 - Ms. Colorio/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/
Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough/Miss Biancheria/
Mayor Petty
(March 18, 2016)
- To consider expansion of the Goddard Scholars Program to another comprehensive high school.
- It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Administration.

Ms. Colorio made the following recommendations:

1. review the admission process for the selection of students in the Goddard Scholars Program in the 2017-18 academic year due to inequalities between the PARCC and MCAS scores
2. consider expanding the Goddard Scholars Program in the 2017 academic year to include the students that were qualified for the program using their previous MCAS scores

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide the procedures utilized to accept students into the Goddard Scholars Program.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria requested that the Administration provide information as to the number of students accepted into the program in the last two or three years.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration prepare recommendations regarding a budget, staffing and an appropriate site for the program.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

16. gb #6-126 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/
Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough/Mayor Petty/
Miss Biancheria
(March 18, 2016) Recognition/
set date

To set a date to recognize Jeffery Lane, Judith Millott and the students at Worcester Technical High School for their fundraising efforts for Tedy's Team to benefit the American Heart/American Stroke Association for Heart Month.

It was moved and voice voted to set the date of Thursday, April 28, 2016.

17. gb #6-127 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/
Miss McCullough/Mayor Petty
(March 21, 2016) Recognition/National
Secretaries Day

To acknowledge National Secretaries Day (April 24) by sending an e-mail to all WPS secretaries, on behalf of the School Committee, in appreciation for their hard work.

It was moved and voice voted to forward an e-mail.

Advanced
Academy/
consider
implementing

18. gb #6-128 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/
Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough
(March 21, 2016)

Request that the Administration consider implementing an advanced academy, based on the Goddard Academy model, at Burncoat Middle School for grade 7 students in either the 2016-17 or 2017-18 academic year which can be expanded to grade 8.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports for a report back in October 2016.

Early Learning
Committee

19. gb #6-129 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/
Ms. Colorio/Mr. Foley/
Miss McCullough
(March 21, 2016)

Request that the Administration establish an Early Learning Committee comprised of kindergarten teachers, grade one teachers and Administrators to consider the following:

- gradually advancing 4 year old students yearly, based on readiness skills
- consider a K-1 two year kindergarten program for 4 year old children
- consider seeking support from the Legislative Delegation for full day pre-school program

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports for a report back in October 2016.

Recognition/
set date

20. gb #6-130 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/
Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough/Mayor Petty/
Miss Biancheria
(March 28, 2016)

To set a date to recognize Margaret Bondar, Principal and staff members of Lake View School for receiving a MA Commendation Schools/MA Blue Ribbon School Grant from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in the amount of \$15,000.

It was moved and voice voted to set the date of Thursday, April 28, 2016.

- 21. gb #6-131 - Administration
(March 29, 2016)

Grant/
Massachusetts Skills
Capital Grant Program/
Acceptance of

To accept the Massachusetts Skills Capital Grant Program in the amount of \$347,882.

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.

- 22. gb #6-132 - Administration
(March 29, 2016)

2016-17 Policies
Handbook

To consider approval of the 2016-17 Policies Handbook of the Worcester Public Schools.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration interact with the principals to see if there are any possible additions or changes that they would like to see reflected to the Policies Handbook.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide its recommendations for the Policies Handbook to the Standing Committee in time for a detailed review by the

members of the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues and allow at least 2 weeks for a similar review by the full Committee.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Donation/METSO
USA/\$500

23. gb #6-133 - Administration
(March 29, 2016)

To accept a donation from METSO USA, Inc. in the amount of \$500 to support the Worcester Technical High School's Robotics Team.

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.

Donation/Ann B.
Day and Donna
Enberg/\$100

24. gb #6-134 - Administration
(March 29, 2016)

To accept a donation from Ann B. Day and Donna Enberg in the amount of \$100 to support the 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
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Against the motion:		$\frac{0}{7}$
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The motion carried.

- 25. gb #6-135 - Administration
(March 29, 2016)

Donation/Worcester
Educational Development
Foundation/\$1,000

To accept a donation from the Worcester Educational Development Foundation in the amount of \$1,000 to support the 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
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Against the motion:		$\frac{0}{7}$
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The motion carried.

- 26. gb #6-136 - Administration
(March 30, 2016)

Grant/DESE/Lake View
and Rice Square schools/
\$15,000

To accept grants in the total amount of \$15,000 from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for Lake View School (\$8,342) and Rice Square School (\$6,658).

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.

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

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

Dr. Helen A. Friel.

