AGENDA #9

The School Committee will hold a regular meeting:

on: Thursday, April 6, 2017
at:  6:00 p.m. - Executive Session
     7:00 p.m. – Regular Session
in: Esther Howland South Chamber, City Hall

ORDER OF BUSINESS

I. CALL TO ORDER

   INVOCATION – Pastor Robert Ochoa
                 Lake View Congregational Church

   PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

   NATIONAL ANTHEM – Nissy Lebron
                      South High Community School

II. ROLL CALL

Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O’Connell and Mayor Petty

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #7-8 - Clerk
           (March 28, 2017)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting
of Thursday, March 16, 2017.

V. IMMEDIATE ACTION

gb #7-102 - Administration
            (March 20, 2017)

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

IV. MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION – NONE

The Worcester Public Schools is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer/Educational Institution and does not discriminate regardless of race, color, gender, religion, national origin, gender identity, 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.
VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

ros #7-6  -  Administration
(March 21, 2017)

UPDATE ON THE AVID (ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION) SYSTEM IN THE WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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 Tuesday, April 4, 2017 in Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building.

IX. PERSONNEL

7-11 The Superintendent has APPROVED the APPOINTMENT of the persons named below, effective as shown:


Salmi, Shah, Teacher, Rice Square, Music, .8FTE, BA, Step 8, $66,369 (prorated), effective March 14, 2017. Licensed: Music/Vocal and Instrumental All Levels.

ACTION

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

Approved as amended
See notes

Filed Personnel
Item 7-11
X. **GENERAL BUSINESS**

**gb #6-359.2** - Administration/Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty
(March 23, 2017)

Response of the Administration to the requests to:

- provide a report regarding window replacements and other repairs completed within the schools during the past year
- provide a complete report on all completed projects and future ones and also indicate the way in which the system will handle the PCBs at both Burncoat and Doherty Memorial High schools

**gb #7-97.1** - Administration/Administration
(March 20, 2017)

To consider approval of the amendments to the Agreement of the Central Massachusetts Special Education Collaborative to include a change in the title to the Central Massachusetts Collaborative, along with other amendments as noted in Annex A of the backup.

**gb #7-103** - Mr. O’Connell/Mr. Foley/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria
(March 10, 2017)

To address the varied defects and conditions affecting the wall separating the property of Tatnuck School from that occupied by the Tatnuck Square Center, 1097-1099 Pleasant Street, and the land in the vicinity of the wall, which include, and are not limited to:

- the deterioration of parking lot paving in the Center due to erosion from water flowing through the wall
- the location of the Tatnuck School dumpster adjacent to the land of the Center
- the exposed wires along the wall, and
- the deteriorating segments of the wall itself.

**gb #7-104** - Mr. O’Connell/Mr. Foley/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria
(March 10, 2017)

To consider recommending that the City Manager and City Council initiate a bond issue to permit completion of facilities work on school buildings which does not qualify for Massachusetts School Building Authority funding, or which would be completed much more rapidly through bond proceeds, prioritizing work which is particularly beneficial to the health, welfare and well-being of staff and students.
GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

**gb #7-105** - Mr. O’Connell/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/ Miss Biancheria  
(March 10, 2017)

To request the advice of schools affected or impacted by truck traffic along roadways leading to and from the CSX Transportation facility, to determine whether the intense use by tractor trailers of those roadways (including Grafton Street, Hamilton Street, Massasoit Road, Sunderland Road, and roadways leading to and from them) is jeopardizing the safety of Worcester school children walking along those roadways to and from schools and school bus stops.

**gb #7-106** - Mr. O’Connell/Mr. Foley/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/ Miss Biancheria  
(March 10, 2017)

To comment, if appropriate, on the Proposed Amendment to Regulations on Accountability and Assistance for School Districts and Schools, 603 CMR 2.04 (4), permitting an exemption from Levels 1-3 for 2017-18 for a school which “has a participation rate of at least 90 percent in the administration of the Spring 2017 MCAS tests and does not have a persistently low graduation rate.”

**gb #7-107** - Mr. O’Connell/Mr. Foley/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo  
(March 10, 2017)

To review, and to make recommendations as appropriate, as to the Federal FY18 Budget submitted by the President, as it relates to funding of the US Department of Education and its grants and programs.

