

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

AGENDA #17

on: Thursday, October 3, 2019
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 –

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

NATIONAL ANTHEM

II. ROLL CALL

Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto, Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo, and Mr. O’Connell

There were absent: Miss McCullough and Mayor Petty

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #9-18 - Clerk
(September 25, 2019)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, September 19, 2019.

IV. MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION - NONE

V. IMMEDIATE ACTION

gb #9-253.1 - Administration/Mr. O’Connell/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. Monfredo/Mayor Petty
(August 16, 2019)

To recognize Sarah Kyriazis, Manager of Instructional Technology and Digital Learning, on her selection as recipient of the 2019 Administrator Award from MassCUE (Massachusetts Computer Using Educators).

Convened in open session at 7:30 p.m.

Approved

Certificate presented

V. IMMEDIATE ACTION (continued)ACTION

gb #9-259.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell/Mayor Petty
(September 9, 2019)

**Certificate
presented**

To recognize the Worcester Bravehearts as Champions of the Future Collegiate Baseball League and for its community service activities in the Worcester Public Schools and in the community.

gb #9-276.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell/Mayor Petty
(September 9, 2019)

**Certificate
presented**

To recognize Darya Kuruna, an art teacher at Canterbury Street Magnet Computer-Based School, for the creative painting of 30 Murals at her school.

gb #9-300.1 - Administration
(September 9, 2019)

**Certificates
presented**

To recognize Barbara Sargent, Nicole Delamere, Phil King and Mary Scully for receiving exemplary program recognition by Governor Baker for its 21st Century Out of School Time Program.

gb #9-309.1 - Administration
(September 11, 2019)

Forward letters

To forward letters of congratulations to the following students who received the AP Capstone Diploma and their teachers:

Sara Gace	Doherty Memorial High School
Alyssa Goins	South High Community School
Gia-Han Le	South High Community School
Tu T. Luu	South High Community School
Sarah White	South High Community School

and the following students who received the AP Seminar and Research Certificate:

Rolanda Nubuor	Burncoat High School
Lauren Pichette	Burncoat High School
Gabriella Vallejo	Burncoat High School
Tranh Nha Tran	Claremont Academy

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

ACTION

ROS #7-18.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria
(September 25, 2019)

**Considered with
gb #9-101.1
(See notes)**

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a list containing the number of homeless students and indicate the sites and ways in which the School Committee can provide help to them.

ROS #9-12 - Administration
(September 9, 2019)

Held

OFFICE OF CURRICULUM AND PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS -NONE

VIII. REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE - NONE

IX. PERSONNEL

9-38 The Superintendent has APPROVED the APPOINTMENT of the person named below to the position of:

**Considered with
gb#9-63.1
Filed personnel
item 9-38**

Chief Diversity Officer

Perez, Ivonne

X. GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #8-118.1 - Administration/Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Monfredo/
Mr. O'Connell
(September 19, 2019)

Accepted and filed

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report which contains the Course of Study Curriculum provided to ELL students.

gb #8-295.1 - Administration/Mayor Petty
(September 25, 2019)

**Held for the
meeting of
Thursday, October
17, 2019**

Response of the Administration to the request to discuss the findings of DESE for the MCAS results at Chandler Elementary School.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)ACTION

gb #9-37.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. Comparetto/Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo
(September 25, 2019)

**Accepted and filed
(See notes)**

Response of the Administration to the request to meet with representatives of the Worcester Red Sox, at an appropriate time, to discuss a preference for Worcester students in filling of internships and summer employment positions with the team.

gb #9-63.1 - Administration/Mr. Comparetto/Miss McCullough
(September 25, 2019)

**Considered with
Personnel item
9-38
Accepted and filed**

Response of the Administration to the request to consider hiring a Chief Diversity Officer.

gb #9-101.1 - Administration/Mr. Comparetto
(September 25, 2019)

**Considered with
ROS 7-18.1
Accepted and filed
(See notes)**

Response of the Administration to the request to consider creating an initiative to provide more services and support for the system's approximately 2500 homeless students.

gb #9-153.2 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. O'Connell
(September 25, 2019)

**Held for January
2020**

Response of the Administration to the request to invite Tina Grosowsky, Project Coordinator for the Central Massachusetts Tobacco Free Community Partnership, to give a short presentation on the issue of vaping.

gb #9-162.1 - Administration/Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell
(September 25, 2019)

**Held for the
meeting of
Thursday, October
17, 2019**

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report on district processes and compliance with MGL c222 and make any necessary proposals for changes in policy and procedure.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #9-165.1 - Administration/Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell
(September 25, 2019)

