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

#### AGENDA #23

The School Committee will hold a regular meeting:

on: Thursday, November 19, 2015 at: 6:00 p.m. - Executive Session 7:00 p.m. - Regular Session

in the: Esther Howland South Chamber at City Hall

# ORDER OF BUSINESS

**ACTION** 

I. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u> - REGULAR MEETING

<u>INVOCATION</u> - Reverend H. Edward Chalmers St. Stephen's Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/NATIONAL ANTHEM

II. ROLL CALL

# III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

<u>aor #5-23</u> - Clerk (November 12, 2015)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, November 5, 2015.

# IV. MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION - NONE

Annex A (13 pages

"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 the Human Resource Manager, 20 Irving Street, Worcester, MA 01609. 508-799-3020."

# V. <u>IMMEDIATE ACTION</u>

<u>ACTION</u>

gb #5-262.1 - Administration/Administration (November 9, 2015)

To recognize the Alumni Association of North High School and CSX for donating funds to North High School for the purchase of a van to transport students to internships.

gb #5-285.1 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/Ms. Novick/ Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Ramirez/ Mr. Foley/Mayor Petty (November 9, 2015)

To recognize the following individuals of the 365Z Foundation for their commitment to kindness:

Rosemary Ford, President Paul LaCava, Co-founder Ed Gardella, Co-founder

gb #5-288.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick/ Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/Miss Ramirez/ Mr. Foley/Mayor Petty (November 9, 2015)

To recognize the following students for being named Commended Students in the 2016 National Merit Scholarship Program:

Burncoat High School Laurana Nyman North High School
Elena M. Jacques

Doherty Memorial High School
Aubrey Leary
Morgaine Payson

gb #5-302 - Administration (November 10, 2015)

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

# VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

ros #5-12 - Administration (November 12, 2015)

**UPDATE ON STATE ASSESSMENTS** 

# VII. COMMUNICATION AND PETITION - NONE

# VIII. REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

The Standing Committee on Finance and Operations met at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 16, 2015 in Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building.

# IX. PERSONNEL - NONE

# X. GENERAL BUSINESS

<u>gb #5-303</u> - Mr. Monfredo (November 10, 2015)

To set a date to recognize Hanover Theater and South High Principal Maureen Binienda on their collaborative partnership by reaching out to the community and the students.

<u>gb #5-304</u> - Ms. Novick (November 10, 2015)

To report out on the 2015 MASC Delegates' Assembly and Joint Conference.

gb #5-305 - Administration (November 10, 2015)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$51.18 for mileage reimbursement.

## **ACTION**

Annex A (4 pages)

# **GENERAL BUSINESS** (continued)

<u>ACTION</u>

gb #5-306 - Administration (November 10, 2015)

To accept a donation in the amount of \$25.00 from Marcella Brackett in memory of Sheila Johnson for the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #5-307 - Administration (November 10, 2015)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$9,120 for special education transportation reimbursement.

gb #5-308 - Administration (November 10, 2015)

To authorize the Administration to solicit proposals for the lease of space and award a contract of up to five years for additional space to alleviate overcrowding for Chandler Elementary School.

gb #5-309 - Administration (November 10, 2015)

Request that the School Committee authorize the Interim Superintendent to act as its representative to execute all contracts and other legally binding documents in the name and on behalf of the School Committee with the Massachusetts Department of Workforce Development.

<u>gb #5-310</u> - Miss Biancheria (November 12, 2015)

Request that the Administration review with the School Committee the bus transportation safety equipment requirements.

# **GENERAL BUSINESS** (continued)

gb #5-311 - Mayor Petty (November 12, 2015)

Request that the School Committee vote to rebid the Request for Proposals for a search firm for the selection of the next Superintendent of the Worcester Public Schools, due to the lack of a sufficient number of bidders.

gb #5-312 - Administration (November 12, 2015)

Finding that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee, the committee votes to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Grievance #14/15-14.

Finding that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee, the committee votes to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to litigation and collective bargaining for a teacher.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation of a worker's compensation case for an Instructional Assistant, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation of a worker's compensation case for an Instructional Assistant, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation of a worker's compensation case for a Bus Monitor, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

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

# X. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

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

IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE Worcester, Massachusetts Thursday, November 5, 2015 Agenda #22

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met in Open Session at 6:05 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall on Thursday, November 5, 2015.

