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

AGENDA #33

on: Thursday, October 1, 2020
at: 6:00 p.m. – Regular Session
5:00 p.m. - Executive Session
Virtually in: Room 410, at the Durkin Administration Building

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ACTION

I. CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

NATIONAL ANTHEM

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #0-37 - Administration
(September 23, 2020)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Thursday, September 17, 2020.

IV. MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION – NONE

V. IMMEDIATE ACTION

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

ROS #0-9 - Administration
(September 23, 2020)

RENNIE CENTER FOR EDUCATION RESEARCH & POLICY – REPORT
ON THE TECHNOLOGY SECTION FROM THE STRATEGIC PLAN

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VII. COMMUNICATION AND PETITION – NONEACTIONVIII. REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

The Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports met virtually on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 5:08 p.m. in Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building.

IX. PERSONNEL

- 0-1 The Superintendent has appointed the attached teacher positions for 2020-21.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #0-269.1 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough
(September 14, 2020))

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report regarding the remote learning highlights of Chapter 74 courses.

gb #0-286.1 - Administration/Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria/
Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
Ms. Novick
(September 23, 2020)

To provide a brief update on COVID-19 and remote learning.

gb #0-287.1 - Administration/Ms. McCullough/Miss Biancheria/
Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick/Mayor Petty
(September 22, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide an update regarding study halls and any policies currently being followed.

gb #0-288.1 - Administration/Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough
(September 22, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the request to outline in writing under what circumstances the Department of Children and Families is called regarding a family or child, particularly with regard to student attendance.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)ACTION

gb #0-290.1 - Administration/Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough
(September 22, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the request to clarify under what circumstances students will be suspended during remote learning and what suspension will consist of during that time.

gb #0-301 - Administration
(September 14, 2020)

To set a date to recognize Ann Rokosky, an Elementary Art Teacher at Chandler Magnet School, for having been named the Art Teacher of the Year by the Massachusetts Art Education Association.

gb #0-302 - Mr. Monfredo/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Ms. Novick
(September 14, 2020)

Request that the Superintendent establish a committee of community and school representatives in November to consider ways of honoring the memory of former School Committee member Brian A. **O'Connell**.

gb #0-303 - Administration
(September 14, 2020)

To approve the following prior fiscal year payments:

1. \$1,197 to a Principal.
2. \$255.72 made payable to Shred It.
3. \$4,554 made payable to Micronet Associates, Inc. for six computers.
4. \$245.76 made payable to Stericycle/Shred-it for services provided at DAB and Fremont Street in June 2020.
5. \$70.00 made payable to Riverside Community Care.
6. \$564.85 made payable to Harr Companies for services provided.
7. \$425.00 made payable to ATC Group Services LLC for services performed at Thorndyke Road School.
8. \$8,192 made payable to the College Board.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #0-304 - Mr. Monfredo/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Ms. Novick
(September 21, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide an update on the distribution of Chromebooks and iPads and indicate whether additional equipment will be needed in the near future.

gb #0-305 - Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(September 22, 2020)

To recognize November as Diabetes Awareness Month and forward information on this disease to families.

gb #0-306 - Administration
(September 22, 2020)

To approve the following donations in the amounts of:

- \$500 to Worcester Technical High School from the Poetry Foundation.
- \$6,070 to WTHS from the Sarah Daniels Pettit & William O. Pettit, Jr Fund
- \$380 to WTHS from the Thurston E. Solomon & Everett J. Morter Memorial Fund
- \$570 to WTHS from the Saul A. Seder Fund
- \$3,000 to Belmont Street Community School from the Journey Community Church

gb #0-307 - Administration
(September 22, 2020)

To consider the cancellation of the SAT Exams for this year due to the pandemic.

gb #0-308 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo
(September 23, 2020)

Request Administration provide an updated full student enrollment report for discussion of possible state advocacy regarding the FY22 budget.

gb #0-309 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo
(September 23, 2020)

Request the Massachusetts Department of Public Health provide COVID-19 infection data broken down by early childhood/elementary/middle/high demographics.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)ACTION

gb #0-310 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo
(September 23, 2020)

Request the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education participate in the [AASA national data dashboard on school infections.](#)

gb #0-311 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 23, 2020)

Request Administration clarify school arrest data as reported to the state for the 2018-19 school year.

gb #0-312 - Ms. Novick
(September 23, 2020)

To review the recently released Citizens for Juvenile Justice and Strategies for Youth report "[Fail: School Policing in Massachusetts.](#)"

gb #0-313 - Ms. McCullough/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(September 23, 2020)

To consider the items filed by the City Council and request WPS **consider Councilor Sean Rose's order to offer civil service exam study groups** and to research a mechanism for students to acquire school credit for participation in these cohorts.

gb #0-314 - Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(September 23, 2020)

Request that the Administration, after consultation with principals and administrative staff, ensure that the Parent Advisory Councils and Site Councils are still being conducted remotely.

gb #0-315 - Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(September 23, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide a report to contain the number of Spring IEP meetings that need to be scheduled and indicate the way in which the Administration is scheduling these meetings as well as the Fall IEP meetings.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION

gb #0-316 - Administration
(September 23, 2020)

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and to conduct collective bargaining regarding Grievance #20/21-1.

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares – Coronavirus/COVID-19 Related Issues – Educational Association of Worcester, Units A & B (Educators/Administrators); Aides to the Physically Handicapped, Monitors and Drivers; Instructional Assistants; Parent Liaisons; Tutors; and Therapy Assistants.

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares – Coronavirus/COVID-19 Related Issues – NAGE R1-16 Cafeteria Workers.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares – Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination Litigation – Former Employee.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

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

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS
Clerk
(September 23, 2020)

ITEM - aor #0-37
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Thursday, September 17, 2020.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

Annex A (25 pages) contains a copy of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Thursday, September 17, 2020.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Worcester, Massachusetts
Thursday, September 17, 2020
Agenda #32 and 32A

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met virtually in Open Session at 6:03 p.m. in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building on Thursday, September 17, 2020.

There were present at the Call to Order:

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

Mayor Petty stated that the School Committee will recess into Executive Session to discuss the following items:

Executive Session .1.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

gb #0-300 - Administration
(September 10, 2020)

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares –
Coronavirus/COVID-19 Related Issues – Educational Association of Worcester, Units A & B (Educators/Administrators); Aides to the Physically Handicapped, Monitors and Drivers; Instructional Assistants; Parent Liaisons; Tutors; and Therapy Assistants.

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares –
Coronavirus/COVID-19 Related Issues – NAGE R1-16 Cafeteria Workers.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey,
 Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
 Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
 Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

There were present at the Call to Order:

The School Committee recessed to Executive Session from 6:05 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

The School Committee reconvened in Open Session at 7:28 p.m.

There were present at the second Call to Order:

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

2. Mayor Petty read a proclamation in honor of Constitution Week. Deborah Nurse, speaking on behalf of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), thanked the Mayor for recognizing Constitution Week. Proclamation

3. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #0-36 - Clerk Minutes/approval of
 (September 10, 2020)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Thursday, September 3, 2020.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
 Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
 Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
 Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

4. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Report of the Superintendent/ Parabola Project

ROS #0-8 - Administration (August 31, 2020)

PARABOLA PROJECT UPDATE

Superintendent Binienda introduced Beth Rabbitt and Jin-Soo Han representatives from The Learning Accelerator, a non-profit organization which works with school systems to understand the challenges of creating safe spaces. Its goal is to provide educators with research informed health care guidance and tools. Ms. Rabbitt stated that the hope of the Project is to better inform school personnel about the risks of in-person learning and staying safe.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the information and reports from this project are shared with DESE. She also stated she would provide the full Parabola Project Guide with the School Committee.

More information on the project can be found by going to parabolaproject.org.

On a roll call, the vote to accept and file the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0/7

The motion carried.

5. REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

The Standing Committee on Finance and Operations met virtually on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building.

FY21 Budget/status and transfers

gb #0-267 - Administration (August 17, 2020)

To review the status of the FY21 Budget and make appropriate transfers as required.

Mr. Allen spoke to the FY21 Revised Baseline Budget. He stated that on July 30, 2020, the Governor and the State Legislature provided revised baseline FY21 Chapter 70 Aid for school districts. The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education also provided an Administrative Update on Chapter 70 Aid and Net School Spending Requirements based on these revised budget baseline amounts. This state funding commitment includes Chapter 70 increases for inflation and enrollment only, that while will keep all school districts at foundation, the new baseline budget does not include any of the funding for the phase-in of the Student Opportunity Act (**a \$15.5 million reduction for the Worcester Public Schools**).

According to the DESE, updated charter tuition and reimbursement amounts were not included in the local aid resolution so the amounts listed below are based on final FY20 amounts pending any additional administrative updates or final passage of the budget per state guidance.

Revenue and Tuition Offset Category:	FY21 Adopted Budget (based on Governor's Budget)	FY21 Revised Baseline Budget	Change from Adopted Budget Amount
Chapter 70 State Aid & Reimbursement:			
Chapter 70 State Aid (Total)	293,503,420	277,395,997	- \$16,107,423
Charter School Reimbursement	\$4,490,822	\$2,763,726	-\$1,727,096
Total City Contribution	<u>\$123,327,975</u>	<u>\$123,327,975</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Total General Fund Revenues	\$421,322,217	\$403,487,698	- \$17,834,519
Less Tuition Assessments:			
Charter School Tuition Assessment	\$29,496,484	\$27,154,480	-\$2,342,004
School Choice Tuition Assessment	\$3,176,771	\$3,176,771	\$0
Special Education Revenue Offset	<u>\$193,758</u>	<u>\$193,758</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Total Tuition Assessments	\$32,867,013	\$30,525,009	-\$2,342,004
Total General Fund Revenue	<u>\$388,455,204</u>	<u>\$372,962,689</u>	= <u>\$15,492,515</u>

The Administration prepared and the School Committee approved a budget reduction of \$15.5 million. These actions are intended to preserve

Worcester Public Schools positions to ensure full continuity of instruction, support, and services during the full remote model of the first quarter. Final actions by the School Committee will not be taken until a final budget is adopted by the State Legislature as well as the Worcester City Council as follows:

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
All Salary Accounts	Reduce 2% across all salary accounts. This reduction does not impact current salaries, step increases, or other existing contractual obligations.	\$4,859,362
Various Salary Accounts (Teachers, Instructional Assistants, School Nurses, and School Clerical)	Eliminate extended learning time (common planning time and additional instructional time) at four former Level 4 schools (Burncoat Prep, Chandler Elementary, Elm Park Community, and Union Hill School).	\$1,856,198
Various Salary Accounts	Actual and anticipated vacancy savings for positions through the end of September 2020.	\$391,378
500-91114 Teacher Substitutes	Reduce day-by-day substitutes for first quarter (full remote model).	\$285,000
500-91115 Instructional Assistants	Eliminate and reallocate selected Instructional Assistant positions due to full remote model.	\$111,396
500-91118 Supplemental Program Salaries	Line G. Student Afterschool Drop-Off Center Reduce afterschool student drop-off center for first quarter (based on full remote model).	\$7,500
500-91120 Maintenance Service Salaries	Eliminate 5 vacant positions (3 electricians and 2 carpenters).	\$271,809
500-91124 Crossing Guards	Reduce use of crossing guards (completely) for first quarter (full remote model).	\$183,781
540103-92000 Student Transportation	Reduce contracted student transportation for 10 additional staff development days (no longer student session days).	\$762,458
540103-92000 Student Transportation	Reduce contracted student transportation for Fridays (full year) due to remote learning model (32 days).	\$2,439,866
540103-92000 Student Transportation	Reduce contracted student transportation for big buses for first quarter (full remote model) (33 days, Friday dates are included in the above amount).	\$1,383,689
540103-92000 Student Transportation	Reduce contracted student transportation for mid-size or wheelchair buses for first quarter (full remote model) (33 days, Friday dates are included in the above amount).	\$1,132,421

540103-92000 Student Transportation	Reduce contracted student transportation for mid-size buses, wheelchair buses, and 7D vans during Summer 2020	\$336,822
540103-92000 Student Transportation	Reduce out-of-district special education and McKinney-Vento Transportation based estimated savings for in-district provided services and reduced transportation needs.	\$727,770
500123-96000 Health Insurance	Savings associated through vacancy factor and position reductions	\$168,610
500130-92000 Personal Services	Line I. Security Guards Reduce contracted security services (except for Durkin Administration Building) for first quarter (full remote model)	\$81,372
500-92204 Instructional Supplies	Line A. Instructional Materials Reduce \$10 per pupil instructional supply budget	\$245,780
500-92204 Instructional Supplies	Line D. Student Furniture Eliminate line item for student furniture purchases for this school year	\$153,000
500136-92000 Miscellaneous Educational OM	Line K. In State Travel Estimated savings for first quarter full remote model	\$5,000
500152-92000 Facilities Ordinary Maintenance	Line B. Trash Removal Lower trash removal costs based on first quarter full remote plan	\$89,303
TOTAL RECOMMENDED BUDGET REDUCTIONS		\$15,492,515

Some of these areas could be restored should a final state budget include Student Opportunity Act funds or through additional federal stimulus funds. However, should an all-remote model be continued during the second quarter of the school year, an additional savings totaling \$3.6 million may also be realized in several accounts listed above.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report on the number of former or retired Worcester Public School employees currently working part-time in the system as mentors of in any other capacity.

