

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

AGENDA #21

on: Thursday June 3, 2021
at: 4:00 p.m. - Budget
6:00 p.m. - Executive Session
7:00 p.m. - Regular Session
virtually in: Esther Howland South Chamber, City Hall

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ACTION

I. CALL TO ORDER

**Convened in Open
Session at 4:06 p.m.**

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

NATIONAL ANTHEM

II. ROLL CALL

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

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #1-17 - Clerk
(May 25, 2021)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting
of Thursday, May 20, 2021.

**On a roll call of 7-0,
the School
Committee approved
the Approval of
Records as amended
(See notes)**

IV. MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION – NONE

V. IMMEDIATE ACTION

gb #1-147.1 - Administration
(May 13, 2021)

To recognize virtually the Seal of Biliteracy recipients.

**On a roll call of 7-0,
the students were
recognized virtually
and the item was
filed**

IMMEDIATE ACTION (continued)

ACTION

gb#1-154 - Administration
(May 20, 2021)

**On a roll call of 7-0,
the students and
teachers were
recognized virtually
and the item was
filed**

To recognize virtually the following middle and high School students who were winners in the Massachusetts Science and Engineering Fair Contest their teachers:

Forest Grove Middle School

First Place-MSEF STEM Award

Maya Sushkin - Turning Car Exhaust Into Rocks - Let's Recycle
CO2 (Phase 2)

Honorable Mentions

Despoina Gianitsanaki - Water Purifier for Homes

Harrison Dennett - Cubelight

Kleri Morcka - Efficient and Eco-friendly Tiny Homes

Paola Renxa - Efficient and Eco-friendly Tiny Homes

Alicia Simonti – Teacher

North High School

Honorable Mention

Ronnie Amoah - How pH Affects Chromatography - (Paper
Chromatography)

Chris Comeaux, Teacher

Hanover Academy at Burncoat Middle School

Honorable Mentions

Leire Cuberes Barluenga - How do changes in the environment
affect birds' behavior around bird feeders?

Debra Ross - Do Musicians Have Better Memory Than Non-
musicians?

Jane Goodwin - Teacher

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT - NONE

VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS - NONE

VIII. REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEESACTION

The Standing Committee on Finance and Operations met virtually on Thursday, May 25, 2021 at 4:37 p.m. in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building.

On a roll call of 7-0, the School Committee approved the action of the Standing Committee
On a roll call of 7-0, the School Committee approved the action of the Standing Committee as amended
(See notes)

The Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues met virtually on Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 4:07 p.m. in Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building.

IX. PERSONNEL - NONEX. GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #0-176.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo
(May 26, 2021)

On a roll call of 7-0, the item was accepted and filed
(See notes)

Response of the Administration to the motion to provide a report by the end of the 2021 school year regarding the strengths and challenges of ARC Core Literacy Program.

gb #0-286.10 - Administration/Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria/
Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
Ms. Novick
(May 24, 2021)

On a roll call of 7-0, the item was held
(See notes)

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

gb #1-73.1 - Administration/Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Foley/
Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo
(May 26, 2021)

On a roll call of 7-0, the item was held for the meeting of June 17, 2021
(See notes)

Response of the Administration to the request to plan to begin a remote academy as part of the FY22 Budget.

gb #1-148 - Administration
(May 13, 2021)

On a roll call of 7-0, the item was held for the Budget meeting on June 17, 2021

To approve the Job Description for the Assistant Manager of Professional Learning and Curriculum.

gb #1-149 - Administration
(May 13, 2021)

On a roll call of 7-0, the item was held for the Budget meeting on June 17, 2021

To approve the Job Description for the Assistant Manager of Instructional Teaching and Digital Learning.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)ACTION

gb#1-153 - Administration
(May 17, 2021)

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved hold the item for the second Budget Hearing on Thursday, June 17, On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to set the date of Thursday, June 17, 2021

To consider the proposed FY22 Budget.

gb#1-155 - Mr. Foley/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
Ms. Novick/Mayor Petty
(May 17, 2021)

To set a date to recognize Chief Finance and Operations Officer Brian Allen for receiving the very prestigious John A. Crafton Lifetime Achievement Award from the Massachusetts Association of Business Officers.

gb#1-156 - Ms. McCullough/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(May 20, 2021)

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to refer the item to the Administration for a report in a Friday Letter (See notes)