There were present at the Call to Order:

Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez and Mayor Petty

It was moved to recess to Executive Session in order to discuss the following item:

1. <u>gb #5-301</u> - Administration (October 28, 2015)

Executive Session

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation of a worker's compensation case for an Instructional Assistant, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation of a worker's compensation case for a Cafeteria Manager, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

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

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,

Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez,

Mayor Petty

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Against the motion:

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The motion carried.

The School Committee recessed to Executive Session from 6:06 p.m. to 6:55 p.m.

The School Committee reconvened in Open Session at 7:00 p.m.

The invocation was given by Reverend Roosevelt Hughes of John Street Baptist Church.

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

There were present at the second Call to Order:

Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez and Mayor Petty

#### Instructional Assistants/

 It was moved and voice voted to suspend the Rules of the School Committee to allow the following individuals to speak regarding the reduction of Instructional Assistants at City View School:

> Leonard Zalauskas, EAW Lesley Clark Cruiser Jolly

#### APPROVAL OF RECORDS

#### Minutes/ approval of

3. <u>aor #5-21</u> - Clerk (October 22, 2015)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, October 15, 2015.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, October 15, 2015.

#### Executive Session Minutes/approval of

4.

aor #5-22 - Clerk (October 22, 2015)

To consider approval of the Executive Session Minutes of January 22, 2015, March 5, 2015 and April 9, 2015.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the Executive Session Minutes of January 22, 2015, March 5, 2015 and April 9, 2015.

#### **IMMEDIATE ACTION**

5. <u>gb #5-283</u> - Administration (October 8, 2015)

Recognition/ Melinda J. Boone

To recognize Melinda J. Boone, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools, for her dedication to the students, teachers and staff of the Worcester Public Schools and to wish her well in her new position as Superintendent of the Norfolk Public Schools in Virginia.

Mayor Petty and the School Committee presented a gift to Dr. Boone.

7. <u>gb #5-284</u> - Administration (October 22, 2015)

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

It was moved and voice voted to file the item.

#### REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

8. ros #5-11.1 - Administration/Administration (October 19, 2015)

#### ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION EVALUATION REPORT

Dr. Rodrigues and Dr. Gribouski provided the Alternative Education Evaluation Report as contained in the backup for the item.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration prepare its recommendations in March 2016 relative to the budget related needs of the various alternative programs.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Student Representatives/ input

Report of the Superintendent/ Alternative Education Evaluation Report Miss Biancheria made the following motions:

Request that the item be referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.

Request that Mr. Whalen be invited to the meeting when the item is discussed at the Standing Committee level.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

#### **PERSONNEL**

It was moved and voice voted to file Personnel Items 5-44
 -5-47.

#### Retirements

5-44 The Superintendent has APPROVED the RETIREMENT of the persons named below:

Garbarczyk, Barbara, Teacher, Mathematics, Sullivan Middle, effective October 18, 2015

Pandolfo, Patricia, Teacher, Special Education, effective October 11, 2015

#### Resignation

5-45 The Superintendent ACKNOWLEDGES the RESIGNATION of the person named below:

Handley, Jennifer, Teacher, English as a Second Language, Sullivan Middle, effective October 19, 2015

#### Appointments

5-46 The Superintendent has APPROVED the APPOINTMENT of the persons named below:

Cohen, Jacquelyn, Teacher, Special Education, University Park, MA, Step 8, \$72,283, effective October 26, 2015. Licensed: Moderate Disabilities PreK-8.

Durning, Joyce, Teacher, Elementary, City View, BA, Step 1, \$45,064, effective October 5, 2015. Licensed: Early Childhood with and without Disabilities PreK-2.

Phillips, Priscilla, Teacher, Allied Health, North, BA+15, Step 8, \$68,665 effective October 20, 2015. Licensed: Health Sciences 9-14.

5-47 The Superintendent has APPOINTED the persons named below to the position of Cafeteria Helper, permanent/ intermittent at a salary of \$12.94 per hour, from Civil Service List #315-037, effective as shown:

Cafeteria Helpers/ appointments of

Anderson, Curtis	10/5/15	
Buffone, Lois	10/5/15	
Goodwin, Jodi	10/5/15	
Hercules, Aslyn	10/5/15	
Inam, Magdaline	10/5/15	
Madrid, Alexis	10/5/15	
Malkowski, Karolina	10/5/15	
Masha, Ardian	10/5/15	
McIntyre, Donna	10/5/15	
Ortiz Orve, Alfonzo	10/5/15	
Robinson, Edward	10/5/15	
Sanchez, Maria	10/5/15	
Salinas, Maritza	10/5/15	
Shanley, Deborah	10/5/15	
Smith, Melvin	10/5/15	
Turner, Joanne	10/5/15	
Weaver, Alexis	10/5/15	
Wilson, Glenna	10/5/15	
Brenner, Sheila	10/7/15	
Bacchiocchi, Kristy	10/13/15	

