

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://worcesterschools.zoom.us/j/87299803771?pwd=U05DTDhWdGIUVmtMbXZlIbC93TjJDdz09>

Passcode: 979453

Telephone: US: +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592

Webinar ID: 872 9980 3771

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

AGENDA #37

on: Thursday, November 5, 2020
at: 6:00 p.m. – Regular Session
5:00 p.m. - Executive Session
Virtually in: Room 410, at the Durkin Administration Building

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ACTION

I. CALL TO ORDER
INVOCATION
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
NATIONAL ANTHEM

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #0-39 - Administration
(October 28, 2020)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Thursday, October 15, 2020.

aor #0-40 - Administration
(October 28, 2020)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Monday, October 19, 2020.

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, ancestry, sex, gender, age, religion, national origin, gender identity or expression, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, pregnancy or a related condition, veteran status 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. IMMEDIATE ACTIONACTION

gb #0-332 - Administration
(October 28, 2020)

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

Request that the Administration consider developing a more structured Friday school day and discuss the daily homework assigned to students. Ms. McCarthy

Request that the Administration consider alternative graduation plans based on the impact of COVID-19. Ms. McCarthy

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

ROS #0-11 -Administration
(October 28, 2020)

FALL 2020 BASELINE ASSESSMENTS OF STUDENT ACADEMIC DATA

VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS – NONEVIII. REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

The Joint Meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations and the City Council's Standing Committee on Education met virtually on Thursday, October 8, 2020 at 5:49 p.m. in the Levi Lincoln Room at City Hall.

The Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports met virtually on Thursday, October 22, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building.

IX. PERSONNEL

0-3 The Superintendent has APPOINTED the persons named below to the position of Aide to the Physically Handicapped, permanent/fulltime at a salary of \$17.04 (minimum) to \$21.00 (maximum) per hour, from Civil Service List #320-034, effective as follows:

Bissonnette, Lori	9/28/2020
Cameron, Elaine	9/22/2020
Fortin, Manoucheka	10/20/2020
Raddi, Louis	9/22/2020
Sanchez, Cathyria	10/13/2020

PERSONNEL ITEM (continued)ACTION

0-4 The Superintendent has APPOINTED the persons named below to the position of School Bus Attendant, permanent at a salary of \$16.23 minimum per hour to \$18.08 maximum per hour, from Civil Service List #320-030, effective as follows:

Cassagnol, Marjorie	9/15/2020
Garcia, Elsy	9/22/2020
Hernandez, Julio	9/28/2020
Jimenez, Julio	9/16/2020
Jimenez, Liselotte	9/16/2020
Molina, Maria	9/22/2020
Nakollari, Eli	9/22/2020
Rivera, Maria	9/22/2020
Salinas De Portillo, Veronica	9/22/2020
Spahiu, Klodiana	9/16/2020
Zuniga, Jacqueline	9/22/2020

0-5 The Superintendent has provisionally APPOINTED the persons named below to the position of Junior Custodian, permanent/fulltime at a salary of \$16.54 (minimum) to \$21.05 (maximum), per hour, effective as shown:

Buniowski, Edward	10/22/2020
Parda, Christopher	10/15/2020
Veras, Miguel	10/26/2020
Walker, Joseph	10/19/2020

0-6 The Superintendent has provisionally APPOINTED the persons named below to the position of Word Processor, permanent/fulltime at a salary of \$20.31 (minimum) to \$24.52 per hour (maximum) effective as shown:

Dancy, Erica	9/21/2020
Parcher, Christine	3/10/2020
Selvitelli, Heather	10/13/2020

0-7 The Superintendent has provisionally APPOINTED the persons named below to the position of 52 week Word Processor, permanent/fulltime at a salary of \$19.02 (minimum) to \$23.52 per hour (maximum) effective as shown:

Carrion, Bryanna	7/13/2020
Monserrate, Michelle	7/6/2020
Riordan, Samantha	8/27/2020
Vasiliadis, Marcella	9/21/2020

0-8 The Superintendent has appointed the attached teacher positions for 2020-21.

X. GENERAL BUSINESSACTION

gb #0-273.2 - Administration/Miss Biancheria

Response of the Administration to the motion to provide an update on the successes and challenges that took place during the Fall Sports Season.

gb #0-286.3 - Administration/Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria/
Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
Ms. Novick
(October 29, 2020)

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

gb #0-308.1 - Administration/Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo
(October 19, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide an updated full student enrollment report for discussion of possible state advocacy regarding the FY22 budget.

gb #0-333 - - Mr. Monfredo/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Ms. Novick/Mayor Petty
(October 19, 2020)

Request that the Administration forward a letter of appreciation to the Worcester Bravehearts for their work with Carol Manning, the Health and Physical Education Liaison, in putting together a video on physical education activities for the elementary children to use on Fridays.

gb #0-334 - - Administration
(October 19, 2020)

To consider an amendment to Rule 47 of the School Committee Rules by changing the start time of the Open meeting as follows:

47. Regular meetings of the School Committee shall be held on the first Thursday and the third Thursday of the month and shall convene at 6:00 p.m., at a place so designated on the School Committee Agenda of business, unless by a majority vote, the School Committee determines another day, time and/or place.

gb #0-335 - - Ms. McCullough/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Monfredo/
Ms. Novick/Mayor Petty
(October 22, 2020)