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

Miss Biancheria questioned if it was already determined to eliminate IA positions and if so what school sites did they work at. She also asked what the number of Cafeteria Workers were furloughed.

Mr. Allen stated that the Human Resources Department continues to work through the reallocation of the IA positions and the timeframe for the finalization of this would be approximately two weeks. The furlough process for the Cafeteria Workers will be decided this week and there will be 240 of the 330 cafeteria workers that are being furloughed.

Miss Biancheria questioned if Crossing Guards were put on furlough or if they are collecting unemployment to which Mr. Allen stated that as long as they meet the criteria they can collect unemployment.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a list of the current positions and the number of positions that are being furloughed.

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

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Requests that the Administration provide the list of the donated supplies, classroom supplies and construction materials that are being made by different organizations.

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

Miss Biancheria questioned if there were any discussions with the WRTA regarding discounts on the bus passes for students. She asked if the Worcester Public School had purchased any bus passes and if so how many.

Mr. Allen stated that there were 20,000 WRTA bus passes purchased which is a total of \$20,000. These passes were purchased at a reduced cost and will be used for athletic transportations as this point in time.

On a roll call of 3-0, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACTION

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

6. The Standing Committee on School and Student Performance met virtually on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building.

gb #0-232 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Foley/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo (July 7, 2020) Broadening Broadband

To consider the Worcester Regional Research Bureau's July 2020 report "[Broadening Broadband](#)".

Ms. Novick opened the meeting by introducing Paul Matthews, Executive Director and CEO and Thomas Quinn, Research Assistant from the Worcester Regional Research Bureau to present their report entitled **"Broadening Broadband."** Mr. Matthews indicated that the WRRB is a municipal 501C independent, non-partisan, non-profit organization. He stated that Charter/Spectrum

is a monopoly in the City of Worcester as the sole provider of cable services in the city. Mr. Quinn pointed out that only two-thirds of Worcester residents have broadband. Mr. Matthews cited examples of other communities that have strengthened their broadband capacities.

Superintendent Binienda stated that there are still hotspots left over and the district is still distributing them. She stated that one million dollars was allotted in the CARES Act for hotspots and currently \$750,000 has been spent.

Miss Biancheria asked if this issue has been discussed with the City. Superintendent Binienda replied that the city has an Internet Committee and the Mayor has met with Charter/Spectrum and if an agreement is signed with Charter/Spectrum, the city may pick up the cost of Wi-Fi for the families that do not have it.

Mrs. Clancey voiced concern about the higher rates that may be incurred if the city went to a higher broadband.

Ms. Novick asked how the School Committee can work to provide greater impact on internet access for students and parents.

Ms. Novick opened the meeting for public comment to discuss the impact of Internet on k-12 access.

Two callers acknowledged that it is challenging to work from home and have your children learn remotely.

Miss Biancheria questioned the cost for a consultant for an estimate and if it was possible to look at partnering with Charter/Spectrum and expand what they already have.

Ms. Novick made the following motions:

Request that the Mayor interact with the City Council to take concrete steps to explore the possibility of municipal broadband by providing a cost estimate to meet the needs of students and faculty.

Communicate to the State and Federal Delegation the need for state and federal grant funding for communities both to explore and install municipal broadband networks.

Miss Biancheria made the following amendment to Ms. **Novick's first motion:**

-to include a detailed estimate analysis and compare costs with at least three comparable cities that presently have broadband.

On a roll call of 3-0, the motions were approved as amended.

Ms. Novick announced that the City's Standing Committee on Urban Technologies would be meeting on Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

On a roll call of 3-0, the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACTION

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

7. The Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues met at 4:03 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2020 at the Durkin Administration Building in Room 410.

Pandemic Policy
Specific for Back to
School

gb #0-264 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(August 17, 2020)

Consider and redraft as necessary the policies and associated sections of the student handbook considered by "Pandemic Policy Specific for Back to School."

Ms. Novick made the following motions:

Request that the School Calendar and File IC of the Policy Manual be amended to read 170 days not 180 days.

Request that the Administration amend the Immunization Schedule in the Student Handbook on page 4 by adding the influenza vaccine.

On a roll call of 3-0, the motions were approved.

Mrs. Clancey asked the Administration how it plans to take into account the attendance for students during power outages, internet problems and other situations that might render a student unable to log in for their class. She also asked for an update on how attendance will be taken at the elementary and secondary levels on synchronous and asynchronous days.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the Attendance Policy will not change. Attendance will be taken every morning and during every class Monday through Thursday. If a student comes in tardy they will be marked as tardy. If they miss more than half the day, it will be considered an absence. If a student is present for the first two periods, but not the rest of the day that will be considered a dismissal. She also stated that the State guidelines for attendance was very specific to what the district has to record for both hybrid and remote learning.

Ms. Novick questioned how the student's attendance will be done on Fridays for the asynchronous learning.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the state requires attendance to be taken on Friday which is the asynchronous learning day. Every school will have an assigned teacher to take attendance during the hours between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. She further stated that if a student has an appointment or having trouble logging in during the check in time, the parent or student should notify the Assistant Principal via email or phone of the situation.

Ms. Novick stated that the idea of having every secondary school student on their computer at a specific **hour is not in line with the State's intention. She feels** that there needs to be a backstop created for students

who are having problems with connectivity and that the language for the attendance policy in the Student Handbook needs to be redrafted. She suggested the language for synchronous learning be added to the policy:

- If a student cannot be reached and has not turned in any work, then that student will be marked absent from school.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the State and the Commissioner was very clear that attendance has to be taken in every class. As far as the asynchronous day on Friday, there has to be a set time to take attendance because teachers are involved in common planned **and/or staff development times. If a student's Wi-Fi goes down**, it is the principals and teachers who will handle the situation and they will be very understanding of what's happening with the student during the remote learning time.

Ms. Novick stated that it really needs to be handled at the district level and that the system needs the language to be clear in its attendance policy. She also stated that the system needs to have both the flexibility in terms of when students are checking in on Friday and the need to have a backstop for the Monday through Thursday synchronous learning days.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the reporting required by the state is very specific on how the system has to record attendance, dismissals and tardiness and the data that is provided back to the state is what the plan was based on.

Mr. Monfredo stated that he feels that the asynchronous learning day is a normal school day and that the Superintendent has made the right decision regarding the time for student to check in for their attendance to be taken. He also stated that there needs to be only one set of rules and that student attendance is very important and it is essential for them to be accounted for.

Mrs. Clancey questioned if some schools will be taking attendance, on the asynchronous days, by the work the students submit and if not is there any flexibility with that.

Superintendent Binienda stated that a student must check in on Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. They will not be accounted for by the work they submit.

Mr. Monfredo suggested that the students check in between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m. on Fridays.

Superintendent Binienda stated that discussions took place with all principals in the system regarding the asynchronous learning day and taking attendance during the morning was the best scenario for everyone involved. The Commissioner stated that a student must be in attendance during the school day to be accounted for. She further stated that the system needs an organized process of doing attendance and believes that the Administration has provided the best option.

Mrs. Clancey stated that she would like to see a clear attendance policy in writing with a statement that, when a student is absent during the time the attendance was taken, the students or parents must email the Assistant Principal or the teacher the reason for their absence.

Ms. Novick voiced her concern regarding the issue of connectivity and every student on the Wi-Fi at the same time. **She doesn't think it is an equitable system and is not a good policy.** The policy needs to be thoughtful and sensitive to the families that the system serves. She further stated that the hotspots do not have the capacity to sustain Zoom for families with multiple children and the system needs to have a backstop for the synchronous day.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the system needs to have high expectations of the students and attendance is a very important part of that. As far as the backstop, **if a student doesn't show up, the teachers will call his/her home to inquire why they student was not in class.** Every Monday, the first teacher of the day will be doing a check-in survey and every Thursday, the last teacher of the day will be doing an SEL survey asking how students are doing. She stated that there was a test run done for the hotspots where an individual, who has 4 children in the system, took one home to use. All 4 students, at the same time, were streaming for a long period of time with no issues.

Mr. Monfredo suggested that the attendance time change from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. and reconvene in a month to evaluate if any more changes need to be made.

Mrs. Clancey asked the Administration to provide options for students and families to notify the schools if connectivity is lost. She would like to have the current policy of Friday check-in adopted for the start of the remote learning quarter and revisit the policy going further. She would like the item held in the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues for further follow-up in the attendance policy.

Ms. Clancey made the following motions:

Request that the Administration draft an attendance policy for asynchronous lessons.

Request that the item be held at the Standing Committee level for further review and discussion.

On a roll call of 2-1 (nay Ms. Novick) the motions were approved.

Policy EBCFA/
face coverings

gb #0-272 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough (August 19, 2020)

To consider proposed policy EBCFA regarding face coverings.

Mrs. Clancey stated that she would like to make two changes to the proposed policy. She believes that students in k-2 should be wearing masks, which most have been doing since the pandemic hit and actually complying more than the older students.

Mr. Monfredo stated that he would like to see K-2 students be required to wear masks.

Superintendent Binienda stated that in negotiating meetings, pre-k – Kindergarten teachers would really like to see all students wearing masks. She also believes people are getting a little bit more used to wearing a **mask than when the policy came out, and doesn't** think that would be a hardship to ask the students in k-2 to wear masks.

Mrs. Clancey made the following motions:

Request that the line "Exempted from this policy are students in Grade 1 and below." be deleted from the policy.

Request that the following be added to the first line:

"A face covering that fully covers the nose and mouth must be worn."

On a roll call of 3-0, the motions were approved.

On a roll call of 3-0, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:10 p.m.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACTION

At the School Committee level, on a roll call of 7-0, the School Committee approved the actions of the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues as amended:

On a roll call of 6-1 (nay Ms. Novick), the following motions from gb #0-264_were approved:

Request that the Administration draft an attendance policy for asynchronous lessons.

Request that the item be held at the Standing Committee level for further review and discussion.

GENERAL BUSINESS

8. gb #0-229.1 -Administration/Mr. Monfredo/ Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/ Ms. McCullough/Ms. Novick (September 10, 2020) Summer School/ update on

Response of the Administration to the request to provide an update on summer school learning and include the grade levels with the content covered and the number of students who participated.

Miss Biancheria requested information regarding the College Community Connection funding.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide the number of courses in the Credit Recovery Program.

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

On a roll call, the vote to accept and file the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

(These two items were considered together.)

HVAC/monthly
update

9. gb #0-275.1 -Administration/Mr. Monfredo/
Ms. McCullough
(September 10, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the request to
provide monthly updates on the air quality and HVAC
work being done in the schools beginning September
17, 2020.

On a roll call, the vote to accept the report and hold
the item for updates in October was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

Special Education
Students/
Transition Plan

10. gb #0-299 -Mayor Petty/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 10, 2020)

Request that the Superintendent/Administration
develop a Transition Plan to include HVAC upgrades to
resume in-person educational services for high need
special education students prior to the end of the first
quarter.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the initial plan
is to move Group C students into green schools, one
group at a time.

Miss Biancheria requested that her name be added as a co-sponsor of the item.

Mayor Petty asked that at least 20 special education students return to school as soon as a school is available to accommodate them.

Mrs. Clancey made the following motion:

Request that the Administration consider allowing k-2 students to return to the classrooms.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations for implementation was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty	7
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Against the motion:	0
	7

The motion carried.

11. gb #0-282 -Administration
(August 31, 2020)

Prior Fiscal Year
Payment/Durham
School Services

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$618.00 to Durham School Services for an afterschool route.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty	7
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Against the motion:	0
	7

The motion carried.

Prior Fiscal Year
Payment/employee

12. gb #0-283 - Administration
(August 31, 2020)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$105.00 to an employee.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
7

The motion carried.

Grant/CvRF
Coronavirus Relief
Fund School
Reopening

13. gb #0-284 - Administration
(September 1, 2020)

To accept the CvRF Coronavirus Relief Fund School Reopening Grant in the amount of \$5,729,400.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the item be referred to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations for discussion on the disbursement of funds from the Grant.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item and refer it to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations for discussion was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
7

The motion carried.

14. gb #0-285 - Administration
(September 1, 2020) Grant/High School
Voter Registration and
Pre-Registration

To accept the High School Voter Registration and Pre-Registration Grant in the amount of \$5,714 for the School Year and \$6,286 for the Summer.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report in February 2021, on the progress made with civic engagement.

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

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty	7
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Against the motion:	0
	7

The motion carried.