Request that the Administration provide a report regarding the services provided by Lesley University over the past 3 years to include the cost, results and plans for future services.

gb#1-157 - Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(May 21, 2021)

On a roll call of 7-0, the item was filed due to the fact that the item was responded to under gb #0286.10

Request that the Administration provide an update on the Covid-19 vaccine clinics for the students at the high school locations and include for each the number of students who participated.

gb#1-158 - Mr. Monfredo/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Ms. Novick/Mayor Petty
(May 24, 2021)

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to forward the letter

Request that the Administration forward a letter of appreciation to Victory Enterprises for their donation of over 2,500 children's books to be used in the Bilingual program and for the summer school program.

gb#1-159 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
Mayor Petty
(May 25, 2021)

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to set the date of Thursday, June 17, 2021

To set a date to recognize the winner of the first annual Burncoat High School essay contest, Jack Miller, Burncoat class of 2023.

gb#1-160 - Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo/
(May 25, 2021)

On a roll call of 7-0, the item was referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports (See notes)

Request that the Administration provide a listing of all existing and new Chapter 74 courses to include titles and school sites.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

gb#1-161 - Administration
(May 25, 2021)

To approve a donation in the amount of \$2,500 from Lincoln Investment to the Worcester Public Schools.

gb#1-162 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo
(May 26, 2021)

Request administration provide details regarding summer 2021 and after school programming for the 2020-21 school year.

gb#1-163 - Administration
(May 26, 2021)

To approve the Job Description for the Career and Partnership Specialist-Innovation Pathways.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

gb #1-164 - Administration
(May 26, 2021)

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 – Successor Contract Negotiations – Educational Association of Worcester Units A & B (Educators/Administrators); Educational Association of Worcester, Aides to the Physically Handicapped, Monitors and Drivers; Educational Association of Worcester, Instructional Assistants; Educational Association of Worcester, Parent Liaisons; Educational Association of Worcester, Tutors; and Educational Association of Worcester, Therapy Assistants; NAGE R1-156, 52 Week Secretaries; NAGE R1-16, Cafeteria Workers; Massachusetts Laborers District Council, Worcester Public Service Employees Local Union 176, Custodians; Massachusetts Laborers District Council, Worcester Public Service Employees Local Union 176, Educational Secretaries; Massachusetts Laborers District Council, Worcester Public Service Employees Local Union 176/Unit D, Computer Technicians; IUPE Local - 125 Plumbers and Steamfitters; IUPE Local -135, Tradesmen; Massachusetts Nurses Association, Worcester School Nurses.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

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

ACTION

**On a roll call of 7-0, the item was held for the meeting of Thursday, June 17, 2021
(See notes)**

**On a roll call of 7-0, the item was referred to the Administration for a report back on June 17, 2021
(See notes)**

**On a roll call of 6-1 (nay Ms. Novick), the item was approved
(See notes)**

Held from 6:05 p.m. to 7:04 p.m.

8:50 p.m.

N O T E S

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met in Open Session at 4:06 p.m. in the Esther Howland Chamber at City Hall on Thursday, June 2, 2021.

There were present at the Call to Order:

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was offered.

Mayor Petty stated that the School Committee will recess into Executive Session:

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to recess to Executive Session at 6:05 p.m. to discuss the following item:

gb #1-164 - Administration
(May 26, 2021)

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 – Successor Contract Negotiations – Educational Association of Worcester Units A & B (Educators/Administrators); Educational Association of Worcester, Aides to the Physically Handicapped, Monitors and Drivers; Educational Association of Worcester, Instructional Assistants; Educational Association of Worcester, Parent Liaisons; Educational Association of Worcester, Tutors; and Educational Association of Worcester, Therapy Assistants; NAGE R1-156, 52 Week Secretaries; NAGE R1-16, Cafeteria Workers; Massachusetts Laborers District Council, Worcester Public Service Employees Local Union 176, Custodians; Massachusetts Laborers District Council, Worcester Public Service Employees Local Union 176, Educational Secretaries; Massachusetts Laborers District Council, Worcester Public Service Employees Local Union 176/Unit D, Computer Technicians; IUPE Local - 125 Plumbers and Steamfitters; IUPE Local -135, Tradesmen; Massachusetts Nurses Association, Worcester School Nurses.