To set a date to recognize Chantale Zuzi, a student at Burncoat High School, for receiving the Women's initiative of Central Massachusetts 2020 Meridith D. Wesby Young Leader Award.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)ACTION

gb #0-336 - Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
Ms. Novick
(October 22, 2020)

Request that the Administration make certain that there is district consistency regarding workload assigned to students during remote learning to include work for both the school day and homework assignments.

gb #0-337 - Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo
(October 26, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide a report that includes the number of students, teachers, nurses and additional staff that participated in the SAT testing at the school sites.

gb #0- 338 - Administration
(October 26, 2020)

To approve the following prior fiscal year payments:

1. \$8,052.00 to a WPS teacher
2. \$451.26 to School Health Corporation
3. \$14.80 to Toshiba America Business Solutions
4. \$3,290 to 15 staff members at Lincoln Street School
5. \$493.52 to a WPS School Clerk
6. \$410.00 to Early's on Park Ave for towing expenses related to WPS vehicles
7. \$3,842.30 to the American Arbitration Association for various arbitrations

DEPARTMENT	REASON	AMOUNT
Human Resources/ Accounts Payable	American Arbitration Association Invoice #12449277	\$325.00
Human Resources/ Accounts Payable	American Arbitration Association Invoice #12551229	\$325.00
Human Resources/ Accounts Payable	Arbitrator Invoice for case #01- 19-0002-4172	\$1,612.67
Human Resources/ Accounts Payable	Arbitrator Invoice for case #01- 19-0001-9177	\$788.12
Human Resources/ Accounts Payable	Arbitrator Invoice for case #01- 19-0002-4173	\$791.51

gb #0-339 - Administration
(October 26, 2020)

To approve the following donations in the amounts of:

- \$1,000 to Lincoln Street School from the Blackbaud Giving Fund/Boston Scientific.
- \$500.00 to Life Skills at Worcester Technical High School from Harvard Pilgrim Health Care.
- \$500.00 for the arts programs at Worcester Arts Magnet School from a parent.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)ACTION

gb #0-340 - Administration
(October 26, 2020)

To recognize Brian Allen, Chief Financial and Operations Officer and the Budget office personnel for receiving the 2020-21 Meritorious Budget Award (MBA) for the 8th time from the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO).

gb #0-341 - Miss Biancheria/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo
(October 28, 2020)

Request that the Administration review the social distancing among students and staff to include the number of students in each classroom.

gb #0-342 - Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo
(October 28, 2020)

Request that the Administration review the procedures for teachers or students who test positive for COVID-19 and are attending schools.

gb #0-343 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo
(October 28, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide the number of students that will be attending school, beginning November 16, 2020, to include the sites, the number of teachers and nurses and any additional staff that will be at the school sites.

gb #0-344 - Administration
(October 28, 2020)

Request that the School Committee APPROVE the APPOINTMENT of the following provisional civil service employee as a School Nurse, effective as shown:

St. Laurent, Kathleen, Claremont Academy, Bachelors, Step 3, \$54,757, effective August 27, 2020. Emergency License: School Nurse All Levels

gb #0-345 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo
(October 28, 2020)

To set budgetary priorities for the fiscal year 2022 budget in line with the Worcester Public Schools' strategic plan and recognizing likely fiscal constraints.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)ACTION

gb #0-346 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo
(October 28, 2020)

Request administration report on actual total cost to district families of 2021 Advanced Placement exams for consideration with the full committee's consideration of the first quarter budget report.

gb #0-347 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(October 28, 2020)

Request administration propose for School Committee deliberation and decision alternative methods for determining admission to limited admission programs and schools in light of the lack of 2020 MCAS data.

gb #0-348 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo
(October 28, 2020)

Request administration report on if the change in assessment methods for this year's Seal of Biliteracy is expected to impact any Worcester Public students, and if so, what alternative methods the district might arrange.

gb #0-349 - Administration
(October 28, 2020)

To consider filing a list of outstanding administrative items or motions.

gb #0-350 - Administration
(October 28, 2020)

To accept the Innovation Pathway Planning Grant in the amount of \$25,000.

gb #0-351 - Administration
(October 28, 2020)

To accept a gift in the estimated amount of \$10,000 to provide distance learning consulting and technical deployment services to the WPS funded jointly by Google LLC and Amplified IT LLC.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSIONACTION

gb #0-352 - Administration
(October 28, 2020)

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining and the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares – Contractual Arbitration – Instructional Assistant/Educational Association of Worcester and Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination Litigation – Instructional Assistant.

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.

gb #0-324 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo
(October 6, 2020)

Request that the Administration review the process of signing in and out at the WPS bus yard.

gb #0-325 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo
(October 6, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide a report to include the process of assigning bus routes to bus drivers and include the itinerary for each route.

gb #0-326 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo
(October 6, 2020)

Request that the Administration review the budget for the bus yard to insure that it contains monies and the necessary tools to provide a safe environment for our employees.

gb #0-327 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo
(October 6, 2020)

Request that the Administration review the Job Descriptions and duties of all bus yard employees to include directors.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

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

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS
Clerk
(October 28, 2020)

ITEM - aor #0-39
S.C. MEETING - 1-5-20

ITEM:

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Thursday, October 15, 2020.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

Annex A (12 pages) contains a copy of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Thursday, October 15, 2020.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
 Worcester, Massachusetts
 Thursday, October 15, 2020
 Agenda #34

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met virtually in Open Session at 6:00 p.m. in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building on Thursday, October 15, 2020.