15. gb #0-286 - Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria/
Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo/ Ms. Novick
(September 8, 2020) COVID-19 and Remote
Learning/update

To provide a brief update on COVID-19 and remote learning and file all other outstanding items pertaining to these topics.

Superintendent Binienda updated the Committee on the attendance rates, Chromebook distribution and the Caregivers Academy.

Mayor Petty requested a written report on the Chromebook distribution and an update on the work that has been done to date.

Mayor Petty requested that the Administration schedule a forum for parents on Monday, September 28, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. or Wednesday, September 30, 2020.

Ms. Novick requested that a forum be held in order to allow students to speak to any issues or concerns encountered during the first quarter of remote learning.

At the Commissioner's meeting, he commended the work done by the WPS and indicated that the Caregivers Academy should be a model for the rest of the state.

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide, in a Friday letter, the weekly attendance for all schools.

Ms. Novick requested that item #gb 0-250 not be filed.

On a roll call, the vote to accept the item and file the outstanding items as amended was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty	7
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Against the motion:	0
	7

The motion carried.

Study Halls/policy 16.

gb #0-287 - Ms. McCullough/Miss Biancheria/
Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Monfredo/
Ms. Novick/Mayor Petty
(September 8, 2020)

To review the WPS policy regarding study halls and DESE regulations surrounding them.

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide the written report from DESE regarding Study Halls.

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

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
7

The motion carried.

17. gb #0-288 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020) Regulations/
Department of Children
and Families

Request that the Administration outline in writing under what circumstances the Department of Children and Families is called regarding a family or child, particularly with regard to student attendance.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Administration for a report back on October 1, 2020 was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
7

The motion carried.

18. gb #0-289 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020) Board of Health/joint
meeting

Request that the Administration schedule a joint meeting with the Board of Health for discussion of the Worcester Public Schools 2020-21 school plan

and benchmarks for changing the status of learning within them.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Administration for scheduling was as follows:

For the motion: Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley,
Ms. McCullough, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 5

Against the motion: Miss Biancheria and
Mr. Monfredo $\frac{2}{7}$

The motion carried.

Suspensions/remot
e learning

gb #0-290 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020)

Request that the Administration clarify under what
circumstances students will be suspended during
remote learning and what suspension will consist of
during that time.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the
Administration for a report on October 1, 2020
was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
7

The motion carried.

Masks/usage 20.

gb #0-291 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020)

Request that the Administration clarify for all
Worcester Public Schools employees proper mask
usage.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the
Administration was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
7

The motion carried.

21. gb #0-292 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020) Student Advisory
Councils/
statewide and regional

Request that the Administration request high school principals submit student representatives to the statewide and regional student advisory councils.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Administration was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
7

The motion carried.

22. gb #0-293 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020) Remote Learning

To ensure Worcester Public Schools remote learning policies ensure all Worcester Public Schools administrators, staff, and students behave as guests in each other's homes.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
7

The motion carried.

23. gb #0-294 -Administration
(September 1, 2020) Prior Fiscal Year
Payment/Shred-It

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$202.03 to Shred-It.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
 Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
 Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
 Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
 7

The motion carried.

COVID-19 and
 Sports/held

24. gb #0-295 - Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/
 Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
 Ms. Novick/Mayor Petty
 (September 9, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide a report on **the site administrator’s responsibilities relative to sports activities vis-à-vis COVID-19.**

On a roll call, the vote to hold the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
 Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
 Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
 Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
 7

The motion carried.

23. gb #0-296 - Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/
 Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
 Ms. Novick
 (September 9, 2020)

Meal Pickup

Request that the Administration provide a report on the 20 sites that will provide meals and indicate the process of eligibility and for picking them up.

On a roll call, the vote to file the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
7

The motion carried.

26. gb #0-297 - Administration
(September 10, 2020)

MASC Voting
Delegates/
selection

To select a voting delegate and an alternate voting delegate for the Annual Business Meeting of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, scheduled for November 7, 2020.

Mrs. Clancey made the motion to nominate Ms. McCullough as the delegate and Ms. Novick made the motion to nominate Mrs. Clancey as the alternate.

On a roll call, the motions to select Ms. McCullough as the MASC voting delegate and Mrs. Clancey as the alternate was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
7

The motion carried.

27. gb #0-298 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough
(September 10, 2020)

MASC/Resolutions

To consider the resolutions before the MASC delegate assembly.

Mayor Petty suggested that Ms. McCullough reach out to the members of the School Committee for their input.

On a roll call, the vote to file the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
7

The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

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

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
Administration
(September 23, 2020)

ITEM - ros #0-9
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

RENNIE CENTER FOR EDUCATION RESEARCH & POLICY – REPORT ON THE
TECHNOLOGY SECTION FROM THE STRATEGIC PLAN

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

Annex A (4 pages) contains a copy of the PowerPoint Presentation.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Accept and file.

2020

WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

STATE OF THE
STRATEGIC PLAN

technology + operations



Excellence in Instructional Technology

When special education teacher Liza Nyamekye was a child, she recalls reading countless books that felt disconnected from her daily life. As a Black woman, she yearned for texts written by and about those who looked like her. In becoming a Worcester educator, she was determined to offer her students a different experience. Over the past several years, she has harnessed the power of technology as a tool for culturally affirming and engaging instruction.

Rather than relying solely on classic texts like Shakespeare, Liza uses technology to identify and provide students with access to texts that are relevant to their lives, such as the *Bronx Masquerade*. The text focuses on high school students who are asked to write an essay on the Harlem Renaissance. One student in the text—Wesley Boone, a passionate, aspiring rapper—opts to write a poem rather than an essay. Instead of penalizing him, Wesley's teacher asks him to read his poem aloud to the class. Quickly thereafter, Open Mic Fridays become a weekly tradition for students at the Bronx Masquerade.

Between chapters, Liza's students use Chromebooks to watch videos about people who have overcome obstacles to pursue their passions. These videos help students make connections between the text and their lived experiences. After finishing the book, Liza's students explore the range of ways that individuals express themselves through poetry. Using district-provided devices, they listen to poetry through music and watch slam poetry videos. In writing their own poetry pieces, several students have opened up about stories of abuse, abandonment, and homelessness. According to Liza, these deeply personal stories would not have been possible without the slam poetry exercise.

When rapper Nipsey Hussle was killed, Liza knew her students, many of whom looked up to him, were seeking ways to respond to the news of his death. Using technology, Liza produced a timely lesson on Hussle's life, focused on topics that inspired students to think about their own potential. Students used Chromebooks to read news coverage memorializing Hussle and watched interviews showcasing Hussle's community activism. Through the lesson, students saw someone who looked like them being remembered as a community leader. Technology provided a powerful medium to make this rich content available to students. According to Liza, integrating technology in the classroom is what enables her to create lessons that are relevant to student's lives and experiences. "You can't do this with just a book," she said. "Technology provides those visuals and that engagement."

An Update on Technology Goals

OBJECTIVES & STRATEGIES SET OUT BY WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS' STRATEGIC PLAN

1. Coordinate and align school administration, governance, and municipal processes to prioritize and support educational improvements for the success of all students
2. Identify and establish support for fiscal strategies that enhance and scale improvements with demonstrated effectiveness
3. Establish a strategic communication and outreach approach that promotes district opportunities and establishes Worcester as a leader in urban education
4. Establish the infrastructure necessary to support technology access and integration across the district

Though educators note that significant work remains, progress on Worcester's strategic plan has created a foundation for the type of instruction described above. The district's plan supports increasing use of technology, opening up the possibility for educators to look beyond textbooks for instructional content. By investing in educator professional development related to technology, the district is encouraging individual flexibility and creativity with technology use.

In focus groups to guide strategic plan development, WPS students and educators voiced a need for better wireless infrastructure and related technology support in schools. Responding to this feedback, WPS made the switch from Microsoft Office to the Google suite. District administrators launched a teacher leadership model, wherein anywhere from 2 to 4 teachers in each building were trained as technology champions.

So far, more than 50 educators have received their Google Certification with support from WPS. After receiving the certification, educators train colleagues in their building to harness the power of technology in classroom instruction. These technology champions are known as "iTeachers" (innovative teacher leaders), and there are currently over 100 iTeachers in the district.

To complement this training, WPS has increased technology ratios. Starting in the 2020-21 school year, WPS is providing a device for every student. This investment includes iPads for students in PreK and Kindergarten, Chromebooks for students in grades 1-12, and 5,000 hotspots for students who need WiFi access at home. Students, families, and educators have expressed excitement about the newly introduced technology.

50
GOOGLE
CERTIFIED
EDUCATORS

100
ITEACHERS

1-to-1
DEVICES

5,000
HOTSPOTS

COVID-19 and Remote Learning

In Worcester, like most districts, the unexpected transition to remote learning was incredibly difficult. However, there were bright spots. The district's robust technology training ensured that every teacher had access to support in the transition to remote learning. During a time of extreme uncertainty, educators were able to ask questions and receive advice from building-specific technology champions. The process was effective given that these relationships had been established before school closures.

Though the district faced challenges in distributing devices to students, family-school communication was successful once devices were in place. Educators used technology to connect with families in new ways, often engaging in two-way communication with families through videoconferencing and family-school communication apps. Worcester educators report a desire to continue this level of family engagement when in-person schooling resumes. The district's response to COVID-19 has furthered strategic plan goals and exemplified a district-wide commitment to technology access and equity. As evidenced by an investment in hotspots and 1:1 device ratios, WPS is taking significant steps to close the out-of-school digital divide.

Looking Forward

Worcester's strategic plan, and aligned investments in technology and operations, have created a strong foundation for improved teaching and learning. Educators have deepened their familiarity and expertise with instructional technology. Many, like Liza, are using technology to make their teaching more relevant to students' lives and aligned to skills students will need after high school.

The uncertainty presented by COVID-19 has sped up district progress on several outstanding technology-related strategic plan goals. WPS is hiring four additional technology coaches, bringing the district to a total of eight. Technology coaches will support educators in aligning instructional practices with standards set forth by the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE). ISTE-aligned professional development will equip educators with the digital skills needed to empower students to drive their own learning. District leaders are also developing a WPS Caregivers Academy, based upon the urgent need to support families with remote learning. The Caregivers Academy will consist of resources, videos, and one-pagers for caregivers translated into 7 different languages. WPS is working closely with community partners to disseminate this information to families.

As the district begins rolling out a 1:1 device program, it is a critical time to focus on strategic plan goals related to wireless access in school buildings and funding for device maintenance. When in-person schooling resumes, students and educators will need to access the wireless network simultaneously, with hundreds of devices connected to the network at any given time. WPS must ensure that school wireless networks are equipped to support this level of usage. In addition, the district must develop a plan to repair and/or replace devices at appropriate intervals. This will ensure that shifts towards digital learning continue to progress beyond the lifecycle of current devices.

During this uncertain time, technology is a critical tool to support students' agency, creativity, and independence. However, it can only meet these goals when educators and district leaders center a commitment to access and equity within technology-related initiatives. For example, educators like Liza can use technology to make instruction more culturally responsive and engaging. By progressing on strategic plan goals related to technology and operations, WPS has the potential to promote more engaging, culturally responsive, and inclusive instruction. Worcester's significant progress in this area provides a critical foundation for continued growth during a time in which new digital approaches to instruction are critical to student success.

Committee Members

Molly McCullough, Chairman
John F. Monfredo, Vice-Chairman
Jack Foley

AGENDA #4
TLSS
9-15-20
Page 1

A C T I O N S

The Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports met virtually at 5:08 p.m. on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building

There were present: Chairman McCullough, Vice- Chairman Monfredo and Mr. Foley

Representing Administration were: **Dr. O’Neil, Superintendent** Binienda and Dr. Friel

Others in Attendance: Dr. Castiel, Dr. Ross and D. Perrone

(These three items were considered together.)

gb #9-288 - Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo (August 28, 2019)

Request the establishment of an inclusive and transparent process for selecting and implementing a comprehensive Sex Education Curriculum that is age-appropriate, evidence-based, medically accurate and LGBTQ inclusive in the Worcester Public Schools.

HELD

gb #9-416 - Miss McCullough/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo (December 4, 2019)

Request that the Administration consider incorporating the campaign entitled **“RESPECTfully” when the Sex Ed Curriculum is established.**

HELD

gb #0-31 - Mayor Petty/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Foley/Ms. McCullough/Ms. Novick (January 8, 2020)

Request that the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports recommend a comprehensive, inclusive, evidenced-based sexual and health curriculum and an appropriate level of increased classroom time for health education to the school committee for the FY21 budget.

HELD

Chairman McCullough stated that the purpose of this meeting was to provide a stepping off point to move forward in selecting a curriculum. She informed the public that there would be opportunities for parents, students and community members to be a part of the process at a future meeting when evaluating the sex ed curriculum.

Dr. Matilde Castiel, Worcester Commissioner of Health and Human Services, presented an updated version of the Case for a Comprehensive Sexual Education Curriculum in Worcester. She cited statistics and provided recommendations for the adoption of an age-appropriate, evidence-based, medically accurate and LGBTQ inclusive sexual and health curriculum.

