

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

AGENDA #1

on: Thursday, January 7, 2021  
at: 5:00 p.m. - Executive Session  
6:00 p.m. - Regular Session  
Virtually in: Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ACTION

I. CALL TO ORDER

**5:00 p.m.**

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

NATIONAL ANTHEM

II. ROLL CALL

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

**Absent: Mayor Petty**

**Mayor Petty arrived at 5:30 p.m.**

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #1-1 - Administration  
(December 23, 2020)

**On a roll call of  
7-0, the item was  
approved**

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

IV. MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION - NONE

V. IMMEDIATE ACTION

gb #1-1 - Administration  
(December 23, 2020)

**Filed**

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

ACTION

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

ros #1-1 - Administration  
(December 16, 2020)

UPDATED PLANS FOR TRANSITION FROM REMOTE TO HYBRID LEARNING

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

VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

c&p #1-1 - Clerk  
(December 28, 2020)

To consider a communication from the EAW to allow members of Burncoat High School’s faculty and staff to donate accrued sick time to a colleague.

**(See notes)**

VIII. REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE -NONE

IX. PERSONNEL

1-1 The Superintendent has APPROVED the APPOINTMENTS of the persons named below:

Gabriel, Heather, Teacher, Mathematics, University Park Campus School, Active – 1 year, MA, Step 8, effective January 4, 2021

Hicks, Alyssa-Anne, Teacher, Elementary, May Street School, Active – 1 year, BA, Step 1, effective January 4, 2021

**On a roll call of 7-0, the Personnel Items 1-1 and 1-2 were filed**

1-2 The Superintendent has APPROVED the RETIREMENTS of the persons named below:

Harvey, Janice, Teacher, Gerald Creamer Center, English, effective December 27, 2020

Migridichian, Gregg, Teacher, St. Casimir, Industrial Arts, effective December 23, 2020

X. GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #0-57.2 - Administration/Ms. Novick  
(December 29, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the motion to provide a complete response which should include fees and charges for credit bearing work, such as AP student costs, innovation program costs and dual enrollment costs.

**On a roll call of 7-0, the item was accepted and filed**

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)ACTION

gb #0-276.1 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/Ms. McCullough/  
Mr. Monfredo  
(December 14, 2020)

**On a roll call of  
7-0, the item was  
accepted and  
filed**

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report on diocesan student transportation under the agreements and requirements set by the state to include the number of buses needed, the number of staff and the safety precautions provided due to COVID 19.

gb #0-372.1 - Administration/Miss Biancheria  
(December 28, 2020)

**On a roll call of  
7-0, the item was  
accepted and  
filed**

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report regarding any decisions that the Administration or the MIAA makes in regards to additional changes in the date for all sports.

gb #1-2 - Administration  
(December 29, 2020)

**On a roll call of  
7-0, the item was  
approved**

To approve the following prior fiscal year payments:

- \$139.94 to Konica Minolta Premier Finance
- \$358.99 to CDW Government
- \$41.96 to Connecticut Business Systems
- \$1,250 each to two Bowling Coaches at North High School as a ½ stipend for 2019-20

gb #1-3 - Administration  
(December 16, 2020)

**Approve on a roll  
call  
(See notes)**

To consider approval for the Worcester Technical High School's Emergency Acceptance Policy for 2021-22 school year.

gb #1-4 - Administration  
(December 16, 2020)

**On a roll call of  
7-0, the item was  
approved**

To approve the following donations:

- \$10,400 from Project Lead the Way to the Doherty Memorial High School ETA Program.
- \$25,000 from the Hanover Insurance Group Foundation, Inc. to the WPS Hanover Insurance Arts Academy.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)ACTION

gb #1-5 - Administration  
(December 21, 2020)

**On a roll call of 7-0, the item was approved**

To accept the MA Secondary Virtual Online Course Access Grant in the amount of \$477,291 for December 7, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

gb #1-6 - Administration  
(December 21, 2020)

**On a roll call of 7-0, the item was approved**

To accept the Nellie Mae Education Foundation Grant in the amount of \$250,000 for December 8, 2020 through October 30, 2021.