**gb #7-108** - Mr. O’Connell/Mr. Foley/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/ Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty  
(March 13, 2017)

To congratulate the Green Reapers (FIRST Team 1735) of Burncoat High School on winning the Engineering Inspiration Award at the WPI District Robotics Competition, for “outstanding success in advancing respect and appreciation for engineering within a team’s community.”

**gb #7-109** - Mr. O’Connell/Mr. Foley/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/ Miss Biancheria  
(March 13, 2017)

To cooperate with the Men of Color Think Tank (MCTT) and the Massachusetts Women of Color Coalition (MWCC) to hold an essay competition for one school at the 12th grade level.
GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

gb #7-110 - Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O’Connell/ Miss Biancheria  
(March 15, 2017)

Request that the School Committee approve participation in the Home Run Club, a reading incentive program, sponsored by the Worcester Bravehearts and Worcester: the City that Reads for students in K-6.

gb #7-111 - Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O’Connell/ Miss Biancheria  
(March 16, 2017)

Request that the Administration forward an email to all secretaries and administrative assistants during the week of April 23rd in celebration of Administrative Professional Day.

gb #7-112 - Mr. O’Connell/Mr. Foley/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/ Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty  
(March 15, 2017)

To set a date to recognize SOFA (Support Our Fine Arts) for its award of $4,910 in mini-grants to staff members of schools of the Burncoat quadrant, and to congratulate the staff members for receiving those awards.

gb #7-113 - Mr. O’Connell/Mr. Foley/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/ Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty  
(March 17, 2017)

To congratulate the following students of Worcester Technical High School on their success at the MASS State Career Development Conference, held in the Hynes Convention Center in Boston, in competition against 87 schools and 2,700 students:
  • Chris Plucinski-Taylor, elected as a Massachusetts DECA 2017-18 State Officer
  • Lindsey Allen - top ten finalist in Sports & Entertainment Marketing Research Event
  • Loamy Trujillo Barreto, Alexis Garcia, Vanesa Burgos - top ten finalist in Finance Operations Research Event
  • Russell Sanborn - top ten finalist in Professional Selling Event
  • Rudy Ogando-Perez and Eslih Owusu - 3rd PLACE in Entrepreneurship Promotion Project
  • Chris Plucinski-Taylor-4th PLACE in Personal Financial Literacy as well as student-elect officer candidate,

and to congratulate Worcester Technical High School on earning qualifying spots to the International Career Development Conference (ICDC) for Gold Level Recertification in the School Based Enterprise Event and in the National DECA Promotion Campaign.
GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

gb #7-114  - Miss Biancheria/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O’Connell/ Mr. Monfredo  
(March 17, 2017)

Request that the Administration provide a report indicating which high school sites are utilizing the Mass Work-Based Learning Plan.

gb #7-115  - Administration  
(March 17, 2017)

To accept a donation in the amount of $500.00 from the Greater New York Insurance Company to Clark Street Developmental School which will encourage families to visit library branches throughout summer break.

gb #7-116  - Administration  
(March 17, 2017)

To accept a donation in the amount of $500.00 from the MA State Science & Engineering Fair, Inc. that was presented to Jocelyn Coughlin at Worcester Technical High School to fund the science fair (Tech Fair) and to purchase poster boards, trophies, awards and other supplies.

gb #7-117  - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. Foley/Mr. O’Connell/ Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty  
(March 20, 2017)

Request that the Administration forward a congratulatory letter to Caitlin McCarthy, an English Teacher at Worcester Technical High School, for having an article published in Forbes Magazine regarding her advocacy for Diethylstilbestrol (DES).

gb #7-118  - Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O’Connell/ Miss Biancheria  
(March 20, 2017)

Request that the Administration, in partnership with the Worcester Historical Museum and the Worcester Bravehearts, have all teachers read "Casey at the Bat" to their students during the week of May 29th as part of the 129th anniversary of the publication of the poem written by Ernest Thayer in Worcester on June 3, 1888.
GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

gb #7-119 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. Foley/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O’Connell  
(March 20, 2017)

Request that the School Committee forward letters to the 
Congressional Delegation in opposition to the President’s Budget for 
Education and its impact on the school district and further request 
that the MASC consider organizing all districts in Massachusetts to 
oppose these cuts and voice opposition to the Massachusetts 
Delegation.

gb #7-120 - Administration  
(March 20, 2017)