Dr. Laurie Ross, member of the Worcester Impact on Sexual Health Task Force (WISH), presented the work that was previously done several years ago when the task force evaluated several different curricular options and was never given the opportunity to present those findings. She stated that the hope of the task force is to have a community dialogue with students and parents, budgetary discussions, training for staff and implementation by the Spring of 2021.

Chairman McCullough spoke to the need for sexual literacy with a focus on sex trafficking. She would like the committee to work with the Department of Health and Human Services in conjunction with the Administration to come up with a curriculum.

Mr. Monfredo stated that instead of waiting for the Senate Bill to be passed, the committee should move ahead with a plan.

Mr. Foley stated that district should adopt a plan quickly with information that is age appropriate and will remain with the students for the rest of their lives.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the Administration has reached out to other **districts and found that they don't necessarily use one book**, but rather take parts of one curriculum and another to incorporate into their own. She acknowledged that more needs to be done, but also wants to make sure that it is age appropriate for the students and one that is approved by the State.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration establish a committee consisting of community members, health experts, Health Educators and the CPPAC and report the findings back in January 2021.

On a roll call of 1-2 (yea Mr. Monfredo), the motion was defeated.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration mandate a 10 week health program for 9th grade students in the 2021-22 school year.

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

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration investigate how other communities are handling their health curriculum.

On a roll call of 2-1 (nay Mr. Foley) the motion was approved.

Chairman McCullough made the following motion:

Request that Dr. Castiel provide a short list of potential curricula for the committee to explore that would meet the needs of a comprehensive sex ed plan for the WPS.

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

Chairman McCullough made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide an update from the State regarding its timeline of providing regulations for comprehensive sexual education curricula.

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

Chairman McCullough made the following motion:

Request that the members of the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports and the Administration develop a timeline by mid-October for the process of selecting a new curriculum and work together with all stakeholders for public input sessions and discussion and consider the timeline that was presented at this meeting.

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

Chairman McCullough made the following motion:

Request that the above mentioned items be held in the Standing Committee and be taken up at a meeting in October.

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

On a roll call of 3-0, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

New Hire Teachers 2020-2021

Personnel Annex A

LName	FName	Status	Location	Contract_Disc	Hire_Date	Appoint_Date	Degree	Step
Aguilar	Tony	Active	Sullivan Middle School	Social Studies	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	BA+15	2
Almazraawi	Lailah	Acting - 1 Year	Columbus Park	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	BA	2
Almstrom	Julie	Active	Goddard	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	MA	7
Alzamora	Timothy	Active	Clark Street	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	BA	1
Arguello	Jennifer	Active	Burncoat Middle School	Avid	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	CAGS/2M	8
Bailey	Tammy	Acting - 1 Year	Challenge Academy	Social Studies	04-Sep-20	04-Sep-20	CAGS/2M	8
Bates	Emilee	Active	Systemwide	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	MA	1
Beck	Kristin	Acting - 1 Year	Norrback Avenue	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	MA	6
Beford	Elizabeth	Active - Waiver	City View	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	MA	2
Belisea	Elias	Active	Woodland Academy	Phys Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	BA	2
Boykin	Shanique	Active	Systemwide	School Adj Couns	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	MA	4
Braxton	Jacquelyn	Active	Systemwide	Art	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	MA	1
Breen	Kristin	Active	Systemwide	Psychologists	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	CAGS/2M	7
			Worcester East Middle					
Brennan	Miriam	Acting - 1 Year	School	English	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	BA+15	1
Brodin	Pamela	Acting - 1 Year	Sullivan Middle School	Mathematics	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	MA	8
Brown	Matthew	Acting - 1 Year	Vernon Hill	Elementary	28-Aug-20	28-Aug-20	MA	1
Browne	Emily	Active	Systemwide	Music	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	BA	1
			Forest Grove Middle					
Bui	Thuy	Active	School	Science	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	MA	6
Burns	Melissa	Acting - 1 Year	Thorndyke Road	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	BA	5
Cameron	Paige	Acting - 1 Year	Systemwide	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	MA	1
Campbell	Travis	Acting - 1 Year	Doherty High School	Mathematics	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	BA	1
Capers	Laura	Acting - 1 Year	Roosevelt	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	BA	2
Caplette	Cyndi	Acting - 1 Year	Systemwide	Music	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	BA	1
Carrasco Garcia	Lucia	Acting - 1 Year - Waiver	Chandler Magnet	Bilingual	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	MA	1
Chase	Kelly	Active	Durkin Administration	Special Education	14-Sep-20	14-Sep-20	CAGS/2M	8
Comeaux	Christopher	Acting - 1 Year	North High School	Science	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	MA	1
Corey	Ryder	Acting - 1 Year	South High School	Music	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	BA+15	1
Daigle	Madison	Active - Waiver	North High School	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	BA	1
Daley	Gabrielle	Acting - 1 Year	Systemwide	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	MA	1
Denio	Kallie	Acting - 1 Year	Roosevelt	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	MA	1
Deprez	Jennifer	Active	Durkin Administration	Special Education	02-Sep-20	02-Sep-20	MA+15	8
DiRenzo	Meghan	Acting - 1 Year	Union Hill	Elementary	03-Sep-20	03-Sep-20	BA	1
Dones	Yerika	Acting - 1 Year	Chandler Magnet	Bilingual	08-Sep-20	08-Sep-20	BA	7
Douglas	Elizabeth	Acting - 1 Year	Sullivan Middle School	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	BA	4
Dunn	Kathryn	Active	City View	Special Education	14-Sep-20	14-Sep-20	MA	1
			Gerald Creamer Center -					
Egler	Jonathan	Acting - 1 Year	Evening High School	Mathematics	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20	BA	1

Embury	Brianna	Active	Goddard	Music	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
England	Sarah	Active	North High School	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	8
Farmer	Jessica	Active	Norrback Avenue	ESL	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA+15	8
Ferraro	David	Acting - 1 Year	Sullivan Middle School	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	6
Flynn	Caroline	Active 4/5	Systemwide	Art	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Foley	Alexa	Acting - 1 Year	Chandler Elementary	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	2
Gagne	Kayla	Active	Vernon Hill	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	1
Gasdaska	Charles	Active	Sullivan Middle School	English	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
George	Jacqueline	Active	City View	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	4
			Francis J. Mcgrath				
Gervais	Danielle	Acting - 1 Year	Elementary	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	1
Giles	Allison	Active	North High School	ESL	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Gniadek	Kevin	Active	Systemwide	Phys Education	03-Feb-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Grabarek	Kathryn	Active	Norrback Avenue	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	8
Griffin	Paul	Acting - 1 Year	Doherty High School	English	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	2
Griffin	Janie	Active	Gates Lane	Music	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Gross	Jacob	Acting - 1 Year	North High School	Music	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA+15	6
Guri	Arjana	Acting - 1 Year - Waiver	South High School	ESL	14-Sep-20	14-Sep-20 BA	2
Haggerty	Stephen	Active	Burncoat High School	Mathematics	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	9
Hamel	Nicole	Acting - 1 Year	Vernon Hill	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA+15	8
Hassett	Samantha	Acting - 1 Year	City View	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Hawks Gallup	Caitlin	Acting - 1 Year	Systemwide	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	8
Healy	Anthony	Acting - 1 Year	Nelson Place	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	1
Hein	Molly	Acting - 1 Year	Lincoln Street	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	8
Hoffey	Amanda	Acting - 1 Year	Roosevelt	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Holmes	Timothy	Acting - 1 Year	Chandler Magnet	ESL	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	1
James	Gregory	Active	Sullivan Middle School	Social Studies	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 CAGS/2M	7
Jasukonis	Lauren	Acting - 1 Year	Gates Lane	Special Education	26-Nov-18	27-Aug-20 MA	2
			Worcester East Middle				
Jenkins	Tishaun	Acting - 1 Year	School	English	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	1
Jones	Casey	Active	Systemwide	Music	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	3
Jones	Gregory	Active	South High School	Science	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	2
Jones	Glenn	Active	Burncoat High School	Science	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 PHD	8
Joyce-Morrison	Robyn	Acting - 1 Year	Elm Park Community	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	1
Katinas	Jenna	Active	Elm Park Community	Elementary	10-Feb-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Kirby	Erika	Active	New Citizens - Secondary	ESL	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA+30	3
			Worcester East Middle				
Kodys	Brittany	Active	School	Art	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	5
Koen	Daniel	Active	North High School	Social Studies	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	8
Kosterski	Anna	Active	Systemwide	Special Education	08-Sep-20	08-Sep-20 MA+15	8
Koulisis	Andrew	Acting - 1 Year	North High School	Mathematics	31-Aug-20	31-Aug-20 BA	1

L'Ecuyer	Katherine	Active	Systemwide	School Adj Couns	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	8
LaChapelle	Cheyenne	Acting - 1 Year	Burncoat High School	Science	31-Aug-20	31-Aug-20 MA	2
LaHair	Rachel	Acting - 1 Year	Gates Lane	Elementary	22-Aug-19	27-Aug-20 BA	2
Lamontagne	Jessica	Active	Woodland Academy	ESL	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Langroudi	Kamilia	Acting - 1 Year	Vernon Hill	ESL	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	1
Lavallee	Nicole	Active	Midland Street	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	8
Lazarek	Julia	Active	Elm Park Community	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Lee	Aimee	Acting - 1 Year - Waiver	North High School	Phys Education	21-Oct-19	27-Aug-20 MA	8
Livesay	Carmen	Active	Clark Street	ESL	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	4
Manriquez	Jessica	Acting - 1 Year	Woodland Academy	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	6
Marrero	Mireya	Acting - 1 Year	Chandler Magnet	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Marszalek	Elizabeth	Active	City View	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	2
Matthews	Brenden	Acting - 1 Year	North High School	Science	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
McLean	Alison	Acting - 1 Year	Sullivan Middle School	English	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 PHD	1
McLoughlin	Erin	Acting - 1 Year	Lake View	Elementary	03-Sep-20	03-Sep-20 MA	8
Meltzer	Eliza	Active	Jacob Hiatt Magnet	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	2
Mendes	Dana	Acting - 1 Year	North High School	Art	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Merchan	Leonor	Acting - 1 Year	Sullivan Middle School	Foreign Language	03-Sep-20	03-Sep-20 BA	2
Mercier	Amanda	Acting - 1 Year	Systemwide	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	5
Michel	Ashley	Acting - 1 Year	Challenge Academy	English	08-Sep-20	08-Sep-20 BA	1
Miller	Erika	Acting - 1 Year	Francis J. Mcgrath Elementary Worcester East Middle School	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	4
Mills	Justine	Acting - 1 Year	School	Science	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	3
Minucci	Kaila	Active	Belmont Community	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Mitchell	Desiree	Active	North High School	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 PHD	7
Gonzalez	Jasmine	Acting - 1 Year	Chandler Magnet	Elementary	24-Feb-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Morey	Jennifer	Acting - 1 Year	Chandler Elementary	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Moulin	Nanette	Acting - 1 Year	South High School	Mathematics	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Muhlidis	Arianna	Active	Woodland Academy	Elementary	28-Feb-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Mulgrew	Marion	Active	Sullivan Middle School	Mathematics	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	8
Nadeau	Sean	Active	Systemwide	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA+15	8
Nader	Charlotte	Active - Waiver	Belmont Community	ESL	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Nickelson	Shakitha	Acting - 1 Year	Grafton Street	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	9
Normandin	Kenneth	Acting - 1 Year - Waiver	Worcester Technical High	Vocational Education	28-Aug-20	28-Aug-20 VL 1	8
O'Neil	Shannon	Active	Elm Park Community	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 CAGS/2M	4
Oliver	Emily	Acting - 1 Year	Midland Street	Elementary	02-Sep-20	02-Sep-20 BA	1
Omane	Frederick	Active	Systemwide	Special Education	24-Feb-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Osorio	Gladis	Acting - 1 Year	Norrback Avenue	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	3
Pagano	Lindsay	Active	South High School	ESL	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	1
Pappas	Ida	Active	Claremont Academy	Music	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 PHD	8