There were present at the Call to Order:

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

Mayor Petty stated that the School Committee will recess into Executive Session to discuss the following items:

.1 EXECUTIVE SESSION Executive Session

gb #0-329 - Administration
 (October 23, 2020)

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 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 – NAGE R1-16 Cafeteria Workers.

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, Charging Party and Worcester School Committee, Respondent, MUP-20-8221, Massachusetts Department of Labor Relations.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty	7
---	---

Against the motion:	$\frac{0}{7}$
---------------------	---------------

The motion carried.

The School Committee recessed to Executive Session from 6:05 p.m. to 7:25 p.m.

The School Committee reconvened in Open Session at 7:30 p.m.

There were present at the second Call to Order:

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

There was absent: Mr. Monfredo (connectivity issues)

Minutes/
approval of

2. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #0-38 - Administration
(October 7, 2020)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Thursday, October 1, 2020.

On a roll call of 6-0-1 (absent Mr. Monfredo), the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty 6

Absent: Mr. Monfredo (connectivity) 1

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

IMMEDIATE ACTION

3. gb #0-301.1 -Administration Recognition/Ann
(October 5, 2020) Rokosky

To recognize Ann Rokosky, an Elementary Art Teacher at Chandler Magnet School, for having been named the Art Teacher of the Year by the Massachusetts Art Education Association.

Timmary Leary, Visual Arts Curriculum Liaison and Ivonne Perez, Chief Diversity Officer recognized Ann Rokosky for having been named the Art Teacher of the Year by the Massachusetts Art Education Association.

On a roll call of 7-0, the vote to recognize Ann Rokosky was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

4. A Moment of Silence was held in memory of Patricia Garvey, wife of former Superintendent of Schools Dr. James L. Garvey. Moment of Silence/
Patricia Garvey

5. gb #0-317 -Administration Student
(October 5, 2020) Representatives

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

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

Report of the
Superintendent/
The Proposed
Hybrid Plan

6. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

ROS #0-10 - Administration
(October 7, 2020)

THE PROPOSED HYBRID PLAN

Mayor Petty allowed comments from the following teachers and parents:

Catherine Ricci, Elena Cruz, Jacqueline Patron, Sara St. Peter, Kalli Hess, Maria Drury and Kristen Lee Camarra.

Superintendent Binienda presented the Worcester Public Schools' Transition From Remote to Hybrid Learning Proposal. She began by stating that all plans, including start dates can be affected by the following:

- building readiness
- changes in guidance from the State and
- COVID-19 protocols

The Administration looked at and considered having preK-grade 1 fit into the November 16th and January 22nd model but was unable to make that happen. Students with the most complex disabilities will begin on Monday, November 16th. She went on to describe in detail all the color delineated schools, the number of students that will be transitioning to hybrid and days of the week for learning time. She also listed which staff members that will be returning and outlined the tasks that were assigned and completed in order for the transition to hybrid to occur.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the complete document is posted on the Worcester Public Schools website at worcesterschools.org.

Mr. Allen provided an overview of both the building and transportation capacities.

Mayor Petty announced that the City has invested fifteen million dollars into city buildings to upgrade the HVAC systems in order to make sure the students and staff are safe.

He asked if there was a schedule for the school readiness plan to which Mr. Allen explained that

Mr. Allen stated that the plan is two-fold consisting of:

- building architects and mechanical engineering studies and
- Honeywell bi-polarization equipment installation

Mr. Foley asked what the school day would potentially look like to which Superintendent Binienda replied that the Administration is working at the school level to work it out. Chapter 74 and ETA will be in one class for their ETA, then proceed to another area with their Chromebooks and headphones to resume their regular classes as if remote.

Ms. McCullough inquired about purchasing a class live screen learning package to which Mrs. Kyriazis explained that the cost for that kind of equipment would be an expensive undertaking. Ms. McCullough also stated that she has heard from a number of parents who wondered if it would help if they opted to drive their child/ren to school. Mr. Allen stated that it would have to be universally across all schools.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration, in January, consider allowing Prek-Grade 1 students back to school for more than one day a week.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Ms. Novick stated her dislike of having to follow DESE guidelines in lieu of medical professionals. She asked the Administration for information on adding more staff for hybrid teaching to which Superintendent Binienda replied that without knowing the number of students who will be opting for hybrid learning, the number of new hires remains unknown.

Ms. Novick inquired about any additional information regarding the budget to which Mr. Allen replied that the Administration is drafting a memo to the School

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion was approved.

8. PERSONNEL

Job Description/
Assessment Specialist

- 0-2 To review for informational purposes the Job Description for an Assessment Specialist.

On a roll call of 7-0, the vote to accept and file the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS

9. gb #0-275.2 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/
Ms. McCullough
(September 10, 2020)

HVAC/ update on

Response of the Administration to the request to provide monthly updates on the air quality and HVAC work being done in the schools beginning September 17, 2020.

On a roll call of 7-0, the motion to accept and file the update and hold the item for the meeting of Thursday, November 19, 2020 was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

COVID-19
motions/held

10. gb #0-286.2 - Administration/Mayor Petty/
Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/
Ms. Novick
(October 5, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the following motions from the update on COVID-19:

Request that the Administration provide a report regarding the number of meals that have been distributed weekly. **Miss Biancheria**

Request that the Administration provide a report to the School Committee on October 15th relative to the number of teachers who are teaching their class/es remotely from their respective schools. **Miss Biancheria**

On a roll call of 7-0, the vote to hold the item for updates at the meeting of Thursday, November 5, 2020 was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

Ms. Novick again asked the Administration to alert parents via social media to the time changes for food pickup.