Clery - Worcester School Committee

William S. Coleman III request school committee have administration place an official portrait of our new Superintendent Maureen Binienda in the entrance way of every Public School Building as a welcoming sign to parents, students, and educators along with educational support professionals.

William S. Coleman III
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Worcester MA, 01606
508 826 1307
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Press Release: Workers, Community and Faith Leaders Launch “Fair Share Amendment” Campaign to Raise Additional Revenue for Public Education and Transportation

Alex Lach08.2015Press Release

Raise Up Massachusetts Submits Constitutional Amendment Petition to Attorney General

BOSTON – In its latest campaign to strengthen the lives of working families and build a stronger economy, Raise Up Massachusetts today submitted a constitutional amendment to the attorney general that dedicates funds to education and transportation by creating an additional tax on those who earn more than one million dollars in a single year.

“The best way to help working families and build a stronger economy for us all is to make sure that we have quality public schools for our children, affordable higher education, and a transportation system that lets people get to work and customers get to businesses,” said Barbara Gutman, coordinator for the Jewish Alliance for Law & Social Action and a member of the Steering Committee of Raise Up Massachusetts. “Without investment in these common goals, working families fall behind and our communities suffer. New revenue is necessary to improve our public schools, rebuild crumbling roads and bridges, make college affordable, and invest in fast and reliable public transportation.”

The constitutional amendment would create an additional tax of four percentage points on annual income above one million dollars. The new revenue generated by the tax could only be spent on quality public education, affordable public colleges and universities, and for repair and maintenance of roads, bridges, and public transportation. To ensure that the tax continues to apply only to the highest-income residents, the one million dollar threshold would be adjusted each year to reflect cost-of-living increases.

“To provide a sound future for our children and for our state, we need to invest more in education, starting with early childhood. We’re not investing appropriately in urban and poorer communities, with pre-K education especially, and we’re all paying the price,” said Mary Ann Stewart, Parent Representative on the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. “Gaps in achievement are profoundly impacted by gaps in investment. We know we can begin to improve public education by investing in high quality early childhood education, educating all students to high levels, and continuing to bring our education system into the 21st century. This initiative will let us make those investments by asking our richest citizens to simply pay their fair share of taxes.”

Raise Up Massachusetts, a coalition of community organizations, religious groups, and labor unions committed to building an economy that works for all of us, collected over 350,000 signatures in 2013 and 2014 on behalf of two ballot initiatives: raising the minimum wage and guaranteeing earned sick time for all Massachusetts workers. In June 2014, the Legislature passed and the governor signed legislation giving Massachusetts the highest minimum wage in the country. Raise Up Massachusetts then led the campaign to ensure access to earned sick time for all workers in the Commonwealth by passing Question 4 in November 2014.

“Our crumbling roads, bridges, and outdated public transportation system is a direct result of decades of insufficient funding,” said Siggy Meilus, a Bus Riders United organizer for the Community Economic Development Center in New Bedford. “Access to safe and reliable transportation is necessary for economic development, access to education, and providing independent living for seniors and persons with disabilities. In order to have a thriving community and state economy we need a transportation system that meets the needs of the Commonwealth.”

This fall, Raise Up Massachusetts plans to collect certified signatures from at least 64,750 registered voters (three percent of total votes cast for all candidates for governor in 2014). If enough certified signatures are collected, then the petition must go to a Joint Session of the Legislature and be approved by 25 percent of legislators (50 votes) before the end of formal sessions on July 31, 2016. The petition will then need a second approval by 25 percent of legislators in a Joint Session before the end of formal sessions on July 31, 2018 to appear on the ballot on November 6, 2018.

“When education is made unaffordable you severely limit the upward mobility of the most vulnerable segments of our population. Education for me is the only way I can create a better life for myself and family,” said Lynn resident Marven-rhode Hyppolite. “Many families are working two jobs and long hours for very little and are forced to make sacrifices in order to survive. Education should not and cannot be one of those sacrifices. This amendment will address some of these issues head on, and will give those of us who cannot afford the cost of public higher education a chance to better our lives.”

“Massachusetts has one of the largest income inequality problems in the country, and it’s getting worse. Yet our highest-income residents, who have been the biggest winners in the economy, pay the smallest share of their income in state and local taxes,” said Arthur MacEwan, Professor of Economic Emeritus at the University of Massachusetts Boston. “If they paid their fair share – the same share as the rest of us – we would be able to improve our schools, make higher education more affordable, and fix our crumbling transportation system.”