The School Committee reconvened in Open Session at 7:08 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

A Moment of Silence was observed in honor of John Simoncini and Angelo Pappas who dedicated their careers to the Worcester Public Schools and the community in Worcester.

APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #1-17

Mayor Petty made the following amendment to the Minutes of the School Committee of Thursday, May 20-2021:

To amend the Approval of Records to rescind the vote for #2 on page 2 as follows:

2. Pursuant to action taken in Executive Session, it was moved to ratify the Memorandum of Agreement between the Worcester School Committee acting through its Superintendent, and the Educational Association of Worcester Parent Liaison Unit, Therapy Assistant Unit and Tutors Unit, dated May 13, 2021 and effective through the last day of the 2020/21 school year or, in the case of employees whose work year extends beyond the last day of the 20-2/21 school year, it shall extend as to them through the last day of their work year, as the case may be.

On a roll call of 7-0, the School Committee approved the Approval of Records as amended.

7. REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

The Action Sheet for the Standing Committee on **Finance and Operations** is here to annexed as Annex A and was approved as stated:

On a roll call of 6-1 (nay Mr. Monfredo), the School Committee approved the action of the Standing Committee of **Finance and Operations** as stated.

The Action Sheet for the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues is here to annexed as Annex B and was approved as amended:

Mrs. Clancey made the following amendment to the Student Dress Code Policy:

Student Dress Code Policy on page 9 of the Student Handbook change the last paragraph to:

Students shall not be disciplined or removed from class as a consequence for a violation of the Dress Code Policy unless the infraction is a direct violation of the Worcester Public Schools' Code of Conduct Policy. If it is determined to be a violation, the school principal or their designee will determine the consequence for the student.

On a roll call of 7-0, the amendment to the Student Dress Code Policy was approved.

Mayor Petty made the following motion:

It was moved to suspend the rules to reconsider the vote regarding the Attendance Policy as contained the Action Sheet of the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues.

On a roll call of 6-1 (nay Ms. Novick), the vote to suspend the rules to reconsider the vote was approved.

Mayor Petty made the following motion:

Request that the School Committee reconsider the vote regarding the Attendance Policy as contained the Action Sheet of the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues.

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

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the School Committee reconsider the vote that deleted the MGL references within the Attendance Policy, section CRA (Child Requiring Assistance) MGL Chapter 119, section 39e, Failure to Send MGL Chapter 76, and section MGL Chapter 119, Section 51A.

On a roll call of 2-5 (yeas Miss Biancheria and Mr. Monfredo), the motion was defeated.

GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #0-176.

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report in September 2022 highlighting the strengths and accomplishments of the implementation of the 2021-22 ARC Core Literacy Program.

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

gb #0-286.10

Superintendent Binienda provided an update on the COVID-19 numbers:

Last week's **staff** numbers

1 tested positive

This week's **staff** numbers

0 tested positive

Last week's **student** numbers

14 tested positive

This week's **student** numbers

3 tested positive (1 remote and 2 within the buildings)

The following are the number of middle and high school students ages 12 to 19 who have been vaccinated with the Pfizer vaccine:

Worcester Technical High School – 249

North High School – 131

South High Community School - 161

Doherty Memorial High School – 89

Claremont Academy – 24

Burncoat High School - 150

The Alternative School at St. **Casimir's** – 11

Challenge and Reach Academy – 6

University Park Campus School – 44

General Creamer Center – 44
Forest Grove Middle School – 136
Sullivan Middle School – 149
Claremont Academy (middle school)– 89
University Park Campus School (middle school)– 42
Worcester East Middle School - 148
Burncoat Middle School – 186

Ms. Novick asked if the Administration has seen a change in the level of attendance on Fridays.

Superintendent Binienda stated that there has been an improvement in some schools regarding attendance but there has been an increase in tardiness.

Ms. Novick asked if the Administration would know the student enrollment numbers for the next school year.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the enrollment figures for grades 1-12 are looking positive. The kindergarten enrollments will be finalized in early July and the preschools programs are at full capacity.

gb #1-73.1

Ms. Novick suggested, if there are not enough students signing up for the remote academy, that the Administration cancel the project or consider collaborate with other districts to jointly create one.

Mr. Foley requested that the Superintendent provide information at the next Budget meeting, during the ESSER discussion on the feedback from the parents who are not interested in sending their child(ren) to a remote academy.

