

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

AGENDA #9

The School Committee will hold a regular meeting:

on: Thursday, March 20, 2014  
at: 6:00 p.m. – Executive Session  
7:00 p.m. – Regular Session  
in the: Esther Howland South Chamber, City Hall

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ACTION

I. CALL TO ORDER - REGULAR MEETING

INVOCATION - Reverend Noel Williamson  
Pleasant Street Baptist Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/NATIONAL ANTHEM

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #4-5 - Clerk  
(March 11, 2014)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, February 27, 2014.

aor #4-6 - Clerk  
(March 11, 2014)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, March 6, 2014.

"The Worcester Public Schools is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer/Educational Institution and does not discriminate regardless of race, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, or homelessness. The Worcester Public Schools provides equal access to employment and the full range of general, occupational and vocational education programs. For more information relating to Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action contact Stacey DeBoise Luster, Human Resource Manager, 20 Irving Street, Worcester, MA 01609. 508-799-3020."

IV. MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

ACTION

gb #3-323.2 - Administration/Mayor Petty  
(March 10, 2014)

To reconsider the following motions made at the March 6, 2014 School Committee meeting:

Request that the Administration ask the State Department of Education to allow the parents to opt their children out of the pilot examination of PARCC.

Request that the Clerk of the School Committee forward a letter, on behalf of the School Committee, to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education modeled on the Norfolk Public Schools' letter.

Request that the Administration develop a clear protocol for students whose parents choose not to have their child/ren participate in the field testing of PARCC.

Request that the protocol be provided as backup on the agenda for March 20, 2014.

Request that the School Committee band together with other committees across the state to respond by strongly opposing the weak legal opinion provided by Rhoda Schneider, General Counsel, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, which indicated that there are no opt out provisions for parents for the sample of students selected to participate in PARCC field testing.

V IMMEDIATE ACTIONACTION

gb #4-42.1 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo/  
Ms. Novick/Miss Ramirez/Mr. O'Connell/Mayor Petty  
(March 10, 2014)

To recognize the following students of the Worcester Public Schools who received awards from the Worcester Historical Museum for their entries in the 36th Annual “Be Our Valentine” Contest:

<b>Historic</b>	<b>Contemporary</b>	<b>Verse</b>	<b>Masters</b>
Grade 4 Kianna Rodriguez Lincoln Street School	Grade 3 Nolan Farrell Worcester Arts Magnet School	Grade 3 Sean Bellin Midland Street School	Grade 6 Samuel Levenson Worcester Arts Magnet School
Grade 5 Isabella Zambrano City View School	Grade 4 KC Minton McGrath Elementary School	Grade 4 Marc Hilliard Belmont Street Community School	Grade 5 Kayla Collins City View School
Grade 6 Alexandra LaFratta Lake View School	Grade 5 Alena Nguyen Chandler Elementary School	Grade 5 Kayre Molina Belmont Street Community School	
	Grade 6 Ines Nieves City View School	Grade 6 Rita Brederson Worcester Arts Magnet School	

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

ros #4-3 - Administration  
(March 12, 2014)

To conduct the School Committee's FY15 Budget priority setting session.

VII. COMMUNICATION AND PETITION

c&p #4-4 - Clerk  
(March 11, 2014)

To consider a communication from a citizen regarding a fundraiser campaign for May Street School to replace the gym floor.

VIII. REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

ACTION

The Joint Meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations and the City Council's Standing Committee on Education met at 5:35 p.m. on Monday, March 10, 2014 in Room 410 at the Dr. John E. Durkin Administration Building.

The Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports met at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18, 2014 in Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building.

THE ACTION SHEETS CAN BE FOUND IN THE APPROPRIATE PLACE IN THE BACKUP

IX. PERSONNEL

4-9 The Superintendent ACCEPTED the RETIREMENT of the persons named below:

Levine, Anita, Reading, Sullivan Middle, effective February 28, 2014.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS

ACTION

gb #4-10.2 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/Mr. O'Connell/  
Mr. Monfredo/Mayor Petty  
(March 11, 2014)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report regarding the process and procedures for individual staff members to utilize School Dude to include emergency requests.

gb #4-16.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/  
Ms. Novick/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Ramirez/  
Mr. Monfredo/Mayor Petty  
(March 11, 2014)