To accept a donation in the amount of $700.00 from Target 
Corporation to Woodland Academy to help defer costs for the yearly 
field trip to the Boston Freedom Trail.

gb #7-121 - Administration  
(March 20, 2017)

To accept a donation in the amount of $10,000.00 from Fallon Health 
to help defray the costs of the SAT testing for seniors.

gb #7-122 - Administration  
(March 20, 2017)

To review the reports on compliance and internal controls for the City 
of Worcester, including the Worcester Public Schools, from the 
Certified Public Accounting firm of CliftonLarsenAllen, LLP for the 
year ended June 30, 2016 which include the GAO and OMB A-133 
Reports and the Management Letter and the Independent 
Accountants’ Report on Applying Agreed Upon Procedures for the 
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education End of Year 
Financial Report for fiscal year 2016, prepared by Robert C. Alario, 
CPA, P.C.

gb #7-123 - Administration  
(March 21, 2017)

To accept the Secondary Transition Systemic Improvement Grant in 
the amount of $37,000.00.

gb #7-124 - Administration  
(March 21, 2017)

To accept the BioBuilder Grant in the amount of $28,000.00.
GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

**gb #7-125** - Administration  
(March 21, 2017)

To consider approval of the draft Policy and Procedures for Physical Restraints.

**gb #7-126** - Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O’Connell/  
Miss Biancheria  
(March 21, 2017)

Request that the Administration consider developing a partnership with the American Heart Association and encourage all staff members to participate in the Heart Walk on Saturday, May 6, 2017.

**gb #7-127** - Mr. O’Connell/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/  
Miss Biancheria  
(March 21, 2017)

To consider establishing a literary magazine for the Worcester Public Schools, to publish the writings, paintings, drawings, and other creative work of WPS students, teachers and other staff members.

**gb #7-128** - Administration  
(March 21, 2017)

To consider approval of a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of $2,066.40 made payable to a parent due to a Settlement Agreement between the Worcester Public Schools and the parent for transportation.

**gb #7-129** - Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O’Connell/  
Miss Biancheria  
(March 21, 2017)

Request that the Administration publicize the Worcester: the City that Reads twelfth annual book drive to support children pre-k to grade 8 in the Worcester Public Schools.

**gb #7-130** - Ms. Colorio/Mr. O’Connell/Mr. Monfredo/  
Miss Biancheria/  
(March 21, 2017)

Request that the Administration consider establishing a task force, to include the Director of School Safety, School Committee members, teachers and community members, to investigate and seek solutions to drug and alcohol problems in the schools.
GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

**gb #7-131** - Ms. Colorio/Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo  
(March 21, 2017)

Request that the Administration provide a report regarding the Massachusetts Accountability Plan and indicate how it may apply to potential policy changes for the school district.

**gb #7-132** - Ms. Colorio/Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/  
Miss Biancheria  
(March 21, 2017)

Request that the Administration provide a report on the English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics Standards and indicate how these standards will impact both teaching and learning.

**gb #7-133** - Ms. Colorio/Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/  
Miss Biancheria  
(March 21, 2017)

Request that the Administration update the School Committee on Federal Programs, Grants and policy changes which will include but not be limited to, a repeal of the Teacher Preparation Regulations.

**gb #7-134** - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. Foley/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O'Connell/  
Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty  
(March 23, 2017)

To congratulate Superintendent Maureen Binienda for receiving the Children’s Friend award on April 4, 2017 at Mechanics Hall for her important work with children in Worcester.

**gb #7-135** - Ms. Colorio/Mr. O’Connell/Mr. Monfredo/  
Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty  
(March 23, 2017)

Request that the School Committee recognize the staff and students at Worcester Technical High School for its successful partnership with French exchange students from a high school in France (Le Lycée Hôtelier Val de Loire, BLOIS, France) which will expose and teach these students about the highly successful Culinary Arts and Hospitality programs in the United States.

**gb #7-136** - Ms. Colorio/Mr. O’Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria  
(March 23, 2017)

Request that the Administration study the feasibility of establishing a Hotel and Restaurant within a vacant Worcester public school and authorize the electrical, plumbing and other appropriate divisions of Worcester Technical High School to rehabilitate the property and then realize the profit from this enterprise.
GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

gb #7-137 - Administration  
(March 23, 2017)

Request that the School Committee amend the Minutes of June 16, 2016 to include the following vote:

Pursuant to action taken in Executive Session, it was moved to deny Grievance #15/16-31.