Parent	Katherine	Acting - 1 Year	Chandler Elementary Forest Grove Middle	Elementary	31-Aug-20	31-Aug-20 BA	1
Pham	Anh	Active	School	Social Studies	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	2
Phenix	James	Active - Waiver	Worcester Technical High Worcester East Middle	Vocational Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 VL 1	8
Pichardo Rosario	Armely	Acting - 1 Year	School	English	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	2
Pineo	Scott	Active	Doherty High School	Vocational Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	8
Posey	Janelle	Acting - 1 Year - Waiver	Norrback Avenue	ESL	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	5
Prescott	Lindsay	Active	Gates Lane	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	1
Price	Marcus	Acting - 1 Year	Sullivan Middle School	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Ramos	Giemel	Acting - 1 Year	Sullivan Middle School	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Raniolo	Melina	Active	Systemwide	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	4
Regan	Delaney	Active	Sullivan Middle School	English	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	2
Reilly	Colleen	Acting - 1 Year - Waiver	City View	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Reilly	Jennifer	Acting - 1 Year	City View	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	7
Rembetsy- Brown	Therese	Acting - 1 Year	Forest Grove Middle School	Social Studies	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Rice	Jacqueline	Acting - 1 Year	Norrback Avenue Forest Grove Middle	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	8
Rivas	Michelle	Acting - 1 Year	School	Foreign Language	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Robert	Sadie	Acting - 1 Year	Union Hill	ESL	14-Sep-20	14-Sep-20 BA	1
Rodriguez	Antonia	Acting - 1 Year	South High School	Foreign Language	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	6
Aleman	Nadya	Acting - 1 Year	Systemwide Worcester East Middle	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	4
Rogozenski	Megan	Acting - 1 Year	School	Science	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	7
Rojee	Lauren	Acting - 1 Year	Clark Street Forest Grove Middle	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	2
Russo	Danielle	Acting - 1 Year	School	Music	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	2
Salmon	Amanda	Active	Claremont Academy	Health	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Samara	Ashley	Active	Goddard	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	1
Sanchez	Jazer	Active	Systemwide	Music	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	3
Saucier	Lana	Acting - 1 Year	Systemwide	Elementary	03-Sep-20	03-Sep-20 MA	7
Schloemer	Joy	Acting - 1 Year	Jacob Hiatt Magnet Worcester East Middle	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	6
Schreiber	Megan	Active	School	Music	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	1
Schube	Rachel	Active	City View	ESL	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	3
Scully	Megan	Active	Burncoat Elementary	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Sczerbinski	Kara	Active	Chandler Magnet	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Seger	Katelynn	Active	Chandler Magnet	Special Education	06-Jan-20	27-Aug-20 MA	5
Selig	Ian	Active	University Park	Science	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	4
Senckowski	Alexandra	Active	Woodland Academy	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1

Setterlund	Michelle	Acting - 1 Year	Wawecus Road	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	3
Sheehan	Eric	Active	South High School	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	7
Silver	Diane	Active	Goddard	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	1
Sleight	Kristen	Acting - 1 Year	Sullivan Middle School	Social Studies	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Sontag	Vanessa	Acting - 1 Year	Jacob Hiatt Magnet	Elementary	08-Sep-20	08-Sep-20 BA	1
Soucy	George	Acting - 1 Year	Burncoat High School	Science	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Stebbins	Caroline	Active	South High School	Mathematics	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
			Academic Center For				
Strub	Nathan	Acting - 1 Year	Transition	Special Education	27-Aug-20	28-Aug-20 BA	2
Sullivan	Deanna	Active	Belmont Community	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	2
Sutton	Rachel	Active	Elm Park Community	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
			Gerald Creamer Center -				
Tessitore	Matthew	Acting - 1 Year	Evening High School	Science	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 PHD	8
Tharpe	Naadir	Acting - 1 Year	Grafton Street	ESL	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Thorell	Kelsa	Active	Systemwide	Special Education	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	2
			Worcester East Middle				
To	Rachel	Acting - 1 Year	School	Mathematics	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Towler	Leah	Acting - 1 Year	Flagg Street	Elementary	14-Sep-20	14-Sep-20 MA	8
Trottier	Rachel	Acting - 1 Year	Nelson Place	ESL	01-Sep-20	01-Sep-20 BA	1
Trychon	Mary	Active	Union Hill	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Gonzalez	Gennaro	Acting - 1 Year	Systemwide	Art	15-Jun-20	27-Aug-20 MA	1
Veras	Ashley	Active	Chandler Magnet	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Vyas	Rhea	Active	Woodland Academy	Elementary	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Wessling	Susan	Active	Claremont Academy	ESL	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	8
Wheeler	Nathen	Active	South High School	Mathematics	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	2
			Worcester East Middle				
Wurm	Thomas	Acting - 1 Year	School	Mathematics	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	3
Yanez	Jessica	Active	Systemwide	ESL	24-Feb-20	25-Aug-20 MA+30	6
Young	Thomas	Active	Doherty High School	Science	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 BA	1
Zglobicki	Sara	Acting - 1 Year	South High School	ESL	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	2
Zimmermann	Sarah	Acting - 1 Year	Elm Park Community	ESL	27-Aug-20	27-Aug-20 MA	1

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration/Miss Biancheria/
Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 14, 2020))

CURRENT ITEM - gb #0-269.1
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

1ST ITEM gb #0-269 S.C.MTG. 8-27-20
2ND ITEM gb #0-269.1 S.C.MTG. 10-1-20

ITEM:

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report regarding the remote learning highlights of Chapter 74 courses.

ORIGINAL ITEM: Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough (August 18, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide a report regarding the remote learning highlights of Chapter 74 courses.

PRIOR ACTION:

8-27-20 - Miss Biancheria requested that the response to this item be provided at the September 17, 2020 meeting.
On a roll call of 7-0, the item was referred to the Administration.

BACKUP:

Annex A (11 pages) contains a copy of the Administration's response to the item.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Accept and file.



Highlights of Chapter 74 Remote Learning
Worcester Technical High School
Preparation for School Opening Fall 2020
Report to School Committee 9/10/2020



Reopening CTE update from WTHS Fall 2020

Hello, welcome back to school. Here is an update from the Chapter 74 programs at Worcester Technical High School (WTHS). Chapter 74 instructors at WTHS have been working tirelessly to learn everything Google, prepare Google Classrooms, produce inspiring videos, and layout lesson plans for the start of the school year that will begin on a remote learning platform.

How do we CTE remotely, you may ask? We got this! HGTV, The Food Network channel and TED talks have nothing on us. Teaching a student how to hammer a nail into a board without a hammer in their hands we agree is challenging. The situation requires our school to think outside the box. Instructors must develop lessons aligned with Chapter 74 State frameworks that will work within the plethora of Google tools we have been provided. Our toolbox is full, and we are on task.

A report of words will not do justice to the more than 100 Google Classrooms and hundreds of remote lessons created. Therefore, this report has many screenshots, videos, and links to highlight many lessons, and the Google Classrooms, and PD. These elements will embrace our students as they rejoin our community.

Worcester Technical High School wants to thank the City of Worcester, the School Committee, Superintendent Binienda, The Office of Technology and Digital Learning, the Office of Curriculum and Professional Learning, and the WPS Information Technology department for their steadfast commitment to providing a remote platform and instructor training that will prove to be an exemplar model for other districts. Worcester Technical High School believes the online Chapter 74 learning delivered will be a blueprint for other vocational highschools.

Instructors lead Google Professional Development.

A huge thank you to our staff that lead many PD

Lara DeRose
Mike Garvey
Jeff LeBoeuf
Audra Marini
Renee Robichaud
Dina Taylor
Patty Suomala
Becky Suzenski



lessons-

[Link to recordings of many of the PD offerings completed at WTHS.](#)

Recordings

CTE PD Day objectives

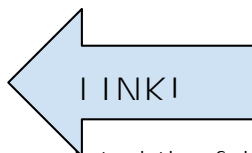
Learning Objectives CTE PD from 9/3/20

- Develop Google Classroom organization-instructor lead [Chapter 74 Curriculum Team GC](#)
- Review CTE resources - group work
- Share ideas and best practices- all
- Develop lessons- group work
- Learn how to navigate new communications- instructor lead
- Be curious - ALL

Career Technical Education Highlights

WTHS is part of WPS's broader career and technical education pathway programs. CTE and CVTE include Chapter 74 technical and vocational programs, Innovation Pathway programs, and no-chapter 74 programs. The current list and videos of all programs offered at WTHS can be found on the school website.

[TECHHIGH.US](https://techhigh.us)

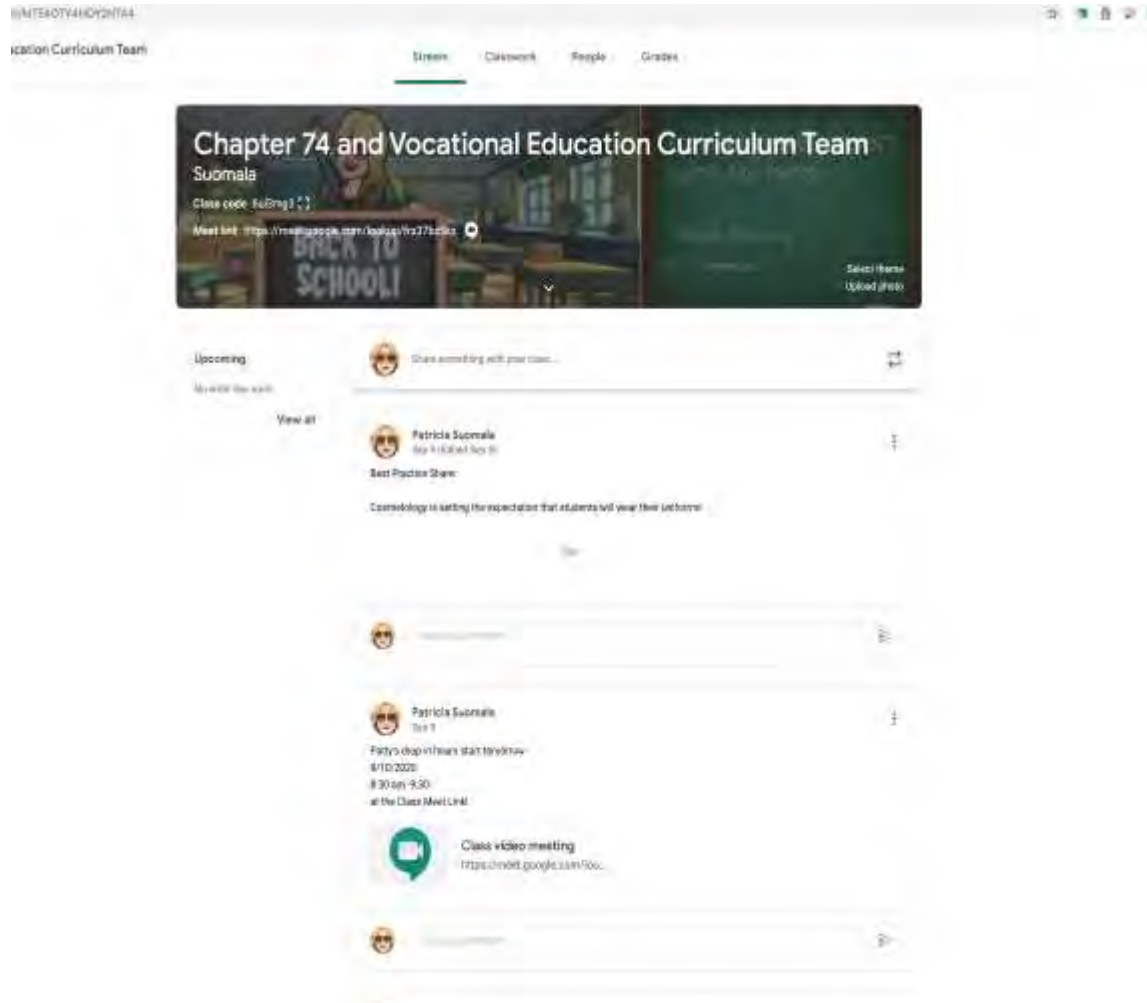


Blue underlined words in GOOGLE have a link, hover over to open link.

The Freshman completed the following during their remote portion of Jumpstart.

1. Watch [Welcome Video](#) From Administration.
2. Do a mini explore through our School's website.
 - a. Go to <https://techhigh.us/technical-areas/>
 - b. Scroll to the bottom of the website
 - c. You will see the four academies listed.
 - d. Start with Alden Design & Manufacturing and click on Advanced Manufacturing.
 - e. Watch the video
 - f. Continue with the other 21 shops.

A group of Chapter 74 instructors, in collaboration with the Direct of CTE and the WPS's OCPL, developed a model Google Classroom [Chapter 74 and Vocational Education Curriculum Team](#).