Attendance
Numbers

11. gb #0-318 - Mr. Monfredo
(October 5, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide reasons for some school attendance numbers dropping to the 80s and indicate whether the numbers have improved.

Ms. Novick requested that the response to the item be provided in a Friday letter.

On a roll call of 7-0, the vote to file the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

12. gb #0-319 - Mr. Monfredo (October 5, 2020) Academic Growth/
loss of learning

Request that the Administration provide a report on the ways the district is assessing academic growth based on the loss of learning time that occurred in the Spring and indicate what the plan is moving forward.

On a roll call of 7-0, the vote to refer the item to the Administration was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

13. gb #0-320 - Mr. Monfredo (October 5, 2020) SATs/update on

Request that the Administration provide an update on the SAT exams taking place in October.

Superintendent Binienda provide an update on the number of students who have registered to take the exams.

Miss Biancheria requested that her name be added as a co-sponsor of the item.

On a roll call of 7-0, the vote to accept and file the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
7

The motion carried.

Donation/
Mercy Wire
Products

14. gb #0-321 - Administration
(October 5, 2020)

To consider the approval of a donation in the amount of \$2,500 to the Worcester Public Schools' Special Education Department from the Mercy Wire Products Foundation.

On a roll call of 7-0, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
7

The motion carried.

Grant/Career and
Technical
Education
Partnership
Planning

15. gb #0-322 - Administration
(October 6, 2020)

To accept the Career and Technical Education Partnership Planning Grant in the amount of \$15,000 for this school year.

On a roll call of 7-0, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0
7

The motion carried.

16. gb #0-323 - Administration (October 6, 2020) Prior Fiscal Year Payments

To approve the following prior fiscal year payments:

1. \$51.58 to an employee for mileage reimbursement.
2. \$4,555.45 to St. Anne's Home, Inc.
3. \$5.14 to Gatehouse New England/Telegram & Gazette.
4. \$668.50 to Toshiba Business Solutions.
5. \$3,656.77 to Seven Hills Groton.

On a roll call of 7-0, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

(The following items were taken together)

17. gb #0-324 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo (October 6, 2020) Bussing

Request that the Administration review the process of signing in and out at the WPS bus yard.

gb #0-325 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo (October 6, 2020) Bussing/assigning bus routes to drivers

Request that the Administration provide a report to include the process of assigning bus routes to bus drivers and include the itinerary for each route.

gb #0-326 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo (October 6, 2020) Bus Yard/review budget

Request that the Administration review the budget for the bus yard to insure that it contains monies and the necessary tools to provide a safe environment for our employees.

Bus Yard
Employees/job
description

gb #0-327 -Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo
(October 6, 2020)

Request that the Administration review the
Job Descriptions and duties of all bus yard
employees to include directors.

Due to the fact that there are ongoing discussions in
Executive Session, Miss Biancheria stated that she
wanted the bus employees to know that their voices
are being heard.

On a roll call of 7-0, the vote to refer the items to a
future Executive Session was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

Adult Learning
Center/application
process

18. gb #0-332 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo
(October 6, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide a report on
the Adult Learning Center application process and
success of remote learning.

On a roll call of 7-0, the vote to refer the item to the
Administration was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

On a roll call of 7-0, the meeting adjourned at 9:38
p.m.

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

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS
Clerk
(October 28, 2020)

ITEM - aor #0-40
S.C. MEETING - 1-5-20

ITEM:

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Monday, October 19, 2020.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

Annex A (6 pages) contains a copy of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Monday, October 19, 2020.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Worcester, Massachusetts
Monday, October 19, 2020
Agenda #35

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met virtually in Open Session at 5:36 p.m. in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building on Thursday, October 1, 2020.

The School Committee convened in Open Session at 5:36 p.m.

There were present at the Call to Order:

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

GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #0-330 - Administration
(October 14, 2020)

Parent Forum

To consider feedback from parents on remote learning and present 2 new remote phases.

Superintendent Binienda presented the Worcester Public Schools' Transition From Remote to Hybrid Learning Proposal. The following topics were discussed:

- The Second Term starting November 16, 2020 to January 22, 2020 where the following students will be moving to a hybrid learning model:
 - PreKindergarten - Grade 12 Students with Complex Significant Disabilities
 - Worcester Technical High School 10th, 11th, and 12th Grade Students
 - Comprehensive High Schools Chapter 74 Program Students
 - Innovation Pathway Students
 - New Citizen Center Elementary, Secondary, and Young Adult Students
 - Academic Center for Transition (ACT), Alternative Program @ St. Casmir's, Challenge & Reach Academy, and Gerald Creamer Center Day & Evening

- Programs, Transitions Program
- The Site Locations
- All the staff members involved
- The Third Term starting January 25, 2021 to April 1, 2021 where the following students will be moving to a hybrid learning model:
 - Group C students transition to school of record
 - Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten and Grade 1 Students
 - Seventh, Ninth, and Twelfth Grade Students
 - Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Eighth, Tenth, and Eleventh Grade Students
- All the buildings involved as the ventilation upgrades are completed.
- All the staff members involved as ventilation upgrades are completed.

The [Transition From Remote to Hybrid Learning Proposal](#) is posted on the Worcester Public Schools' website and can be accessed at [worcesterschools.org](http://www.worcesterschools.org).