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

10. gb #5-285 - Miss Biancheria/Ms. Novick/Mr. Monfredo/ Mr. O'Connell/Miss Ramirez/Mr. Foley/ Mayor Petty (October 8, 2015) Recognition/ set date

To set a date to recognize the following individuals of the 365Z Foundation for their commitment to kindness:

Rosemary Ford, President Paul LaCava, Co-founder Ed Gardella, Co-founder

It was moved and voice voted to set the date of Thursday, November 19, 2015.

Donation/Tatnuck Magnet School/ \$3,651.87 11. <u>gb #5-286</u> - Administration (October 9, 2015)

To accept a donation in the amount of \$3,651.87 from the Tatnuck Parent Association for the Tatnuck Magnet Playground.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,

Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez,

Mayor Petty

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Against the motion:

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The motion carried.

Donation/Doherty Memorial High School/\$9,976.36 12. <u>gb #5-287</u> - Administration (October 13, 2015)

To accept a donation in the amount of \$9,976.36 from the Doherty Memorial High School Student Activity Funds for Doherty Memorial High School.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,

Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez,

Mayor Petty

Against the motion:

The motion carried.

13.

Recognition/ set date gb #5-288 - Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick/Mr. O'Connell/

Miss Biancheria/Miss Ramirez/Mr. Foley/

Mayor Petty (October 14, 2015)

To forward letters to the following students for being named Commended Students in the 2016 National Merit Scholarship Program:

Burncoat High School Laurana Nyman North High School Elena M. Jacques

<u>Doherty Memorial High School</u> Aubrey Leary Morgaine Payson

It was moved and voice voted to set the date of Thursday, November 19, 2015.

14. <u>gb #5-289</u> - Administration (October 16, 2015)

To authorize the Administration to solicit proposals for the lease of space and award a contract of up to ten years, subject to appropriation by the School Committee, for the Advanced High School Academy at Doherty Memorial High School.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,

Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez,

**Mayor Petty** 

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Against the motion:

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The motion carried.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide in a Friday Letter a copy of the Request for Proposal for the lease of space for the Advanced High School Academy at Doherty Memorial High School.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Advanced High School Academy/ solicit proposals for space

#### City View School/ radon

15. <u>gb #5-290</u> - Administration (October 16, 2015)

To review and discuss the communication from the Bureau of Environmental Health of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health regarding their discontinuance of the required continuous monitoring and maintenance of the radon mitigation system at City View Discovery School and to discuss the Administration's recommendation for future radon sampling and surveys.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that when the item is discussed at the Standing Committee level that the report regarding the radon counts and radon analysis of City View School be included as backup.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

#### Cell Phone Policy

16. <u>gb #5-291</u> - Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley (October 19, 2015)

Request that the School Committee review the policy on cell phones and gather information from all secondary principals.

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

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration seek input regarding the cell phone policy from teachers, through the EAW, administrators at the secondary level and from students on the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

17. gb #5-292 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/ Miss Biancheria (October 19, 2015)

Request that the Administration include chronic absenteeism percentages in all accountability plans and annual benchmarks.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the item be referred to the Administration for a report back in December.

Dr. Boone indicated that 26 schools already refer to efforts to improve attendance in some way and an additional 6 schools include specific measures to improve attendance in their accountability plans.

Mr. O'Connell suggested that we ask schools to consider including chronic absenteeism percentages in their accountability plans.

Mayor Petty moved and it was voice voted to refer the item to the Administration.

18. <u>gb #5-293</u> - Administration (October 19, 2015)

To appoint Dr. Rodrigues to the Board of the Central Massachusetts Special Education Collaborative to represent the Worcester Public Schools.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,

Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez,

Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion:

The motion carried.

Chronic Absenteeism/ include percentages in accountability plans

Massachusetts Special Education Collaborative/appoint Dr. Rodrigues Prior Fiscal Year Payment/\$9,183.90 19. <u>gb #5-294</u> - Administration (October 22, 2015)

To approve a prior year payment in the amount of \$9,183.90.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,

Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez,

Mayor Petty

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Against the motion: 0

The motion carried.

20.