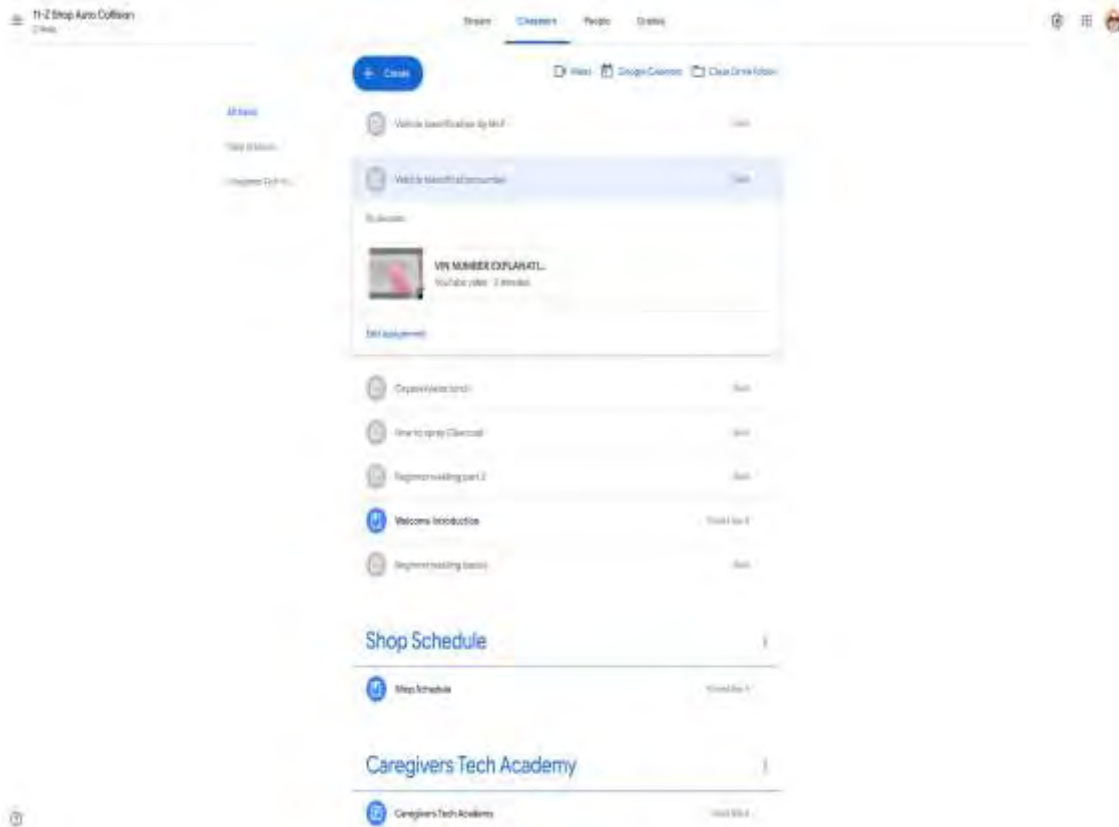
This classroom serves as a daily drop-in for connecting with the Director, a repository for sharing resources, and the Freshman Exploratory communication hub. Instructors are encouraged to share their lessons, resources, and ideas.

A highlight is this shared document created in collaboration with ALL vocational-technical schools within Massachusetts. [MAVA lesson share document](#)

Example lesson plan(s)

Alden Academy

The **Auto Collision** program reveals how to read a VIN



Auto Technology outlines the MA State inspection procedures for students

[MA State Inspection](#)

The **Welding** program has produced an entire video series with the Norton company that will be used during remote learning.



[Welding Video with Norton](#)

IT Business Academy

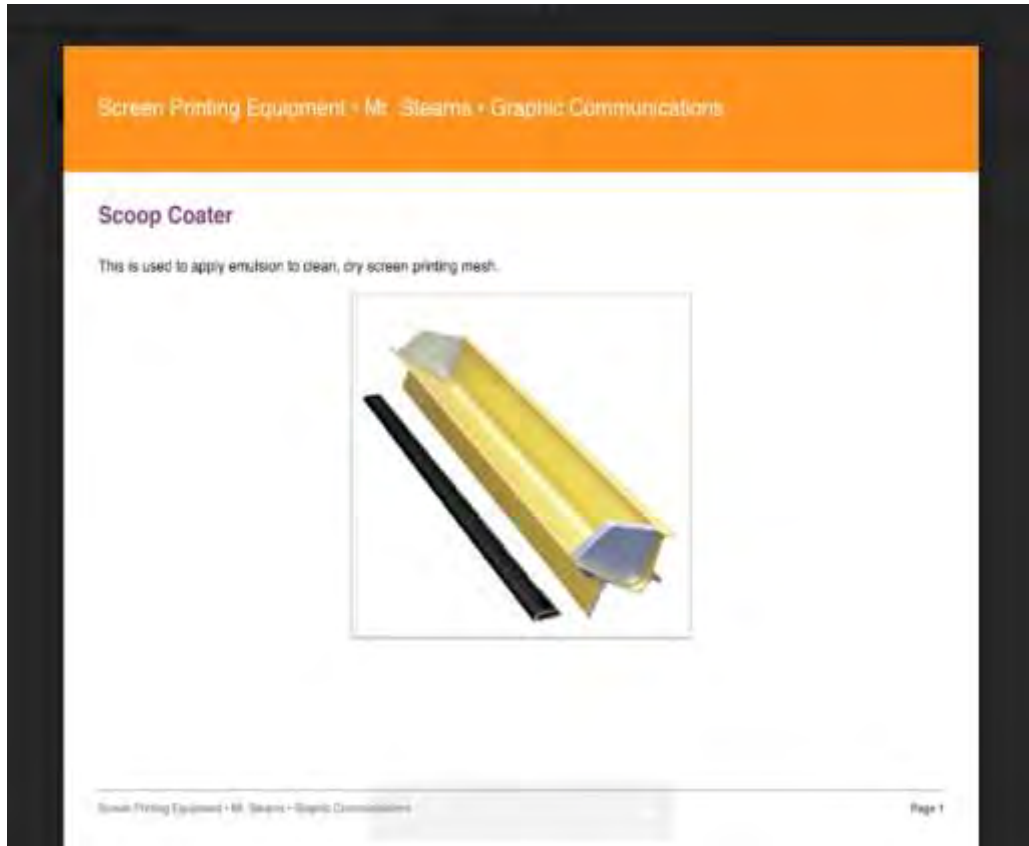
A warm **Hospitality** program welcome as they role model 6ft social distancing triangle

[Hospitality Welcome!](#)

The **Finance and Banking** program is preparing students for AP Microeconomics.

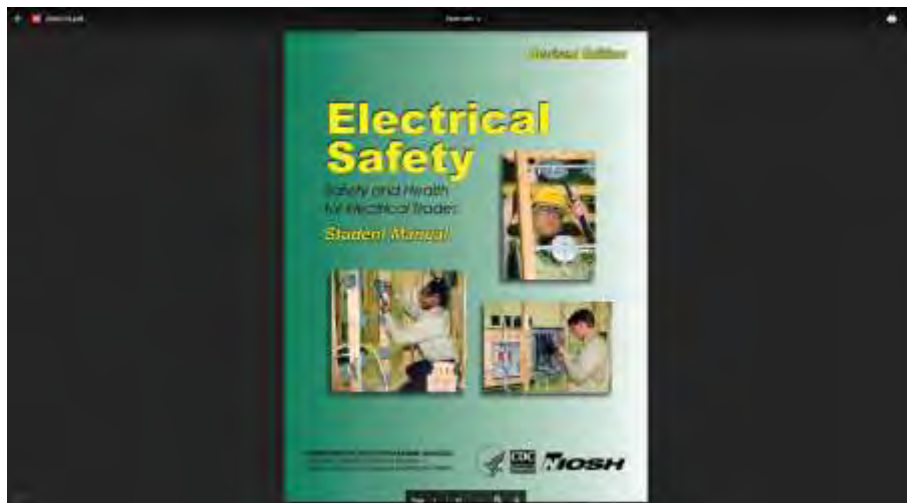
The screenshot shows a Google Classroom interface. At the top is a blue header banner with the text "Pennell, V - AP Microeconomics '20-'21 Shop Week". Below the banner, the class code is "5q7eezu" and the meet link is "https://meet.google.com/tbw6lcm2dd". On the left side, there is an "Upcoming" section with a list of assignments: "Due Tuesday 11:59 PM - Espuzzle | Up...", "11:59 PM - Espuzzle | Sca...", and "Basic Economic Concepts...". Below this list is a "View all" link. In the center, there is a post by "Vincent Pennell" dated "8:29 AM". The post text reads: "Good morning everyone, I hope everyone is enjoying the final few days of summer. If you see this message before school starts please log onto the below link for AP Collegeboard and use the Class Code to sign into my AP Microeconomics class. Please login with your school e-mail (@worcesterschools.net)". Below the text is a link to CollegeBoard: "https://myap.collegeboard.org/" and the class code "DANZY4".

Graphic Communications using Screencastify to develop vocabulary and identification of machinery.



Construction Academy

Our new **Electrical** instructor will begin with OSHA training for sophomores.



Allied Health Academy





Animal Science welcomes back students with a concise Biltemoji virtual classroom.



Allied Health uses ALL available platforms to cover Infection Control.

Stream **Classwork** People Grades

Day 1-Infection and Infection Control

	Monday's Directions and Schedule		Done
	#M-1: Introduce Yourself	Classwork	Done
	#M-2: Guided Notes (Infection)	Classwork	Done
	#M-3: Immune System		Done

Directions: 1) Open the attached "Day 1 Guided Notes" doc that you will use throughout the day.
2) Watch "Immune System: Part 1" Crash Course Video
3) Watch "Immune System: Part 2" Crash Course Video
4) Complete PART 2 notes in the right-sided column as you watch video lectures and review the slides.
5) Contact me if you have any questions.

Goal: To understand the key points of today's topics—infection and infection control.
To have a concise study guide to review for the final test.

Worth/Grade: XX points towards "Classwork" grade.


Duration: 30 minutes (Part 2 Immune System)

Due date: Monday by 2:00 pm.


Submission: 1) Submit "Guided Notes" doc through Google Classroom at the end of the day when all parts are completed.

OR

2) Upload a photo of your handwritten notes to Google Classroom.






Immune System, Part 1: ...
YouTube video 9 minutes

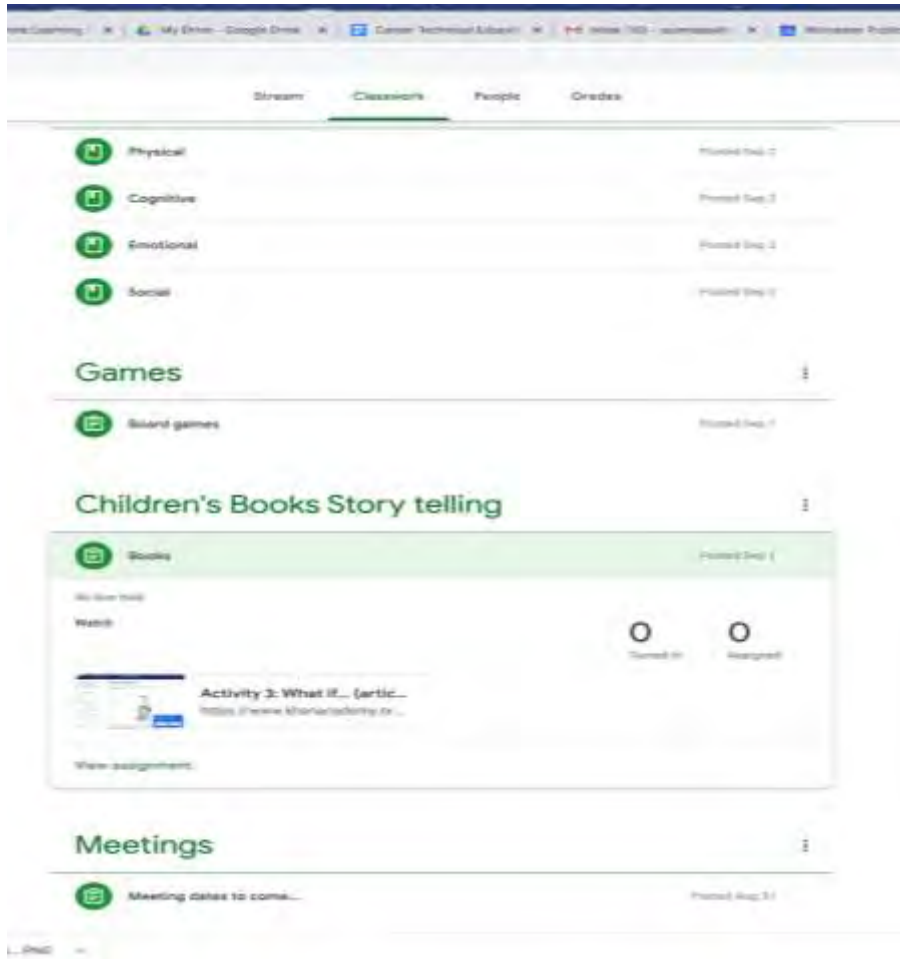


Immune System, Part 2: ...
YouTube video 8 minutes

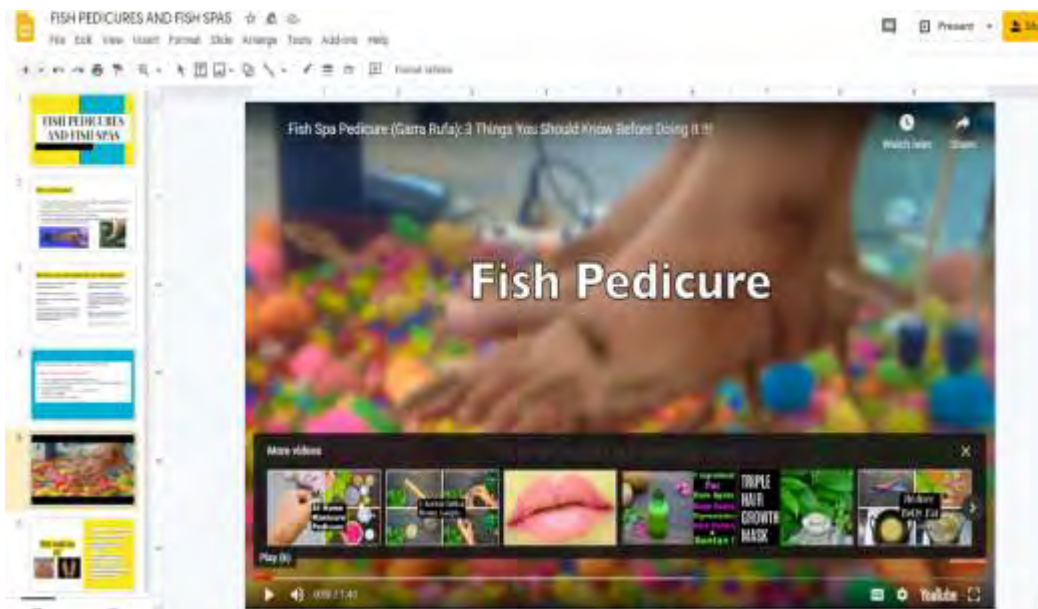
[Edit assignment](#)

	#M-4 Hand Hygiene	Projects	Done
	#M-5: Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	Classwork	Done
	#M-6: Brain Dump	Classwork	Done

Early Childhood is using Khan Academy to engage Freshman to explore students!