Questions

Mayor Petty entertained the Administration responded to the following questions from the public:

1. If a parent decides to choose the hybrid model for the second quarter and pull the student out due to COVID-19 increases, does that jeopardize the possibility of doing hybrid in the third quarter?
2. If the COVID-19 numbers change, can the students go back more than one day a week?
3. How will switching to the hybrid model impact the students that are learning online?
4. What is the percent of parents that are sending their child/ren back to school for the hybrid learning?
5. Is there a plan to mandate a COVID-19 vaccine if one become available for everybody that attends the public schools?
6. What is the safety protocol for the Group C students who have preexisting conditions that make them more susceptible to the virus?

7. What is happening with the ninth grade students at Worcester Technical High School?
8. What can the child/en do when they have a technical issue on a Friday when schools are closed for deep cleaning?
9. How is the WRTA involved in student transportation?
10. What exactly is the protocol for shutting the schools down?
11. When will the public know if the number of COVID cases become overwhelming and a shutdown of schools is necessary?
12. Will the children be toggling back and forth between teachers?
13. Why can't the cleaning of the buildings be done on Saturday?
14. What do you mean by updating the HVAC system?
15. Can the Administration advise the staff to be more lenient with work assignments due to the fact that this method of teaching is new for the children?
16. To what extent has Worcester and the School Committee tried to work with community partners in order to open more spaces for students who need in person learning who are really struggling at home?
17. How is it possible to update HVAC systems in all in all of these schools by November 16th?
18. Why is it that the students can't do their hands on tech classes at Worcester Technical High School?
19. How is my child with special needs classified in terms of whether he or she will go back to in person learning?
20. How will the Administration alert families that classes are starting?
21. Are the students on the buses required to have masks?
22. What if a child takes off his or her mask and is sick?
23. Are there enough supplies for all students returning to schools?
24. Have there been plexiglass dividers installed in classrooms?

25. Are SAT exams going to be administered at Doherty Memorial High School this year? What happens to the juniors who would take that PSAT?
26. Would I have the ability, at the end of this year, to say whether or not I felt my kid was academically, socially and emotionally ready to move on to the next grade or not?
27. Is it possible to tape lessons for the students and post them on the website?
28. Are there any virtual PTA group meetings and, if so, how can parents participate in them?
29. Have there been any discussions about setting up a liaison or a point contact person that parents could reach out to if they need educational resources, advice, tips or suggestions?
30. How can parents start virtual study groups for high and middle school students to help them get motivated and/or to get work done and to also provide for social interaction?

Comments

1. I am very happy with how the remote learning phase is going.
2. One of my concerns is that I lack the support to successfully home school and support my children and their education remotely.
3. I'm afraid my child won't be able to stay at grade level doing the remote learning.
4. I would like more in person instruction and support to learn effectively by going back to school more than one day a week.
5. Worcester Technical High School students need more than one day a week in their trade.
6. My child receives too many emails.
7. I suggest attempting to contact those students who, to date have not responded to the survey for in person or remote learning.
8. I'd like to see a transportation survey sent to the parents.
9. I think you should cancel Friday for some of the younger learners and give the teachers an extra professional day or technology day so they can prepare their lesson plans and really be more prepared.

10. I've noticed that Google Meet tends to run more smoothly if videos are turned off.
11. I commend the teachers for what they've been doing.
12. Some of the teachers are not understanding that the Google classroom system is very new and should not be reprimanding the students for not being able to use it.
13. I don't recommend that the students rush back to school.
14. I understand that students need social interaction and the in person learning but their health is more important.
15. If this committee continues to focus only on physical health issues and not mental or emotional ones, the system will have bigger problems in the future.
16. You need to figure out a way to get students back in the classroom.
17. Everyday, there's an issue with my son having trouble with connectivity.
18. I don't want my students going back to school until COVID disappears.
19. I'm very relieved and excited for my child to go back to school starting on November 16th.
20. Remote learning has been a disaster.
21. Teachers are giving out much too much work.
22. The ninth grade students from Worcester Technical High School are missing out on the experience of the exploration of all the different trades.
23. Students are looking at the computer screen too long during the day.
24. My child was a straight A student and is now failing in some classes due to too many assignments.
25. Students that are sitting in front of a computer screen for more than six hours a day may end up with back, carpal tunnel, neck and eyesight issues.
26. I think we need to implement more COVID-19 testing.
27. Students need to be taught cursive writing.
28. At first, I was skeptical of the remote learning. However, I've been impressed with a lot of the applications that are available to the students.

Mayor Petty suggested that the Administration contact the Boston Public Schools to get a report on how they are bringing back their special needs students.

Mayor Petty suggested that the Administration review the policies for the Friday asynchronous learning days regarding teachers responding to students' questions.

It was moved and voice voted to accept and file the item.

On a roll call of 7-0, the meeting adjourned at 10:33 p.m.

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

V. IMMEDIATE ACTION
Administration
(October 27, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-332
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

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

Request that the Administration consider developing a more structured Friday school day and discuss the daily homework assigned to students. Ms. McCarthy

Request that the Administration consider alternative graduation plans based on the impact of COVID-19. Ms. McCarthy

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration.