Donation/St. John's Parish/\$4,200

<u>gb #5-295</u> - Administration (October 19, 2015)

To accept a donation in the amount of \$4,200 from RCB St. John's Parish to Union Hill School for purchase of iPads to be used at the St. John's Parish After-school Program for Union Hill students.

Mr. O'Connell requested that he be recused from voting on this matter due to a potential conflict of interest because he serves on the Finance Committee of the Parish Council of St. John's Parish.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,

Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Miss Ramirez, Mayor Petty

Against the motion: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain:  $\frac{1}{7}$ 

The motion carried.

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0

Mr. O'Connell left the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,

Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Miss Ramirez, Mayor Petty

Against the motion:

Absent: Mr. O'Connell

The motion carried.

Mr. O'Connell returned to the meeting at 9:21 p.m.

21. <u>gb #5-296</u> - Administration (October 27, 2015)

To accept a donation in the amount of \$10,000 from the Estate of James E. Driscoll for the Virginia M. Driscoll Scholarship Fund for South High Community School.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,

Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez,

Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion:  $\frac{0}{3}$ 

The motion carried.

22. <u>gb #5-297</u> - Administration (October 28, 2015)

To accept a grant in the amount of \$50,000 from the National Association for Pupil Transportation (NAPT) – Zonar Hardware Grant to the Worcester Public Schools.

Donation/Virginia M. Driscoll Scholarship Fund/\$10,000

Grant/National Association for Pupil Transportation/ \$50,000

7

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,

Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez,

Mayor Petty

Against the motion:

The motion carried.

Grant/Target/\$750 23. <u>gb #5-298</u> - Administration (October 28, 2015)

To accept a grant in the amount of \$750 from Target to fund two performances of Diamonds and Toads by Greater Worcester Opera for students at Jacob Hiatt Magnet School.

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,

Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez,

Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion:

The motion carried.

Grant/Target/\$1,000 24. <u>gb #5-299</u> - Administration (October 28, 2015)

To accept a grant in the amount of \$1,000 from Target to fund enrichment opportunities that will allow the school to purchase much needed supplies for enrichment activities that occur during Extended Learning Time (ELT).

It was moved to approve the item.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley,

Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mr. O'Connell, Miss Ramirez,

Mayor Petty

Against the motion:

0

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The motion carried.

25. gb #5-300 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/

Miss Biancheria (October 28, 2015) Student Discipline Hearings

To determine whether school principals are permitted to serve as "decision-makers" in student discipline hearings held pursuant to Section 37H 3/4 of the Massachusetts General Laws (as amended by Section 3 of Chapter 222 of the Acts of 2012), as is their right, and, if so, to verify that the principals are receiving the support, training, and legal advice necessary or proper to assist them in exercising their authority and discretion in this regard.

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

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

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

# **Worcester Public Schools**

Press Release

Tuesday, November 10, 2015

For immediate release



#### Contacts:

Melinda Boone, Superintendent, 508-799-3115 Marco Rodrigues, Chief Academic Officer, 508-799-3644 David Perda, Chief Research & Accountability Officer, 508-799-3060

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) today released 2015 district and school-level test scores from the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) assessment.

In 2014-15, the DESE administered both the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) and PARCC tests in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics to students in the Commonwealth. While most school districts selected one or the other to administer to students in grades 3-8, the Worcester Public Schools (along with Boston and Springfield) chose a hybrid of both – with some schools administering MCAS while others had students participate in PARCC.<sup>1</sup>

In the WPS, nearly 6000 students in 24 schools participated in PARCC testing. The majority of students were in grades 3-8. A small number of 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students also participated in PARCC high school tests.

Among students in PARCC participating schools in the WPS, 40 percent of students "met or exceeded expectations" on the PARCC ELA assessments (see Appendix A) administered to students in grades 3-8. Students in Grades 7 and 8 were the most likely to meet or exceed performance expectations on the ELA PARCC test with 49 percent at Grade 7 and 50 percent at Grade 8 doing so. In Mathematics, 29 percent of grade 3-8 students either met or exceeded expectations (see Appendix B). As with the ELA PARCC scores, Grade 7 and Grade 8 students had the highest proportion of students meeting or exceeding expectations with 31 percent and 34 percent respectively.

As only a subpopulation of WPS students participated in PARCC testing in ELA and Mathematics, it is important to recognize that these scores are not representative of the entire population of Grade 3-8 students in the district. Similarly, it is not appropriate to make direct comparisons of the "meeting expectations" achievement level on PARCC and the Proficient and/or Advanced performance levels on MCAS.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Due to state graduation requirements, the grade 10 MCAS test was used by all districts in the state. High school students as well as students in Grades 5 and 8, also continued to participate in Science and Technology/Engineering (STE) MCAS tests.