Cosmetology addresses safety and its impact on business for students!



Guidance welcomes students of all voices!

The screenshot displays a Google Classroom interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Stream', 'Classwork', 'People', and 'Grades'. Below this is a class banner for 'Mrs. Courtney, Department Head of Guidance, Grade 9 Guidance'. The banner includes a class code '75fprrr' and a meet link: 'https://meet.google.com/lookup/hfa2gk5dxy'. To the right of the banner is a 'Search theme' and 'Upload photo' option. On the left side, there is an 'Upcoming' section with the text 'No work due soon' and a 'View all' button. The main content area shows a post by 'Heather Courtney' dated 'Sep 2 (Edited Sep 2)'. The post contains a welcome message in English: 'Hello students! Welcome to Worcester Technical High School! You are going to have a great year. Mrs. Reilly and I are here to help you succeed!'. Below this are translations in Spanish, Indonesian, Vietnamese, and French. At the bottom, there is a comment input field with a 'Post' button.


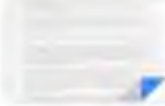


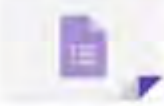







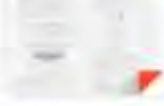

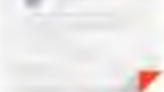
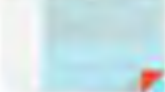
CO-OP

The **Co-op** coordinator has been busy preparing Google Classroom resources and all shop guidelines to prepare to get students out on co-op.

Co-Op Resources and Materials

Mary Blute • Sep 9

In this section you will find all necessary information, materials and resources needed to review for Co-Op procedures

 Welcome to Co-Op 2021.we... Video	 Miss Blute's Introduction Vid... Google Docs
 Ms. Blute's Contact Informat... Google Docs	 Steps for Going out on Co-Op Google Docs
 Request for Co-Op Eligibility Google Forms	 Co-Op Office Hours Google Docs
 Work Permit Form.rtf Word	 Child Labor Laws.pdf PDF
 ECE application for certifica... PDF	 2016 New Co-Op Handbook... Word
 Steps to get a Workers Perm... Word	 How to Become an Eligible C... Google Slides
 NAVIANCE INSTRUCTIONS R... PDF	 YouthRules U.S. Departmen... https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/...
 employment application for ... PDF	 Co-Op Work Permit.pdf PDF

General Advisory Board

The Fall General Advisory Board will be (tentative in-person) date of 11/12/2020 5-8 pm. Stay tuned for more information. [Spring 20 COVID GAB letter](#)

Any questions, please feel free to contact:

Principal Siobhan Petrella, petrellas@woesterschools.net

Director of CTE, Patricia Suomala Ed.D, suomalap@woesterschools.net

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration/Mayor Petty/
Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(September 23, 2020)

CURRENT ITEM - gb #0-286.1
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

1ST ITEM	gb #286	S.C.MTG. 9-17-20
2ND ITEM	gb #286.1	S.C.MTG. 10-1-20

ITEM:

To provide a brief update on COVID-19 and remote learning.

ORIGINAL ITEM: Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick (September 8,2020)

To provide a brief update on COVID-19 and remote learning and file all other outstanding items pertaining to these topics.

PRIOR ACTION:

9-17-20 - Superintendent Binienda updated the Committee on the attendance rates, Chromebook distribution and the Caregivers Academy.
Mayor Petty requested a written report on the Chromebook distribution and an update on the work that has been done to date.
Mayor Petty requested that the Administration schedule a forum for parents on Monday, September 28, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. or Wednesday, September 30, 2020.
Ms. Novick requested that a forum be held in order to allow students to speak to any issues or concerns encountered during the first quarter of remote learning.
At the Commissioner's meeting, he commended the work done by the WPS and indicated that the Caregivers Academy should be a model for the rest of the state.
Ms. Novick made the following motion:
Request that the Administration provide, in a Friday letter, the weekly attendance for all schools.
On a roll call of 7-0, the motion was approved.
Ms. Novick requested that item #gb 0-250 from the outstanding items not be filed.
On a roll call of 7-0, the report was accepted and the outstanding items were filed as amended.

BACKUP:

The Superintendent will be prepared to speak to the item.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Discuss and hold the item.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration/Ms. McCullough/
Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/
Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick/Mayor Petty
(September 22, 2020)

CURRENT ITEM - gb #0-287.1
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

1ST ITEM gb #0-287 S.C.MTG. 9-17-20
2ND ITEM gb #0-287.1 S.C.MTG. 10-1-20

ITEM:

Response of the Administration to the request to provide an update regarding study halls and any policies currently being followed.

ORIGINAL ITEM: Ms. McCullough/Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Monfredo/
Ms. Novick/Mayor Petty (September 8, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide an update regarding study halls and any policies currently being followed.

PRIOR ACTION:

9-17-20 - Ms. Novick made the following motion:
Request that the Administration provide the written report from DESE regarding Study Halls.
On a roll call of 7-0, the motion was approved.
On a roll call of 7-0, the item was referred to the Administration.

BACKUP:

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

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Accept and file.

27.04: Structured Learning Time Requirements

(1) No later than the 1997 - 1998 school year, schools shall ensure that every elementary school student is scheduled to receive a minimum of 900 hours per school year of structured learning time, as defined in 603 CMR 27.02. Time which a student spends at school breakfast and lunch, passing between classes, in homeroom, at recess, in non-directed study periods, receiving school services, and participating in optional school programs shall not count toward meeting the minimum structured learning time requirement for that student.

(2) No later than the 1997 - 1998 school year, all schools shall ensure that every secondary school student is scheduled to receive a minimum of 990 hours per school year of structured learning time, as defined in 603 CMR 27.02. Time which a student spends at school breakfast and lunch, passing between classes, in homeroom, at recess, in non-directed study periods, receiving school services, and participating in optional school programs shall not count toward meeting the minimum structured learning time requirement for that student.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration/Ms. Novick/
Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 22, 2020)

CURRENT ITEM - gb #0-288.1
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

1ST ITEM gb #0-288 S.C.MTG. 9-17-20
2ND ITEM gb #0-288.1 S.C.MTG. 10-1-20

ITEM:

Response of the Administration to the request to outline in writing under what circumstances the Department of Children and Families is called regarding a family or child, particularly with regard to student attendance.

ORIGINAL ITEM: Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough (September 9, 2020)

Request that the Administration outline in writing under what circumstances the Department of Children and Families is called regarding a family or child, particularly with regard to student attendance.

PRIOR ACTION:

9-17-20 - On a roll call of 7-0, the item was referred to the Administration for a report back on October 1, 2020.

BACKUP:

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

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Accept and file.

DCF issued guidance, entitled Massachusetts Department of Children and Families, Massachusetts Department of Children & Families: A Tip Sheet for Educators COMMUNICATING WITH STUDENTS DURING REMOTE LEARNING, which provided, among other things, that we contact DCF under the following circumstances:

“WHEN TO CALL DCF:

- You have made multiple, documented attempts to reach a student/family/caregiver and they have gone unanswered/ignored and all opportunities to make contact (i.e., phone calls, email, reaching out to emergency contacts, etc.) have been exhausted.
- The student is repeatedly truant/missing from their school programming (i.e., not participating in remote learning, attending/participating in their academic programming, after multiple, documented attempts to engage the student/family/caregiver) and attempts to provide resources (i.e., internet access, computer support, paper materials, etc.) have **been ignored or refused.”**

Massachusetts law requires mandated reporters to immediately make an oral report to DCF when, in their professional capacity, they have reasonable cause to believe that a child under the age of 18 years is suffering from abuse and/or neglect. Worcester staff follow DCF guidance and take seriously their responsibility to protect students from abuse and neglect.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration/Ms. Novick/
Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 22, 2020)

CURRENT ITEM - gb #0-290.1
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

1ST ITEM gb #0-290 S.C.MTG. 9-17-20
2ND ITEM gb #0-290.1 S.C.MTG. 10-1-20

ITEM:

Response of the Administration to the request to clarify under what circumstances students will be suspended during remote learning and what suspension will consist of during that time.

ORIGINAL ITEM: Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough (September 9, 2020)

Request that the Administration clarify under what circumstances students will be suspended during remote learning and what suspension will consist of during that time.

PRIOR ACTION:

9-17-20 - On a roll call of 7-0, the item was referred to the Administration for a report back on October 1, 2020.

BACKUP:

The Administration **doesn't** want to change the Suspension Policy during the pandemic. However, all such cases will be handled on an individual basis.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Accept and file.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(September 14, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-301
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

To set a date to recognize Ann Rokosky, an Elementary Art Teacher at Chandler Magnet School, for having been named the Art Teacher of the Year by the Massachusetts Art Education Association.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Set the date of Thursday, October 15, 2020.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Mr. Monfredo/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough/Ms. Novick
(September 14, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-302
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

Request that the Superintendent establish a committee of community and school representatives in November to consider ways of honoring the memory of former **School Committee member Brian A. O'Connell.**

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

Refer to the Administration for implementation

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(September 14, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-303
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

To approve the following prior fiscal year payments:

1. \$1,197 to a Principal.
2. \$255.72 made payable to Shred It.
3. \$4,554 made payable to Micronet Associates, Inc. for six computers.
4. \$245.76 made payable to Stericycle/Shred-it for services provided at DAB and Fremont Street in June 2020.
5. \$70.00 made payable to Riverside Community Care.
6. \$564.85 made payable to Harr Companies for services provided.
7. \$425.00 made payable to ATC Group Services LLC for services performed at Thorndyke Road School.
8. \$8,192 made payable to the College Board.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

1. The timesheets were inadvertently not sent to Payroll.
2. The invoices were never received.
3. through 6. The Purchase Orders were closed in error.
7. The Purchase Order was opened under an incorrect vendor and the error was not realized until it was received after the fiscal year closing.
8. The Curriculum Office did not receive the invoice until the week of August 10, 2020.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Mr. Monfredo/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough/Ms. Novick
(September 21, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-304
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

Request that the Administration provide an update on the distribution of Chromebooks and iPads and indicate whether additional equipment will be needed in the near future.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

Refer to the Administration for implementation.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(September 21, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-305
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

To recognize November as Diabetes Awareness Month and forward information on this disease to families.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(September 22, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-306
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

To approve the following donations in the amounts of:

- \$500 to Worcester Technical High School from the Poetry Foundation.
- \$6,070 to WTHS from the Sarah Daniels Pettit & William O. Pettit, Jr Fund
- \$380 to WTHS from the Thurston E. Solomon & Everett J. Morter Memorial Fund
- \$570 to WTHS from the Saul A. Seder Fund
- \$3,000 to Belmont Street Community School from the Journey Community Church

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(September 22, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-307
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

To consider the cancellation of the SAT Exams for this year due to the pandemic.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP: The ventilation in the schools would be an issue as well as bussing.

The link from the College Guidance Network relative to the SAT Exams is as follows.