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
Administration
(October 21, 2020)

ITEM - ros #0-11
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

FALL 2020 BASELINE ASSESSMENTS OF STUDENT ACADEMIC DATA

PRIOR ACTION:

10-15-20 - gb #0-319 - Mr. Monfredo (October 5, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide a report on the ways the district is assessing academic growth based on the loss of learning time that occurred in the Spring and indicate what the plan is moving forward.

BACKUP:

Annex A (23 pages) contains a copy of the PowerPoint presentation regarding the Fall 2020 Baseline Data.

Annex B (2 pages) contains a copy of the tentative 2020-21 WPS Testing Calendar.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Accept and file gb #0-319 and ROS #0-11.

Fall 2020 Baseline Data

October 27, 2020

Academic Data Sources

Data Sources: Monitoring ELA and Math

Platform/Tool	Content Area	Benchmarking Frequency	Purpose	Grade
Star Assessment	ELA & Math	Triannually	High level progress monitoring	K-9
ST Math	Math	n/a	Grade level objective skill practice	K-6
enVision	Math	Quarterly	Assess mastery of covered content	2-6
Aleks	Math	Triannually	Assess progress towards mastery of course standards	7-12
Lexia	ELA	n/a	Grade level objective skill practice	K-6
SRSD	ELA	Quarterly	Assess mastery of covered content	3-8
StudySync	ELA	Triannually	Assess progress towards mastery of grade level standards	7-12

*data from bolded platforms will be posted in Parent Portal

Academic Data

Star Assessment Benchmarks

District Benchmark

- District set benchmark is at or above 40th percentile rank (PR)
- PR is the percentage of students scores in grade level that are at or below student's score
- PR is norm-referenced, compares students to national database of students in grade level participating in Star assessments

State Benchmark

- Scaled score intervals correspond to MCAS proficiency levels (Not meeting expectations, partially meeting expectations, meeting expectations, exceeding expectations)
- Grade 3-12 benchmarks derived from 2016-17 Star-MCAS linking students using first year of next gen MCAS
- Grade 1 and 2 benchmarks use estimated cut scores
- [State Benchmark Chart](#)

Interpreting the Star Benchmarks

- Still in the first years of Next Gen MCAS and Star administration thus insufficient data to draw strong correlation between Star and MCAS outcomes
- Unique Star administration circumstances
 - Remote Administration
 - Extended Time Limit provided to all students
 - Difficult to support student unable to move past practice questions
 - Differences in caregiver supports available
 - All accommodations weren't available
- Comparison from Fall to Fall is not reliable; instead using data as a baseline and focusing on data around skill mastery to support student growth

Star Assessment Participation

Star Math

Group	Fall 19-20 # of Students	Fall 20-21 # of Students
1st Grade	1746	1629
2nd Grade	1761	1672
3rd Grade	1727	1669
4th Grade	1705	1674
5th Grade	1774	1624
6th Grade	1786	1710
7th Grade	1690	1568
8th Grade	1725	1583
9th Grade	1703	1637
Swd	2904	2575
EL	4689	3956

Star Reading

Group	Fall 19-20 # of Students	Fall 20-21 # of Students
2nd Grade	1635	1517
3rd Grade	1707	1639
4th Grade	1693	1660
5th Grade	1789	1643
6th Grade	1778	1692
7th Grade	1671	1587
8th Grade	1721	1571
9th Grade	1767	1615
Swd	2520	2195
EL	3849	3191

Star Math Fall to Fall Grade Comparison

District Benchmark

Grade	Fall 19-20 % at 40 PR	Fall 20-21 % at 40 PR	Fall to Fall 40 PR Difference
2nd Grade	50.9	49.1	-1.8
3rd Grade	64.2	57.9	-6.3
4th Grade	60.7	48.7	-12.0
5th Grade	64.2	44.5	-19.7
6th Grade	58.4	48.1	-10.3
7th Grade	54.8	51.9	-2.9
8th Grade	50.0	52.2	2.2
9th Grade	48.8	54.7	5.9

State Benchmark

Grade	Fall 19-20 % Meeting State Benchmark	Fall 20-21 & Meeting State Benchmark	Fall to Fall State Difference
2nd Grade	30.5	29.9	-0.6
3rd Grade	34.7	28.8	-5.9
4th Grade	32.7	23.6	-9.1
5th Grade	32.8	16.6	-16.2
6th Grade	34.8	25.1	-9.7
7th Grade	30.2	25.6	-4.6
8th Grade	29.4	28.3	-1.2
9th Grade	31.5	35.9	4.4

Star Math Fall to Fall Student Group Comparison

District Benchmark

Benc	District Benchmark	
	Fall 19-20 % at 40 PR	Fall 20-21 % at 40 PR
Selected population		
EL	33%	34%
Non EL	68%	61%
SWD	24%	26%
Non SWD	65%	60%
American Indian or Alaska Native	-	-
Asian	77%	75%
Black or African American	55%	54%
Hispanic or Latino	46%	43%
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic	66%	61%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-	-
White	69%	65%

State

Fall 19-20 % Meeting State Benchmark	Fall 20-21 & Meeting State Benchmark
12%	18%
41%	34%
9%	12%
37%	34%
-	-
53%	50%
29%	30%
21%	20%
36%	37%
-	-
46%	39%

Star Reading Fall to Fall Grade Comparison

District Benchmark

Grade	Fall 19-20 % at 40 PR	Fall 20-21 % at 40 PR	Fall to Fall 40 PR Difference
3rd Grade	44.3	42.6	-1.7
4th Grade	44.4	40.0	-4.4
5th Grade	41.9	35.0	-6.9
6th Grade	38.0	36.9	-1.1
7th Grade	34.5	36.1	1.6
8th Grade	33.9	34.1	0.2
9th Grade	25.7	37.2	11.5