On a roll call of 7-0, the item was held for the meeting of June 17, 2021.

gb#1-153.

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to consider the accounts in the FY22 Budget.

Ms. Novick requested that the following FY22 WPS Budget transfers and additions of Elementary and Secondary relief funds be considered at the June 17, 2021 School Committee Meeting:

- Early elementary classroom teachers
- Adjustment counselors and support
- Districtwide equity audit
- Districtwide institutional bias training
- Per pupil supply funding

Ms. Novick requested that the following proposals be put forward for the 2022-23 school year for advanced planning:

- Summer school
- Full day pre-school and
- Facilities and Ordinary Maintenance

Ms. Novick made the following motions:

Request that the Administration provide a report on potential interest from elementary school principals in staffing crossing guards for walking school buses.

Request that the Administration provide a legal opinion and the possible process for paying a stipend to student representatives of the School Committee.

Request that the Administration provide a report on the number of bus drivers needed in order to appropriately fill the district needs.

Request that the Administration provide a report on whether Federal Grant funds may be used for the purchase of school buses.

Request that the Administration provide a report on the cost of converting Foley Stadium to natural gas.

On a roll call of 7-0, the motions were approved.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration forward letters to the Local Delegation to consider funding for full day preschools.

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

Mr. Foley made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report for the three-year plan to meet the district's targeted SOA goals and the results to date by detailing how the Administration is:

- working with different community organizations and agencies to leverage their funding and support to impact students at the grade level and
- working with third party mental health providers to provide mental health support for students during the school day.

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

500101-96000 Retirement

Ms. Novick stated that line D-Early Retirement Incentive Account has finally been paid off after 10 years.

Miss Biancheria stated that many teachers are interested in an early retirement incentive and if there was one in place, it would give the school system an opportunity to hire new teachers.

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve Account 500101-96000 Retirement in the amount of \$21,746,307.

500122-92000 Athletics Ordinary Maintenance

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve Account 500122-92000 Athletics Ordinary Maintenance in the amount of \$457,707.

500-91116 Athletic Coach Salaries

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve Account 500-91116 Athletic Coach Salaries in the amount of \$712,702.

500123-96000 Health Insurance

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Request that the Administration forward a letter to the Local Delegation requesting additional funding for health insurance which is not being reflected in the three-year average of the Guaranteed Income Contract (GIC) rate.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve Account 500123-96000 Health Insurance in the amount of \$53,647,839.

500125-92000 Other Insurance Programs

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve Account 500125-92000 Other Insurance Programs in the amount of \$66,030.

500129-91000 Workers Compensation Salaries

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve Account 500129-91000 Workers Compensation Salaries in the amount of \$1,983,982.

500130-92000 Personal Services (Non Salary)

500130-96000

Mr. Foley made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a breakdown report by firm, prior to the School Committee meeting on Thursday, June 17, 2021, on how the monies were expended in line B-Legal Consultation and Settlements and in line D-Special Education Services.

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

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report regarding the actual Professional Development costs of the district for last year in line A-Professional Development.

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

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration forward, in an email, the number of students who are enrolled in the North High School's medical pipeline.

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

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve Accounts 500130-92000 Personal Services (Non Salary) and 500130-96000 in the total amount of \$2,156,939.

500132-92000 Special Education Tuition

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve Account 500132-92000 Special Education Tuition in the amount of \$20,441,132.

500133-92000 Printing & Postage

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve Account 500133-92000 Printing & Postage in the amount of \$317,459.

500-92204 Instructional Materials

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report at the end of the year to include feedback regarding the piloted Study Sync Curriculum.

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

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report in August regarding the supplies the principals have purchased to date using the \$1 per pupil for elementary recess supplies in line A-Instructional Materials.

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

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve Account 500-92204 Instructional Materials in the amount of \$2,218,356.

500136-92000 Miscellaneous Education - Non-Salary

500136-93000 Miscellaneous Education - Capital

540136-92000 Miscellaneous Education - Rentals

(These three items were considered together.)

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration keep the School Committee apprised of purchasing of properties.

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

It was moved to transfer \$28,000 for the contract of maintenance service for the AEDs from line L-School Nurses Medical Supplies to line M-School Safety Equipment.