**Held for the
meeting of
Thursday, October
17, 2019**

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report on the plans for introducing trauma informed care into the WPS as well as the budget requirements for FY20.

gb #9-195.4 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria
(September 25, 2019)

**Accepted and filed
the motions from
the FY20 Budget**

Responses of the Administration to the motions from the FY20 Budget:

500130-92000 Personal Services (Non Salary)

500130-96000 Personal Services (Non Salary)

Request that the Administration provide a report on ways in which to control the cost for legal fees. Mr. Monfredo

500132-92000 Special Education Tuition

Request that the Administration provide a report on the ways in which students with dyslexia are being serviced in the Worcester Public Schools. Miss Biancheria

gb #9-200.1 - Administration/Mayor Petty/Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough
(September 25, 2019)

**Held for the
meeting of
Thursday, October
17, 2019**

Response of the Administration to the request to invite representatives from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Center for District Support to make a presentation on the district's accountability and disciplinary data.

gb #9-226.1 - Administration/Miss McCullough/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell
(September 25, 2019)

Held

Response of the Administration to the request to review pick-up and drop-off policies for all schools to ensure student safety and smooth traffic flow.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)ACTION

gb #9-229.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/
Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo
(September 25, 2019)

**Accepted and filed
(See notes)**

Response of the Administration to the request to consider implementation of a pilot program in Worcester, modeled on that implemented by the Las Vegas City Council, to allow parking tickets to be paid with donations of school supplies for the benefit of the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #9-252.1 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo/
Mr. O'Connell
(September 25, 2019)

Accepted and filed

Response of the Administration to the request to provide information regarding the hiring of a Health Educator with the new funding from the State, to deal with students on drug related issues and vaping.

gb #9-265.1 - Administration/Miss McCullough/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell
(September 25, 2019)

**Held for the
meeting of
Thursday, October
17, 2019**

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report to include the activities that took place and the number of students who participated in the Jump Start programs at the secondary schools in August 2019.

gb #9-270.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell
(September 19, 2019)

**Accepted and filed
(See notes)**

Response of the Administration to the request to consider offering half day professional development for staff in light of the training provided to principals that dealt with SEL, the impact of homelessness and foster children and on disciplinary alternatives.

gb #9-312 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell
(September 17, 2019)

**Referred to the
Administration
(See notes)**

Request that the Administration consider raising the pay of substitute teachers and giving retired Worcester Public School teachers additional compensation.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

gb #9-313 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell
(September 17, 2019)

Request that the Administration establish a committee by November to include early learning teachers to review the two year kindergarten 1 program for students who are four years old and lack the necessary readiness skills for school success.

gb #9-314 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. Foley
(September 20, 2019)

Request that the Administration and the School Committee forward a letter to our local delegation and the Governor supporting the "Student Opportunity Act" which is modeled after the "Promise Act."

gb #9-315 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/Mr. O'Connell
(September 23, 2019)

Request that the Administration expand its "Worcester Future Teachers" program and have the Diversity Officer recruit the best and brightest students into the program as part of our "Grow Your Own" teaching recruitment program.

gb #9-316 - Administration
(September 24, 2019)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment to Eagle Leasing in the amount of \$109.00.

gb #9-317 - Administration
(September 24, 2019)

To approve prior year fiscal payments to Needham Electric in the total amount of \$894.10.

gb #9-318 - Administration
(September 24, 2019)

To approve prior fiscal year payments to Richard G. Boulanger, Arbitrator in the total amount of \$10,541.52.

ACTION

Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports (See notes)

Forward letter to local delegation and Governor Baker

Referred to the Administration (See notes)

On a roll call of 5-0-2 (absent Miss McCullough and Mayor Petty), the item was approved

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GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #9-319 - Administration
(September 24, 2019)

On a roll call of 5-0-2 (absent Miss McCullough and Mayor Petty), the item was approved

To approve a prior fiscal year payment to Real Time Court Reporting in the amount of \$679.50.

gb #9-320 - Administration
(September 24, 2019)

On a roll call of 5-0-2 (absent Miss McCullough and Mayor Petty), the item was approved

To approve a prior fiscal year payment to Shred It in the amount of \$420.00.

gb #9-321 - Administration
(September 24, 2019)

On a roll call of 5-0-2 (absent Miss McCullough and Mayor Petty), the item was approved

To consider approval of the following donations:

- \$250.00 Staples gift card to Jacob Hiatt Magnet School from Country Bank for their participation in the Savings Makes Sense School Banking Program
- \$250.00 from a donor to the Patricia Falcone Memorial Scholarship

gb #9-322 - Administration
(September 24, 2019)

On a roll call of 5-0-2 (absent Miss McCullough and Mayor Petty), the item was approved