State Benchmark

Grade	Fall 19-20 % Meeting State Benchmark	Fall 20-21 & Meeting State Benchmark	Fall to Fall State Difference
3rd Grade	29.9	26.0	-3.9
4th Grade	24.6	21.1	-3.5
5th Grade	24.8	20.7	-4.1
6th Grade	29.1	27.4	-1.7
7th Grade	25.0	27.4	2.4
8th Grade	25.5	26.0	0.5
9th Grade	20.4	29.4	9.0

Star Reading Fall to Fall Student Group Comparison

District Benchmark

Selected population	District Benchmark	
	Fall 19-20 % at 40 PR	Fall 20-21 % at 40 PR
EL	13%	15%
Non EL	49%	47%
SWD	12%	17%
Non SWD	45%	44%
American Indian or Alaska Native	-	-
Asian	48%	52%
Black or African American	37%	39%
Hispanic or Latino	27%	29%
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic	53%	49%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-	-
White	52%	51%

State

Fall 19-20 % Meeting State Benchmark	Fall 20-21 & Meeting State Benchmark
6%	9%
35%	34%
7%	11%
32%	31%
-	-
35%	38%
24%	28%
17%	19%
40%	37%
-	-
39%	39%

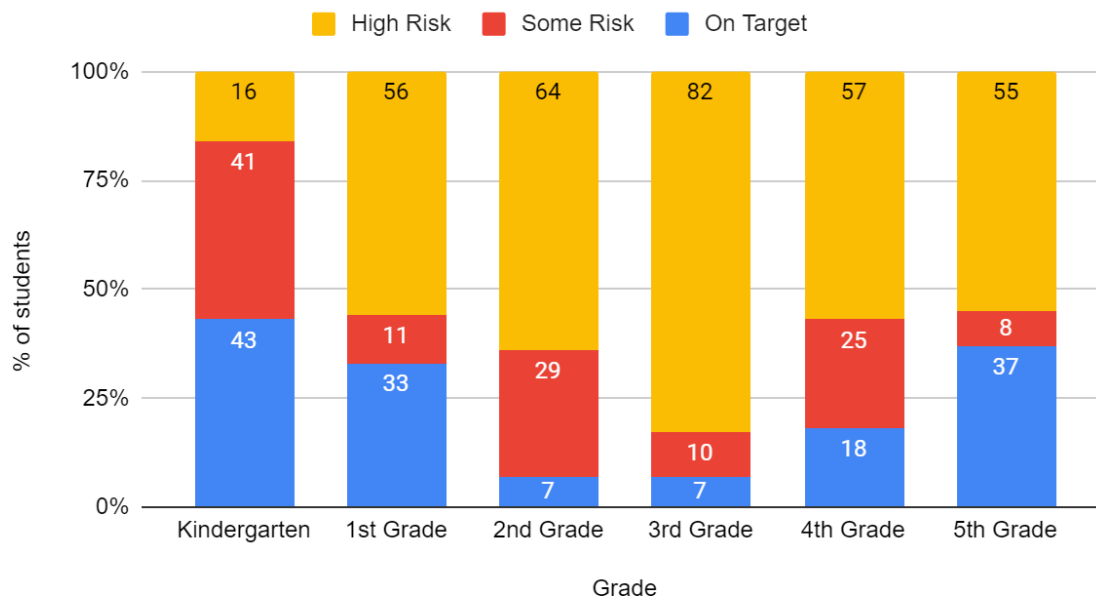
Lexia

Likelihood of meeting end-of-year, grade-level benchmark

Core 5 Scope and Sequence

54% of K-5 students meeting usage target

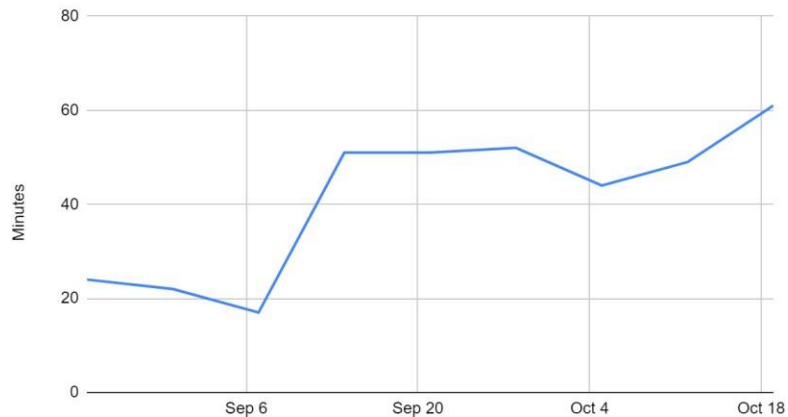
Lexia: Student Risk Levels



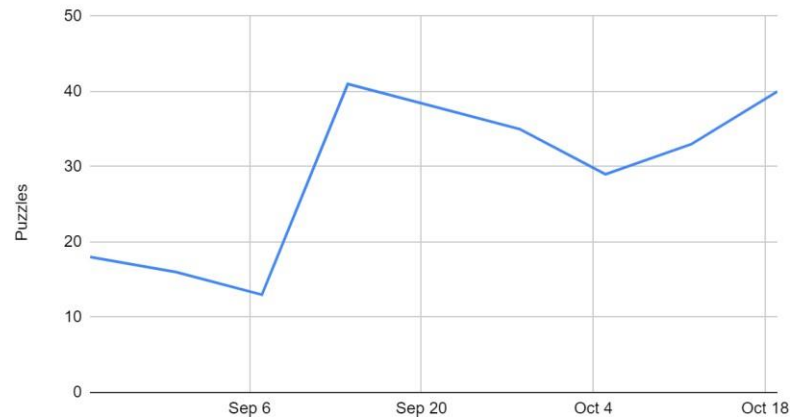
ST Math

Current focus is on usage; looking at baseline objective data in the upcoming weeks