One way to examine student progress over time is to examine student growth percentiles (SGP). SGPs show how a student's achievement on PARCC in 2015 compares to that of other students in the state who began the year at the same level based on MCAS. The middle SGP, or median, is an indicator of how well the typical student in a district, school or class performed relative to similar students in Massachusetts. A typical school or district in the Commonwealth would have a median student growth percentile of 50.

Among students in PARCC participating schools, the median ELA SGP for students across all grades was 51, indicating that the typical student in the PARCC participating schools in the WPS scored slightly higher in 2015 than Massachusetts students with similar performance histories. The ELA median SGPs were higher than the statewide growth rate for both grade 6 (SGP of 57) and grade 8 (SGP of 57). In mathematics, the median SGP across all grades was 49 – just shy of statewide median growth. The median SGPs in mathematics in the WPS were highest in grade 7 (SGP of 50) and grade 8 (SGP of 50).

Across all grade levels tested under MCAS, several schools had median SGPs that were "above target" in 2015 (60 or higher). In ELA, these are Clark Street Community School (SGP of 60.5), Goddard School of Science and Technology (SGP of 63), Lake View School (SGP of 69), Thorndyke Road School (SGP of 69), Woodland Academy (SGP of 68), and Worcester East Middle School (SGP of 63). In mathematics, two schools met this student growth criterion: May Street School (SGP of 72) and Forest Grove Middle School (SGP of 64). "I am encouraged that so many of our schools continue to demonstrate that high levels of student growth can be obtained through hard work and perseverance – particularly in English Language Arts which has been the focus of so much of our work during my tenure in Worcester," said Superintendent Melinda Boone. "The PARCC test is a higher bar for our kids. I am confident that our children will rise to the challenge, and I look forward to continuing to watch the progress of our students and schools in the years that follow."

The Massachusetts Board of Education is expected to vote on whether to adopt PARCC as a replacement for MCAS on November 17.

Additional school-level detail on PARCC MCAS scores can be found on the School

Appendix A: Worcester Public Schools: English Language Arts PARCC Results by Grade Level

Median SGP	51.0	*20	40.0	49.0	57.0	49.0	57.0
Level 1 - Did Not Yet Meet	12	22	12	11	6		<b>∞</b>
Level 2 - Partially Met Expectations	19	25	21	23	18	15	16
Level 3 - Approached Expectations	28	22	32	30	34	25	27
Level 4 - Met Expectations	34	28	29	33	35	37	41
Level 5 - Exceeded Expectations	9	8	Ω	7	Ŋ	12	6
Number of Students Included	5,823	296	885	843	829	1,172	1,127
Grade Level	3-8	æ	4	ΓV	9	7	8

Optional English Language Arts Tests:

	Median	SGP	æ	
Level 1 - Did Not	Yet Meet	Expectations	12	16
Level 2 -	Partially Met	Expectations	14	40
Level 3 -	Approached	Expectations	29	22
Level 4 -	Met	Expectations	39	20
Level 5 -	Exceeded	Expectations	9	2
Number of	Students	Included	49	45
		Grade Level	6	11

Appendix B: Worcester Public Schools: Mathematics PARCC Results by Grade Level

Median SGP	47.0		44.0	42.0	49.0	50.0	50.0
Level 1 - Did Not Yet Meet Expectations	15	19	15	18	14	7	21
Level 2 - Partially Met Expectations	28	27	31	32	28	29	23
Level 3 - Approached Expectations	28	25	27	56	33	33	22
Level 4 - Met Expectations	25	25	25	20	23	28	28
Level 5 - Exceeded Expectations	4	4	ĸ	m	2	ю	9
Number of Students Included	5,810	972	884	844	829	1,158	1,064
Grade Level	3-8	က	4	rv	9	7	∞

# Optional Mathematics Tests:

:	Median SGP	24.0		ī
Level 1 - Did Not	Yet Meet Expectations	0	45	40
Level 2 -	Partially Met Expectations	ĸ	45	27
Level 3 -	Approached Expectations	37	6	25
Level 4 -	Met Expectations	59	0	∞
Level 5 -	Exceeded Expectations	0	0	0
Number of	Students Included	59	22	73
	Grade Level	8 (Algebra I)	HS (Algebra I)	HS (Algebra II)