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

gb #7-138 - Administration  
(March 24, 2017)

To accept a donation in the amount of $10,000.00 from Digital Credit Union (DCU) to be used for scholarships to graduating seniors.

gb #7-139 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. Foley/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O’Connell/  
Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty  
(March 27, 2017)

Request that the Administration forward a congratulatory letter to Burncoat High School’s Green Reaper Robotic team for receiving the District Chairman’s Award at the Southern New Hampshire District event.

gb #7-140 - Miss Biancheria/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O’Connell/  
Mr. Monfredo  
(March 27, 2017)

Request that the Administration review the online program that will be made available to students at the Creamer Center subsumed under the same on-line program available for students at Worcester Technical High School.

gb #7-141 - Miss Biancheria/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O’Connell/  
Mr. Monfredo  
(March 27, 2017)

Request that the Administration provide a complete schedule of STEM events to include, but not be limited to, fairs, competitive events and expos such as the Career Construction Day.
GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

**gb #7-142** - Administration  
(March 28, 2017)

To accept a donation in the amount of $3,000.00 from the Patterson Family Foundation & Scholastic Reading Club to benefit the students at Chandler Elementary School.

**gb #7-143** - Miss Biancheria/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O’Connell/  
Mr. Monfredo  
(March 29, 2017)

Request that the Administration provide a report on the fifth annual Bullying Prevention and Education Conference to include explanations regarding:

- the six rules in reference to the awareness of bullying and
- the activities and solutions that will be implemented during the 2017-18 school year

**gb #7-144** - Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O’Connell/  
Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty  
(March 29, 2017)

Request that the School Committee congratulate Robert Pezzella, Director of School Safety for conducting the highly successful Bullying Prevention and Education Conference that was held at North High School.

**gb #7-145** - Administration  
(March 29, 2017)

To consider approval of the Innovation Plan for the Goddard School of Science and Technology.

**gb #7-146** - Administration  
(March 29, 2017)

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On a roll call of 6-0-1 (absent-Mr. Foley), the item was approved</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Referred to the Administration |
| See notes |

| Set the date of Thursday, April 27, 2017 |
| Held for the School Committee Meeting on Thursday, April 27, 2017 |
| Held from 6:05 p.m. to 6:57 p.m. |
GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

**gb #7-146 (continued)**

**c&p #6-9**
To consider a communication from a citizen relative to a request that the School Committee drop its Court Appeal and allow for testing for PCBs at Burncoat High and Doherty Memorial High schools.

**gb #6-332**
Request that the Administration drop the appeal and allow PCB testing at Burncoat High School and Doherty Memorial High School this school year and do what is necessary to correct the problem.

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for Teachers and Unit A/B, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the collective bargaining position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.


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 #15/16-38.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

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

It was moved to recess to Executive Session to discuss the following items:

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

c&p #6-9
To consider a communication from a citizen relative to a request that the School Committee drop its Court Appeal and allow for testing for PCBs at Burncoat High and Doherty Memorial High schools.

gb #6-332
Request that the Administration drop the appeal and allow PCB testing at Burncoat High School and Doherty Memorial High School this school year and do what is necessary to correct the problem.

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for Teachers and Unit A/B, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the collective bargaining position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.


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 #15/16-38.

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

The School Committee recessed to Executive Session from 6:05 p.m. to 6:57 p.m.

The School Committee reconvened in Open Session at 7:24 p.m.

There were present at the second Call to Order:

Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O’Connell and Mayor Petty

Miss Biancheria chaired the meeting from 7:55 p.m. to 8:01 p.m. and from 8:35 p.m. to 8:38 p.m.
NOTES (continued)

Mayor Petty left the meeting from 7:55 p.m. to 8:01 p.m. and from 8:35 p.m. to 8:38 p.m.

Mr. Foley left the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

Standing Committee on Finance and Operation

The Action Sheet for the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations is hereto annexed as Annex A and was approved as amended.

gb #6-294 - Administration (August 22, 2016)

To review the status of the FY17 Budget and make appropriate transfers as required.

At the Standing Committee level, Mr. Allen provided an update on the FY17 Budget Second Quarter Report and requested that another meeting be set up within the next month in order to review the third quarter projections.