To approve a travel reimbursement to the Chief Human Resources Officer in the amount of \$147.92 for in-state travel to Boston for EAW hearings.

gb #9-323 - Administration
(September 24, 2019)

Referred to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues (See notes)

To consider amendments to the current Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug Use by Students Prohibited Policy as contained in both the Student Handbook and the Policy Manual.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION

gb #9-324 - Administration
(September 25, 2019)

**Held from
6:12 p.m. to
7:25 p.m.**

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and to conduct collective bargaining regarding Grievance #19/20-3.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation for Worker's Compensation- teacher, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation-teacher, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for Aides to the Physically Handicapped and Bus Monitors, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the collective bargaining position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of the School Committee and the chair so declares - Educational Association of Worcester and Worcester School Committee, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Labor Relations, Case No. CAS-19-7323.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares – Worcester School Committee v. International Union of Public Employees, Tradesmen, Local – 135 and International Union of Public Employees, Plumbers and Steamfitters, Local – 125, Worcester Superior Court Civil Action No. 1885CV01520.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

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

N O T E S

Acting Vice-Chairman O’Connell moved to recess to Executive Session to discuss the following items:

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and to conduct collective bargaining regarding Grievance #19/20-3.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation for Worker’s Compensation-teacher, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation-teacher, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for Aides to the Physically Handicapped and Bus Monitors, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the collective bargaining position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigation position of the School Committee and the chair so declares - Educational Association of Worcester and Worcester School Committee, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Labor Relations, Case No. CAS-19-7323.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares – Worcester School Committee v. International Union of Public Employees, Tradesmen, Local – 135 and International Union of Public Employees, Plumbers and Steamfitters, Local – 125, Worcester Superior Court Civil Action No. 1885CV01520.

On a roll call of 4-0-3 the motion was approved.

There were present at the Call to Order:

Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo and Mr. O’Connell

There were absent: Mr. Comparetto, Miss McCullough and Mayor Petty

The School Committee recessed to Executive Session from 6:12 p.m. to 7:25 p.m.

The School Committee reconvened in Open Session at 7:30 p.m.

There were present at the second Call to Order:

Miss Biancheria, Mr. Comparetto, Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo and Mr. O'Connell

There were absent Miss McCullough and Mayor Petty

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

ROS #7-18.1

(Considered with gb#9-101.1)

Mr. Monfredo made the following motions:

Request that the Administration provide a report at the School Committee meeting on November 17, 2019 regarding options for raising resources for mentoring and tutoring from local colleges to benefit WPS homeless students.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Mr. Foley made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report in the form of a Report of the Superintendent regarding long term approaches to provide support services for homeless students in conjunction with representatives from the City and community.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

gb #9-101.1

Mr. Comparetto made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report on its initiatives for direct support to homeless students and their families and include any options for expansion of those services.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

NOTES (continued)

GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #9-37.1

Mr. O’Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide in a Friday letter a more detailed report on the ongoing discussions with the Worcester Red Sox regarding possible internships for WPS students.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

gb #9-229.1

Mr. O’Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report in December 2019 on the status of discussions with the Clark County, Nevada school system regarding the fine for parking tickets to be paid with donations to WPS.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

gb #9-270.1

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide, in a Friday letter in April, a report on the suggestion to add more staff development days.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

gb #9-312

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration study the feasibility of hiring retired WPS teachers as day by day substitutes and consider raising the current \$75.00 per day stipend to entice those retirees.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

NOTES (continued)

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

gb #9-313

Mr. Monfredo made the following motions:

Request that the Administration form a committee by November to study the feasibility of establishing a two year kindergarten 1 program.

Request that the Administration consider revising the date of eligibility to start kindergarten.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

gb #9-315

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report, in April 2020, on the ways in which the WPS is taking the initiative to recruit students into the “Worcester Future Teachers” program in conjunction with the Chief Diversity Officer.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

gb #9-323

Mr. O’Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration clarify why the word **will** was changed to **may**, and he is requesting clarification on Rule 13, why the last word **suspended** is being replaced with the following sentence:

subject to disciplinary action, which may include in-school suspension, short-term suspension or long-term suspension.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Requested that the item be referred to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues and discuss the proposed amendments by Attorney Tobin regarding Policy JICH.

O T H E R

Pursuant to action taken in Executive Session, it was moved to deny Grievance 19/20-3.

On a roll call of 4-1-2 (nay Miss Biancheria, absent Miss McCullough and Mayor Petty), the motion to deny Grievance 19/20-3 was approved.

Mr. Monfredo stated that Friday, October 4, 2019 is World Smile Day and encouraged everyone to do a good deed.