Below is the text of the proposed constitutional amendment that was submitted to the attorney general today:

An Initiative Petition for An Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth to Provide Resources for Education and Transportation through an additional tax on Incomes in excess of One Million Dollars

Amendment Article XLIV of the Massachusetts Constitution is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph at the end thereof:

To provide the resources for quality public education and affordable public colleges and universities, and for the repair and maintenance of roads, bridges and public transportation, all revenues received in accordance with this paragraph shall be expended, subject to appropriation, only for these purposes. In addition to the taxes on income otherwise authorized under this Article, there shall be an additional tax of 4 percent on that portion of annual taxable income in excess of \$1,000,000 (one million dollars) reported on any return related to those taxes. To ensure that this additional tax continues to apply only to the commonwealth's highest income residents, this \$1,000,000 (one million dollar) income level shall be adjusted annually to reflect any increases in the cost of living by the same method used for federal income tax brackets. This paragraph shall apply to all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2019.



SeedMA: Fact Sheet

December 2015

What is SeedMA?

SeedMA is a universal, seed-funded savings account program, designed to help Massachusetts children and families save for higher education and postsecondary training.

The program, presently in the pilot stage, will be open to every kindergarten student enrolled in the Worcester Public School System for the 2016-2017 school year. Eventually this savings plan will become available to every kindergarten student in Massachusetts.

These accounts are offered through the Office of the State Treasurer and Receiver General of Massachusetts and are funded through public-private partnerships.

What is the overall purpose and goals of SeedMA?

The purpose of SeedMA is to help Massachusetts students and families save for higher education, graduate from postsecondary institutions, and learn essential financial literacy skills.

The SeedMA program will dedicate its resources in support of three principal goals. First, it aims to increase the percentage of children saving for higher education in the City of Worcester. Second, it seeks to deliver high-quality financial education programming to students and parents, building a culture centered on saving for the future and employing prudent budget management. Third, it strives to boost postsecondary enrollment and graduation rates for Worcester High School students, incentivizing aspirations of higher education for economically vulnerable and disadvantaged children.

What is a SeedMA Account?

Every account offered through SeedMA is a "529 plan," a tax-advantaged investment plan authorized by Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code and designed to encourage savings for higher education. These accounts are specifically offered through the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority's (MEFA) U.Fund, which is sponsored by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and managed by Fidelity Investments.

Every SeedMA Account includes a \$50 deposit, to help jump start families on savings for future success. Earnings in a SeedMA Account grow tax-free, and qualified withdrawals are not subject to federal and state income taxes. Each account can hold a maximum of \$375,000 per beneficiary. In addition, contributions to the account are not tax-deductible and there are no account maintenance fees.





When can I sign up?

Open enrollment for \$eedMA will occur at the beginning of the 2016-2017 school year for kindergarten students enrolled in the Worcester Public School System.

How does it work?

Families interested in signing up for a \$eedMA Account will be asked to complete an online form on MEFA's website. After setting up the account, families can begin making contributions.

Why should I sign up?

\$eedMA Accounts are an effective way for families to manage the challenge of rising higher education costs. They are a proven tool that serves to cultivate educational attainment and aspirations for their children. Youth who grow up knowing they have a savings account that will help finance further education are more likely to succeed academically than those who do not. Research has also shown that children with an account are roughly seven times more likely to attend college than those without one.¹

Students and families in the \$eedMA program will also benefit from the financial education programming, integrated into the savings curriculum. For students, the benefits of learning key financial literacy principles extend beyond higher education aspirations and help them develop positive attitudes towards savings and financial institutions.²

Why was Worcester chosen as the pilot program city?

Worcester was selected as the pilot's gateway city because of its strong community networks, and its unique ability to take advantage of opportunities and solve problems. As the second largest city in New England, Worcester represents a diverse population in terms of educational attainment, income levels, and ethnicity. Combined with the many public and private colleges and universities in Greater Worcester, the city serves as an exemplary model for the pilot program. A new partnership among four public colleges and universities in the greater Worcester area – Fitchburg State University, Mount Wachusett Community College, Quinsigamond Community College, and Worcester State University – guarantees students the ability to earn their associate's and bachelor's degrees for \$30,000 in four years. This collaborative and entrepreneurial approach to tackle the challenge of rising tuition costs demonstrates this region's unique potential and promise when it comes to promoting college affordability.

1 William Elliot III and Sandra Beverly, "The Role of Savings and Wealth in Reducing 'Wilt' Between Expectations and College Attendance," George Warren Brown School of Social Work Center for Social Development (January 2010): 1-2.

2 Jermie Greer and Ezra Levin, "Scholarly Research on Children's Savings Accounts," Corporation for Enterprise Development (June 2014): 1-2.