The Standing Committee members and the Administration went on record acknowledging the support by the City Manager, Mayor and School Committee for the FY17 Budget.

Mr. Allen announced that half of the funds needed for summer school programming became available in Title I, through SES.

Mr. Foley made the following motions:

Request that the Administration provide a report to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations on the trends in Workers’ Compensation cases and indicate what steps should be taken to address this issue.

Request that the Administration interact with the Brockton Public Schools and other districts that have pending legal action relative to the Foundation Budget Review Commission Report on the inequities in funding education and request that the Administration provide a report to the full Committee soon on the status of this legal action.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.
NOTES (continued)

Standing Committee on Finance and Operation (continued)

gb #6-294 (continued)

At the School Committee level, the Standing Committee members and the Administration went on record acknowledging the support by the City Manager, Mayor and School Committee for the FY17 Budget.

Mr. Allen announced that half of the funds needed for summer school programming became available in Title I, through SES.

Mr. Foley made the following motions:

Request that the Administration provide a report to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations on the trends in Workers’ Compensation cases and indicate what steps should be taken to address this issue.

Request that the Administration interact with the Brockton Public Schools and other districts that have pending legal action relative to the Foundation Budget Review Commission Report on the inequities in funding education and request that the Administration provide a report to the full Committee soon on the status of this legal action.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

It was moved to approve the following transfer of funds:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>From Account</th>
<th>Account Title</th>
<th>To Account</th>
<th>Account Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>500-91119</td>
<td>Custodial Salaries</td>
<td>500-97203</td>
<td>Custodial Overtime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>540-91117</td>
<td>Transportation Salaries</td>
<td>540-97201</td>
<td>Transportation Overtime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$308,000</td>
<td>500-92204</td>
<td>Instructional Materials</td>
<td>500-91115</td>
<td>Instructional Assistant Salaries</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On a roll call of 6-0-1 (absent-Mayor Petty), the motion was approved.
NOTES (continued)

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

ros #7-6

Sharon Leary, Curriculum Liaison for the AVID Program and Janet Mathieu, Community Resource and AVID Specialist, provided an update on AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination Learning).

Mr. O’Connell made the following motion:

Request that the item be referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports in order to share with the committee potential needs for the program as it continues to grow and succeed.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide the names of colleges and/or universities and individuals that provide educational AVID services to students in the Worcester Public Schools and indicate ways in which to involve more colleges in this program.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #7-105

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the City Council forward the report regarding traffic to and from the CSX Transportation facility when it receives it.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

gb #7-110

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the School Committee forward a letter of thanks to the Worcester Bravehearts for its partnership with the Worcester Public Schools.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.
NOTES (continued)

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

**gb #7-114**

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide the booklet and samples of the Mass Work based Learning Plan Tool and indicate whether or not this tool is utilized by students on internships.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

**gb #7-119**

Mr. O’Connell stated that the item he filed that was referred to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues for recommendations as to the Federal FY18 Budget submitted by the President will be discussed in detail by line items cut in the Standing Committee meeting and will provide the level of specificity, as requested by Ms. Colorio, needed for the letter that will be sent to the Congressional delegation.

**gb #7-124**

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a final report on the successes of the BioBuilder Grant.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Mr. Monfredo requested that the Administration provide information in a Friday Letter as to how students are selected for the paid summer internships through the BioBuilder Grant.

**gb #7-127**

Mrs. Binienda informed the School Committee that there is currently a Literary Magazine, coordinated by the ELA liaison, that is published each Spring.

Mr. O’Connell requested that a copy of the literary magazines be provided as backup when the item is discussed at the Standing Committee level.
NOTES (continued)

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

gb #7-130

Ms. Colorio made the following amendment to the item:

Request that the Administration consider establishing a Task Force, to include the
Director of School Safety, School Committee members, teachers and community
members, to investigate and seek solutions to drug and alcohol issues in the
schools.

On a voice vote, the motion as amended was approved.

gb #7-132

Ms. Colorio requested that the Administration provide a report on the impact on the
curriculum of the changes in standards.

gb #7-133

Ms. Colorio requested that the item be placed on the agenda when there is additional
information regarding federal programs, grants and policy changes.

gb #7-140

Miss Biancheria asked the Administration to review the online program entitled,
“Beginning to Work it Out” for the benefit of the students.