On a roll call of 2-5 (yeas Miss Biancheria, Mr. Monfredo), the motion was defeated.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report, at the June 17, 2021 School Committee Meeting, with its recommendations for an additional \$53,000 to be added to line M-School Safety Equipment stating where the money would come from and how it would be used.

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

Superintendent Binienda stated that she would provide information on the \$28,000 contract for the AEDs.

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve lines A, B, D, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, N and O from Accounts 500136-92000 Miscellaneous Education OM, Account 500136-93000 Miscellaneous Education OM and **540**136-92000 Miscellaneous Education OM in the amount of \$2,302,669.

On a roll call of 6-0-0-1 (abstained Ms. Novick), it was moved to approve line C-Dues and Memberships in Accounts 500136-92000 Miscellaneous Education OM, Account 500136-93000 Miscellaneous Education OM and **540**136-92000 Miscellaneous Education OM in the amount of \$75,560.

On a roll call of 6-0-0-1 (abstained Mr. Foley), it was moved to approve line E-Building and Parking Rentals in Accounts 500136-92000 Miscellaneous Education OM, Account 500136-93000 Miscellaneous Education OM and **540**136-92000 Miscellaneous Education OM in the amount of \$1,265,689.

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to hold line M-School Safety Equipment for a report from the Administration at the School Committee meeting to be held on Thursday, June 17, 2021.

500137-96000 Unemployment Compensation

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve Account 500137-96000 Unemployment Compensation in the amount of \$522,637.

500146-92000 Building Utilities

Miss Biancheria made the following motions:

Request that the Administration provide a report on the number employees by department who have cell phones provided by the Worcester Public Schools and indicate who is using the long-distance services.

Request that the Administration provide, in September 2021, the updated list of repairs that the Code Department has requested be fixed in the school buildings.

On a roll call of 7-0, the motions were approved.

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve Account 500146-92000 Building Utilities in the amount of \$6,514,506.

500152-92000 Facilities Department OM Non-Salary
500152-9300 Facilities Department OM

(These items were considered together.)

Miss Biancheria asked how many vehicles are used 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

Mr. Bedard stated that supervisors may take home vehicles because they may be on call to respond to emergency situations in the middle of the night.

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve Account 500152-92000 Facilities Department OM Non-Salary in the amount of \$4,474,476.

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve Account 500152-93000 Facilities Department OM in the amount of \$103,428.

500-91119 Custodial Salaries

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve Account 500-91119 Custodial Salaries in the amount of \$7,729,888.

500-97203 Custodian Overtime

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve Account 500-97203 Custodian Overtime in the amount of \$0.

gb#1-156

Ms. McCullough requested that information regarding the services provided by Lesley University over the past 3 year be forwarded to the School Committee prior to the Budget hearing on June 17, 2021.

Superintendent Binienda stated that Dr. O'Neil has the report ready regarding both the Fountas and Pennell and Dyslexia Programs and will forward it next week.

gb#1-160

Superintendent Binienda stated that she would also provide the list of Innovative Pathway trainings.

gb#1-162

Ms. Novick amended her item to read the **2021-22 school year**.

Ms. Novick requested that the Administration provide a detailed report on June 17, 2021 regarding the breakdown of the programs and how the funding is to be used.

gb#1-163

Ms. Novick stated her concern regarding the Job Description because it is not in the classroom and requested that the Administration provide more information as to where the funding allocations are in the Budget book.

Superintendent Binienda stated that, due to the growth of the program, it is necessary to add a position which will require working the classroom with students.

Mr. Allen stated that the position existed in the FY21 Budget under transition positions and is being paid out of the teachers' account in the Budget book.

Ms. Novick inquired as to the salary of this position. Mr. Allen stated it is aligned with a teachers' salaries.

Mr. Foley stated that it is his hope that the Administration provide the individual with benchmarks and make sure they realize that the program runs from November through March but the work doesn't stop there.

O T H E R

A Moment of Silence was observed in honor of John Simoncini and Angelo Pappas who dedicated their careers to the Worcester Public Schools and the community in Worcester.

Committee Members
John Foley, Chairman
Molly McCullough, Vice Chairman
Dianna Biancheria

ANNEX A
AGENDA #2
F/O
5-25-21
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A C T I O N S

The Standing Committee on Finance and Operations met in a public Budget Hearing format at 4:37 p.m. on Tuesday, May 25, 2021 in Room 410 at the Dr. John E. Durkin Administration Building.