Response of the Administration to the request that all of the Elementary and Middle Schools participate in the NEA's Read Across America Day during the week of March 3rd and reach out to the community partners and include them in a "literacy celebration."

gb #4-72 - Mr. Monfredo  
(February 27, 2014)

To congratulate all members of the Worcester Public Schools' staff involved in initiating the second Bullying Prevention and Education Conference which was held at Worcester Technical High School on February 27, 2014.

gb #4-73 - Mr. O'Connell  
(March 10, 2014)

To forward a letter of congratulations to Meggan Mwangi and Paris Jensen, on the awards they received at the Worcester Regional Science Fair for their projects on the Ozone and on Knowledge of Environmental Change, respectively.

gb #4-74 - Administration  
(March 11, 2014)

To set a date in April for a public hearing on school choice.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)ACTION

gb #4-75 - Ms. Novick  
(March 12, 2014)

To consider the fundraising policy of the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #4-76 - Ms. Novick  
(March 12, 2014)

Request that the Administration provide for access to library materials during MCAS and other testing.

gb #4-77 - Mr. O'Connell  
(March 12, 2014)

To congratulate the following instructors of the Worcester Public Schools on receiving Mini-Grants from the Worcester Educational Development Foundation:

Teacher	School	Mini-Grant
Christine Rovezzi	Gates Lane School of International Studies	"Nothing but the Truth"
Patricia Ryan	Sullivan Middle School	"Learning Beyond Reading"
Karen Azoulay	Columbus Park Preparatory Academy	"We are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball"
Linda Weaver	Roosevelt School	"Words with Wings"
Michelle Maloney	Worcester Arts Magnet School	"Using Text to Understand What Happens When and Why"
Pascalina Mattioli	South High Community School	"A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier"
Drew Merrill	Doherty Memorial High School	"The Impact of Wind Turbines on Wild Life"
Lauren Sargent	J. A. Caradonio New Citizens Center	"Literacy through Legos"

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #4-78 - Mr. O'Connell  
(March 12, 2014)

To extend an invitation to the Education Association of Worcester, other interested employee associations, staff members of the Worcester Public Schools, and members of the Worcester community to the meeting of the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports at which the draft copy of the 2014-15 Policies Handbook is discussed.

gb #4-79 - Miss Biancheria  
(March 12, 2014)

Request that the Administration consider updating and repairing the lunch room accommodations for the Fanning School Reach and Challenge Program.

gb #4-80 - Miss Biancheria  
(March 12, 2014)

Request that the Administration provide a plan/protocol to replace, to date, seven open principal positions.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)ACTION

gb #4-81 - Mr. O'Connell  
(March 12, 2014)

To forward letters of congratulations to the following robotics teams of the Worcester Public Schools on the awards they earned at the New England Regional Vex Robotics Championships, as follows:

School	Award
Worcester East Middle School	Innovate Award
Sullivan Middle School	Design Award
Claremont Academy	Judges Award
City View School	Judges Award
Clark Street Developmental Learning School	Engineering Notebook Award and Judges Award
Goddard School of Science and Technology	Tournament Finalist, Excellence Award and Energy Award
Midland Street School	Engineering Notebook Award and Create Award
Quinsigamond School	Engineering Notebook Award and Judges Award
Tatnuck Magnet School	Sportsmanship Award and STEM Project Award
Vernon Hill School	Team Spirit Award and Judges Award
Woodland Academy	Tournament Finalist, Engineering Award and Judges Award

and to recognize, with gratitude and appreciation, Quinsigamond Community College for funding, supporting and hosting the program.

gb #4-82 - Administration  
(March 12, 2014)

To approve a prior year payment in the amount of \$14,479.70 for services provided by You Inc. (Cottage Hill) for special education students for the 2012-13 school year.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #4-83 - Administration  
(March 12, 2014)

To approve a prior year payment in the amount of \$3,000.00 for services provided by Devereux for 1:1 aid for a special education student for the 2012-13 school year.

gb #4-84 - Administration  
(March 12, 2014)

To accept a grant in the amount of \$15,000 from the SME Foundation to support manufacturing education at Worcester Technical High School.

gb #4-85 - Administration  
(March 12, 2014)

To accept a grant in the amount of \$185,000 from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to support the Gateway Cities ELL Academies program.

gb #4-86 - Administration  
(March 12, 2014)

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

XI. ADJOURNMENT

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