<https://www.collegeguidancenetwork.com/admissions-in-the-time-of-covid>

Annex A (5 pages) contains a copy of **an article entitled "College Admissions in the Age of COVID 19."**

Annex B (4 pages) **contains a copy of article entitled "College Admission Deans Care In Crisis."**

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

College Admissions in the Age of COVID 19, September 16, 2020

College Admissions in the Age of COVID 19 TOOLKIT

There are 1500+ Accredited 4 year College and Universities with ACT/SAT Optional Testing Policies for Fall 20-21 Admissions

<https://www.fairtest.org/university/optional> to see all colleges across the country

Test Optional Schools for 20-21 Massachusetts

College / University	Colleges and Univ. of highest interest to WPS, 2020	Test Optional with but have some stipulations as noted
American International College	24	
Amherst College	16	
Anna Maria College	28	
Assumption College	51	
Babson College		
Bard College		
Bath Path University		
Bath Path College		
Becker College	24	
Benjamin Franklin Institute of Technology		
Bentley University		
Berklee College of Music		
Boston Architectural College		
Boston College	16	
Boston Conservatory of Music		
Boston University		
Brandeis University	14	
Bridgewater State University	29	
Cambridge College		
Clark University	54	
College of the Holy Cross	37	

Curry College	12	4. SAT/ACT required for some programs
Dean College	15	
Elms College		
Emerson College		
Emmanuel College		
Endicott College	14	4. SAT/ACT required for some programs
Fitchburg State University	42	
Framingham State University	67	3. SAT/ACT may be required but considered only when minimum GPA and/or class rank is not met
Gordon College		
Hampshire College		
Harvard College	13	
Hellenic College		
Laboure College		
Lasell College		4 SAT/ACT required for some programs
Lesley College		
Longy School of Music		
MA College of Liberal Arts		3. SAT/ACT may be required but considered only when minimum GPA and/or class rank is not met
MA College of Art and Design		
MA College of Pharmacy and Health Science	21	
MIT (MA Institute of Technology)		
Mass Maritime		
Merrimack College		
Montserrat College of Art		
Mt. Holyoke College		
New England Conservatory		
Nichols College	11	3. SAT/ACT may be required but considered only when minimum GPA and/or class rank is not met

Northeastern University	33	
Olin College of Engineering		
Regis College		4. SAT/ACT required for some programs
Salem State University	18	
School of the Museum of Fine Arts		
Simmons University		
Smith College		
Springfield College		3. SAT/ACT may be required but considered only when minimum GPA and/or class rank is not met
Stonehill College		
Suffolk University	20	
U Mass Amherst	72	
U Mass Boston	42	
U Mass Dartmouth	58	3. SAT/ACT may be required but considered only when minimum GPA and/or class rank is not met 4. SAT/ACT required for some programs
U Mass Lowell	75	
Wellesley College		
Wentworth Institute of Technology		
Western New England	42	
Westfield State University	12	
Wheaton College		
Williams College		
WPI (Worcester Polytechnic Institute)	34	
Worcester State University	112	SAT/ACT may be required but considered only when minimum GPA and/or class rank is not met

New England and Ivy League Test Optional Colleges and Universities

Connecticut

Fairfield University		
Quinnipiac University		4 SAT/ACT required for some programs
Sacred Heart University		
University of Hartford		
Yale University	9	

Maine

Bates College		
Bowdoin College		
Colby College		
Maine College of Art		
University of New England		4 SAT/ACT required for some programs

New Hampshire

Dartmouth College		
Franklin Pierce University		
Keene State University		4 SAT/ACT required for some programs
Plymouth State University		
Rivier College		
St. Anselm		
Southern New Hampshire University		

Rhode Island

Brown University	9	
Bryant University		
Johnson and Wales		
New England Institute of Technology		
Rhode Island College		
Rhode Island School of Design		
Roger Williams University		

Salve Regina		4 SAT/ACT required for some programs
University of Rhode Island		

New York

Columbia University	3	
Cornell University	4	

New Jersey

Princeton University	2	
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Pennsylvania

University of Pennsylvania		
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This list includes institutions that are "test optional," "test flexible" or otherwise de-emphasize the use of standardized tests by ***making admissions decisions -- without using ACT or SAT scores -- for all or many applicants who recently graduated from U.S. high schools.***

As the **endnotes** indicate, some schools exempt students who meet minimum grade-point average or class rank criteria; others require SAT or ACT scores but use them only for placement purposes. Please check with the school's admissions office for details.

Key

- 1 SAT/ACT used only for placement and/or academic advising
- 2 SAT/ACT required only from out-of-state applicants
- 3 SAT/ACT may be required but considered only when minimum GPA and/or class rank is not met
- 4 SAT/ACT required for some programs
- 5 Test Flexible: SAT/ACT not required if other college level exams specified by school, **such as SAT Subject Test, Advanced Placement, or Int'l Baccalaureate, submitted --** contact school for details
- 6 Placement test or school-specific admissions exam score required if not submitting SAT/ACT
- 7 Admission/Eligibility Index calculated with 3.5 GPA and combined SAT Critical Reading plus Math score of 400

College Admission Deans Care In Crisis



Brennan BarnardContributor

Education

I write about an intentional approach to college admission.



GETTY

In the best of times, some college applicants feel like they have to perform, jumping through hoops and presenting a facade of perfection to gain admission. Often students obsess about their achievement—in and out of class—with the thought that if they can do more and be more, then just maybe they will be admitted to their dream school. And a far greater number of students are on the fence about whether to go to college, are worried about **whether they'll be accepted somewhere, don't know if they can afford it, or** view a college degree as simply unattainable. Inequities are indefensibly rife in higher education.

Needless to say, these are not the best of times—a global pandemic has disrupted much of what we knew to be true, and the realities of systematic racism in our nation, and inherently in college admission, have created stresses unlike many have seen before. An experience of searching for and applying to college that was already fraught with anxiety, and loaded with perceived expectation, has been compounded by new feelings of insecurity and uncertainty. It would be easy for even the most resilient students to lose hope in the face of these challenges.

A growing group of college admission leaders aims to restore that hope and to provide students and parents with much-needed clarity and reassurance.

Today, as part of the *Turning the Tide* in college admission initiative, *Making Caring Common*, a project of the Harvard Graduate School of Education (where I serve as an advisor), released a collective statement, endorsed by over 315 admission deans, to convey what colleges and universities value in applicants during this difficult time.

The statement, “**Care Counts in Crisis: College Admissions Deans Respond to COVID-19**”, reads, “*We are keenly aware that students across the country and the world are experiencing many uncertainties and challenges. We primarily wish to underscore our commitment to equity, and to encourage in students self-care, balance, meaningful learning, and care for others.*”

The admission deans prioritize:

1. **Self-Care.** The deans recognize that many families during this time are struggling to get by and that a wide range of students are dealing with stresses of many kinds. The statement encourages students to take care of themselves.
2. **Academic Work.** While the deans emphasize that students’ academic work matters to them during the pandemic, they also recognize that many students are facing obstacles to academic work. The deans underscore that they will assess academic achievements in the context of these obstacles, and mainly base assessments of academic achievement on work before and after this pandemic. They further state **that no student will be disadvantaged because “of their school’s decisions about transcripts, the absence of AP or IB tests, their lack of access to standardized tests (although many of the colleges represented here don’t require these tests), or their inability to visit campus.”**
3. **Service and Contributions to Others.** The deans express that they value contributions to others and service during this time for those who are in a position to provide these contributions. They emphasize that they are not looking for extraordinary forms of service or leadership during the **pandemic. They don’t want to create a “pandemic service Olympics.”** They are looking for contributions that are authentic and meaningful, including contributions that respond to the many needs created by the pandemic.

4. Family Contributions. The deans recognize that many students have family responsibilities, including supervising younger siblings, caring for sick relatives, or working to provide family income that can impede their capacity to engage in school and other activities, and that these responsibilities may have increased during this time. They view substantial family contributions as very important and encourage students to report them in their applications.
5. Extracurricular and Summer Activities. The deans convey that no student will be disadvantaged for not engaging in extracurricular activities during this time, and they state that students will not be disadvantaged for lost possibilities for summer involvement, including lost internship opportunities, summer jobs, camp experiences, classes, and other types of meaningful engagement that have been canceled or altered.

Logan Powell is the dean of admission at Brown University and one of the **statement's endorsers. He says, "We, as a nation, face simultaneous crises without modern precedent. Structural racism, a global pandemic, economic hardship, and climate change have combined to create an environment of incalculable stress and uncertainty for students." He adds, "These challenges will only be solved together, and we are here to support the next generation of scholars and leaders."**

Whitney Soule, senior vice president and dean of admissions and student aid at Bowdoin College agrees. **She explains, "We are searching for students who are thoughtful about others, who are generous, and curious. We also care about motivation, which is not the same as achievement." She says that the *Turning the Tide* initiative "has been a powerful demonstration of many schools committing to consider who students *are*, not just what they do."** Soule emphasizes that **"The pandemic has been destructive, and traumatizing, and by signing this statement, the Deans hope to reassure students that we understand, that we are ready to flex and adapt, and that our application review processes will make room to understand the unique challenges and consequences that Covid-19 has had in students' lives."**

The college admission process can have a lasting impact on students' behavior, choices, mental health, and experiences throughout high school. The policies and practices that schools employ communicate messages, both overt and more subtle, about equity, concern for others, and self-care. This collective statement is one of hope and understanding when students need it the most.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo
(September 23, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-308
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

Request Administration provide an updated full student enrollment report for discussion of possible state advocacy regarding the FY22 budget.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

Refer to the Administration.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

The Administration concurs with the maker.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo
(September 23, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-309
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

Request the Massachusetts Department of Public Health provide COVID-19 infection data broken down by early childhood/elementary/middle/high demographics.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

Refer to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health with State Delegation copied.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

The Administration concurs with the maker.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo
(September 23, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-310
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

Request the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education participate in the [AASA national data dashboard on school infections](#).

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

Refer to DESE.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

The Administration concurs with the maker.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey
Ms. McCullough
(September 23, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-311
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

Request Administration clarify school arrest data as reported to the state for the 2018-19 school year.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

Refer to the Standing Committee on School and Student Performance.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

The Administration concurs with the maker.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. Novick
(September 23, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-312
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

To review the recently released Citizens for Juvenile Justice and Strategies for Youth report "[Fail: School Policing in Massachusetts.](#)"

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

Refer to the Standing Committee on School and Student Performance

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

The Administration concurs with the maker.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. McCullough/Mrs. Clancey/
Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(September 23, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-313
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

To consider the items filed by the City Council and request WPS consider Councilor **Sean Rose's order to offer civil service exam study groups and to research a mechanism for students to acquire school credit for participation in these cohorts.**

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

Annex A (1 page) contains a copy of Order from the City Council from Sean Rose.
Annex B (1 page) contains a copy of Order from the City Council from Sean Rose.
Annex C (1 page) contains a copy of Order from the City Council from Kathleen Toomey.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration.

cc2020may29022139

CITY OF WORCESTER

ORDERED: That

The City Manager be and is hereby requested to consider providing for a virtual outreach and study session relating to the upcoming Police and Fire Department Civil Service exams, in an effort to increase participation and knowledge around said exams.

In City Council

June 2, 2020

Order adopted by a yeas and nays vote of Eleven Yeas and No Nays

A Copy. Attest:



**Nikolin Vangjeli
City Clerk**

cc2020sep11121337

CITY OF WORCESTER

ORDERED: That

The City Manager be and is hereby requested to provide City Council with an update concerning any progresses made to providing students with credits for studying for Civil Service exams.

In City Council

September 8, 2020

Order adopted by a yea and nay vote of Eleven Yeas and No Nays

A Copy. Attest:



**Nikolin Vangjeli
City Clerk**

cc2020sep03083123

CITY OF WORCESTER

ORDERED: That

The City Manager be and is hereby requested to consider working with the Police Chief and Fire Chief to identify opportunities to attract more linguistically diverse candidates for future classes and identify ways to assist candidates to study for Civil Service Exams.

In City Council

September 8, 2020

Order adopted by a yea and nay vote of Eleven Yeas and No Nays

A Copy. Attest:



**Nikolin Vangjeli
City Clerk**

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(September 23, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-314
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

Request that the Administration, after consultation with principals and administrative staff, ensure that the Parent Advisory Councils and Site Councils are still being conducted remotely.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(September 23, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-315
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

Request that the Administration provide a report to contain the number of Spring IEP meetings that need to be scheduled and indicate the way in which the Administration is scheduling these meetings as well as the Fall IEP meetings.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION
Administration
(September 23, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-316
S.C. MEETING - 10-1-20

ITEM:

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and to conduct collective bargaining regarding Grievance #20/21-1.

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares - Coronavirus/COVID-19 Related Issues - Educational Association of Worcester, Units A & B (Educators/Administrators); Aides to the Physically Handicapped, Monitors and Drivers; Instructional Assistants; Parent Liaisons; Tutors; and Therapy Assistants.

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares - Coronavirus/COVID-19 Related Issues - NAGE R1-16 Cafeteria Workers.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares - Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination Litigation - Former Employee.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Discuss.