There were present: Miss Biancheria, Miss McCullough and Chairman Foley

Representing Administration were: Mr. Allen, Superintendent Binienda and Dr. Friel
ros #1-3 - Administration (January 12, 2021)

FY22 PRELIMINARY BUDGET ESTIMATES

Mr. Allen provided a PowerPoint presentation on the FY22 Budget which is contained in the following link:

<https://view.earthchannel.com/PlayerController.aspx?&PGD=worceschma&eID=827>

The following individuals offered testimony regarding the FY22 Budget:

Michaela Bunker
Jeremy Shulkin

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Clerk of the School Committee poll School Committee members to inquire if they would like to receive a hard copy of the Foundation Budget Rates sheet and the list of the new positions.

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

On a roll call of 3-0, the meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

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

Committee Members

Laura Clancey, Chairman
John Monfredo, Vice-chairman
Tracy O'Connell-Novick

AGENDA #4
G/EI
5-26-21
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A C T I O N S

The Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues met virtually at 4:07 p.m. on Wednesday, May 26, 2021 in Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building.

There were present: Chairman Clancey, Vice-Chairman Monfredo and Ms. Novick

Representing Administration: Dr. Friel, Dr. O'Neil and Superintendent Binienda

gb #1-35 - Administration (January 25, 2021)

To consider approval of the proposed 2021-22 Student Handbook of the Worcester Public Schools.

Mrs. Clancey stated that when she made the initial referral, she wanted to make sure that in the event of disciplining or the removal of a student, that it could be referred back to the Code of Conduct, not to have legal counsel actually change any of the wording of the approved policy.

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Pages 8 and 9 (Dress Code Policy), accept the addition of the comma and reject the rest of the changes to the Dress Code Policy.

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

Ms. Novick asked when the Wellness Policy was revised and Superintendent Binienda stated that she would provide that information.

Ms. Novick made the following motions:

Page 56 (Access for Pregnant Students), change "the" to "that" before the words "every reasonable opportunity."

gb #0-135 (continued)

Page 59 (Riding School Buses), change the **commas** to **semi-colons** on numbers 3 and 7.

Change the language throughout the Student Handbook from **"he/she"** to **"they"** and **"his/her"** to **"their"**.

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

Ms. Novick asked why Massachusetts General Laws are referenced in the Handbook regarding truancy.

Superintendent Binienda stated that it is a challenge when there's no legal reference in the Handbook and parents would want to know what could happen if the student does not go to school.

Ms. Novick stated that the legal reference is contained in Section HJA of the Policy Manual and does not need to be in the Handbook.

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

On page 69, strike the MGL references within the Attendance Policy, section CRA (Child Requiring Assistance) MGL Chapter 119, section 39e, Failure to Send MGL Chapter 76, and section MGL Chapter 119, Section 51A.

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

Ms. Novick requested that the sentence on **page 77 "Beginning with students who entered the 9th grade in September 2013, the High School Graduation Requirements were replaced by the Mass Core Requirements"** be replaced with **"WPS adheres to the Mass Core Requirements."**

Mrs. Clancey made the following motion:

Replace the words **"parent/guardian"** with **"caregiver"** and **"parents/guardians"** with **"caregivers"** throughout the Handbook.

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

gb #0-135 (continued)

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

On page 79, **delete** the Advanced Placement Exams **paragraph** and **replace** it with **“WPS will pay for the AP exams for those students who choose to take them.”**

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

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Page 82 (No School/Delayed School Opening/Early Dismissal Announcements), add the words **“district social media”** and **add a comma before the word “and”**.

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

Ms. Novick asked if there was a reason that Work for Worcester Youth is specified on the back cover.

Superintendent Binienda suggested deleting “including, but not limited to “Work for Worcester Youth” on the back cover.

Ms. Novick suggested ending the sentence at **programs**.

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

On the back cover, make the last sentence of the first paragraph the first sentence of the paragraph, delete the words **“as well as other policies located in this book”** and move the Weapons and Social Media policies to later in the letter.

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

It was moved and voice voted to approve the proposed changes contained in Annex A of the backup and the motions in the Action Sheet which resulted in the approval of the entire Student Handbook.

On a roll call of 3-0, the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

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