Superintendent Binienda stated that she and Dr. Rojas attended a MassMEP
Conference and were given access by password to a free on-line program for review
for vocational schools which would allow students to gain certification at the first two
levels. She further indicated that all high schools could benefit from this program
without going to the Worcester Technical High School. She suggested that the
program could be paired with the frameworks for older NCC students in order to do
competency based education to gain credits.

Miss Biancheria requested a copy of a description of the on-line program.
NOTES (continued)

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

gb #7-143

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Director of School Safety provide a presentation regarding Bullying Prevention and Education.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.
1. Mr. O’Connell made the following motion:

Request that the School Committee suspend its rules to give a citizen an opportunity to share some information and insight in connection with the school budget and also the testing that will be taking place in May. They were not able to get the petitions to us in a timely manner for discussion.

On a voice vote, the motion to suspend the rules was approved.

Mr. Gordon Davis spoke in advance to the following two petitions that will appear on the agenda of April 27, 2017:

To consider a petition from a citizen regarding a request to hold public hearings in April regarding the FY18 Budget.

To consider a petition from a citizen regarding a request to hold public hearings on standardized testing in the Worcester Public Schools.

2. Mayor Petty read the following statement relative to PCBs:

The School Committee continues to discuss with the Education Association of Worcester the pending appeal as to PCB testing at Burncoat High and Doherty Memorial High schools. The Administration anticipates making a final decision as to the appeal when discussions conclude, but no later than its next meeting on April 27, 2017.

3. Miss Biancheria made following motion:

Request that that the Rules of the School Committee be suspended.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria stated that she had an item on the last agenda in reference to Summer School Programs (gb #7-95) and requested a response for the meeting of April 27, 2017.
The Standing Committee on Finance and Operations met at 5:07 p.m. on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 in Room 410 at the Dr. John E. Durkin Administration Building.

There were present: Ms. Colorio, Miss McCullough and Chairman Foley

Representing Administration were: Mr. Allen and Dr. Friel

Others in Attendance: S. Consalvo, S. O’Connell and J. Hennessey

gb #6-153.7 - Administration/Mr. O’Connell (January 24, 2017)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report regarding Charter School Tuition Assessment and then refer it to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations for further discussion.

Mr. Allen explained that the Administration, since FY12, recommended that funds be reserved annually in the amount of $350,000 in a line item to adjust for the final state budget action on charter school tuition assessment and reimbursement. He then explained that the tables in the backup indicate the amounts for charter school tuition assessment and reimbursement that have been included in the annual budget, based on the amounts included in the House Ways and Means budget. Those figures were then compared to the final state budget.

Mr. Foley made the following motion:

Request that the Administration change the name of the (2000) E. Non-Recurring Textbook Purchases Account to reflect more accurately the use of the monies.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

FILE.
gb #6-294  - Administration (August 22, 2016)

To review the status of the FY17 Budget and make appropriate transfers as required.

Mr. Allen provided an update on the FY17 Budget Second Quarter Report and requested that another meeting be set up within the next month in order to review the third quarter projections.

The Standing Committee members and the Administration went on record acknowledging the support by the City Manager, Mayor and School Committee for the FY17 Budget.

Mr. Allen announced that half of the funds needed for summer school programming became available in Title I, through SES.

Mr. Foley made the following motions:

Request that the Administration provide a report to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations on the trends in Workers’ Compensation cases and indicate what steps should be taken to address this issue.

Request that the Administration interact with the Brockton Public Schools and other districts that have pending legal action relative to the Foundation Budget Review Commission Report on the inequities in funding education and request that the Administration provide a report to the full Committee soon on the status of this legal action.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

gb #7-71  - Miss McCullough/Mr. O’Connell/Ms. Colorio/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo/Mayor Petty (February 13, 2017)

Request that the Administration study the feasibility and cost of implementing a bus tracking system similar to the one used by the Boston Public Schools.
Mr. Allen introduced Mr. Hennessey to speak to the item.

Mr. Hennessey announced the upcoming launch of a new software system that will allow parents to track the whereabouts and estimated arrival times of their children’s buses. He indicated that the school routing program is expected to be installed, functional and available for pilot testing before the end of the current school year and it is anticipated to be rolled out fully for the next school year.

FILE.

The meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

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