gb #1-7 - Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Ms. Novick  
(December 22, 2020)

**On a roll call of 7-0, the item was referred to the Administration**

Request that the Administration work with community clinical providers to provide additional in-school clinical services to students.

gb #1-8 - Mr. Monfredo/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Ms. Novick/  
Mayor Petty  
(December 29, 2020)

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

Request that the Administration forward a letter of congratulations to Midland Street School for being recognized as a National Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Distinguished School in Massachusetts for exceptional student achievement in 2020.

gb #1-9 - Ms. McCullough/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. Novick  
(December 29, 2020)

**On a roll call of 7-0, the item was referred to the Administration**

To discuss ways in which the Administration is developing school community connections beyond the classroom during remote learning.

## XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

gb #1-10 - Administration  
(December 30, 2020)

**Held from 5:06 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation for a Worker's Compensation 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.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION (continued)

ACTION

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares – Educational Association of Worcester and Worcester School Committee, Massachusetts Department of Labor Relations, MUP-20-8221, Bargaining Regarding Reopening.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares – Educational Association of Worcester and Worcester School Committee, Massachusetts Department of Labor Relations, MUP-20-8368, Interactive Process and Requests for Workplace Accommodations.

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).

XII. ADJOURNMENT

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

**8:31 p.m.**

N O T E S

The School Committee convened in Open Session at 5:00 p.m.

There were present at the Call to Order:

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

Mayor Petty was absent.

The School Committee recessed to Executive Session from 5:06 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Vice-chairman Foley stated that the School Committee will recess into Executive Session to discuss the following items:

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation for a Worker's Compensation 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.

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

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares – Educational Association of Worcester and Worcester School Committee, Massachusetts Department of Labor Relations, MUP-20-8221, Bargaining Regarding Reopening.

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares – Educational Association of Worcester and Worcester School Committee, Massachusetts Department of Labor Relations, MUP-20-8368, Interactive Process and Requests for Workplace Accommodations.

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).

On a roll call of 6-0-1 (absent Mayor Petty), it was moved to recess to Executive Session.

Mayor Petty arrived at 5:30 p.m.

NOTES (continued)

The School Committee reconvened in Open Session at 6:33 p.m.

There were present at the second Call to Order:

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

Mayor Petty made a motion to allow the following item be taken out of order:

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

c&p #1-1

Mayor Petty allowed Roger Nugent, President of the EAW, Patricia Chamberlain and Thomas Davis to speak regarding donating sick time to a colleague at Burncoat High School. They requested that the School Committee approve a total of 108 sick days from the teachers to be transferred to their colleague.

Mayor Petty made the following motions:

Request that the item be referred to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues to be discussed at the next meeting.

Request that the Administration provide enough sick days from the faculty at Burncoat High School until such time as the item is discussed at the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues and voted on at the School Committee meeting on January 21, 2021.

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

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

ros #1-1

Mayor Petty made the following motion:

Request that the School Committee postponing the reopening of schools from January 20, 2021 until a date to be determined.

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

Superintendent Binienda discussed the updated schedules for the reopening of school.

Dr. Sippel and Dr. Morse discussed the updated new weekly time synchronous learning schedule.

NOTES (continued)

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration consider forming a committee to study the feasibility of changing the secondary school start time to 8:00 a.m. and provide a report to the full committee in the first week of March.

On a roll call of 7-0, the motion was approved and referred to the Standing Committee on School and Student Performance.

GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #1-3

Dr. Sippel discussed the proposed Worcester Technical High School's Emergency Acceptance Policy. He stated that the policy, for this year, has been reviewed and approved by DESE and needs the School Committee approval.

Miss Biancheria asked what the maximum enrollment number is for Worcester Technical High School.

Superintendent Binienda stated that Worcester Technical High School can hold up to 1,700 students.

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

O T H E R

Pursuant to action taken in Executive Session, it was moved to approve a Worker's Compensation Settlement for a custodian in the total amount of \$49,006.

On a roll call of 6-0-0-1 (abstain Mayor Petty), the motion to approve the Worker's Compensation Settlement was approved.

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