Usage Minutes Per Week



Puzzles Per Week



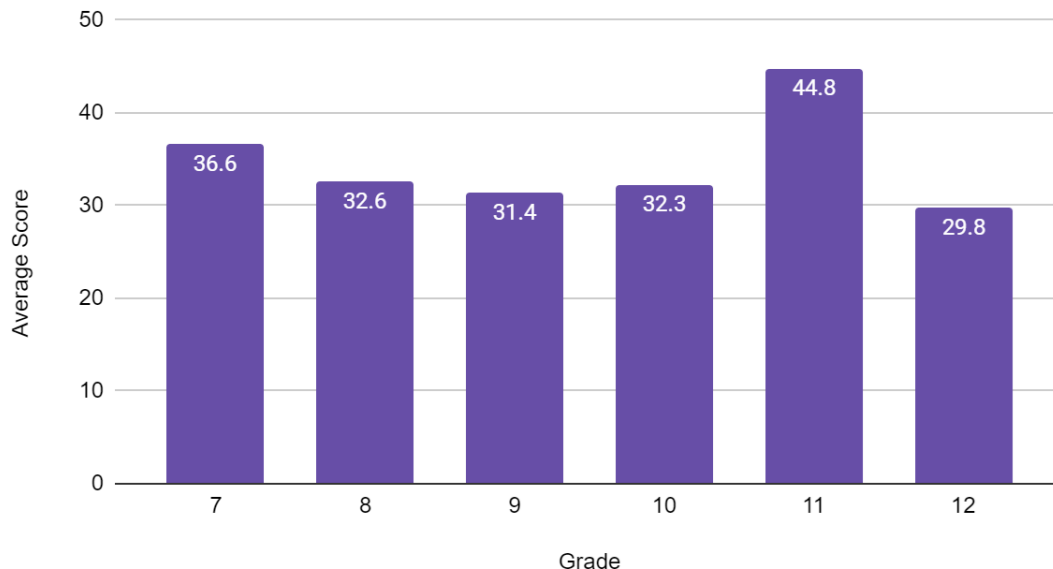
StudySync (In Progress)

StudySync used in secondary ELA classrooms

Score is # of correct responses on benchmark; prior year and current year standards assessed

Target is 85% correct responses on end of year benchmark

StudySync: Fall Benchmark Average Score



As of 10/26/2020

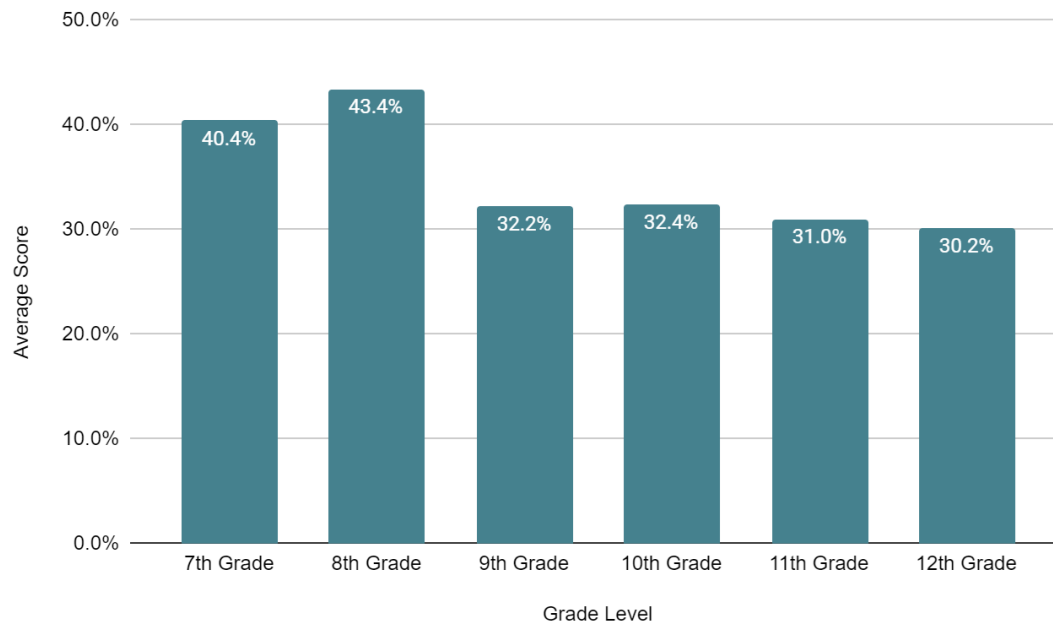
ALEKS (In Progress)

ALEKS used in secondary
Math classrooms

Score is # of correct
responses on benchmark;
course standards assessed

Target is 85% correct
responses on end of year
benchmark

ALEKS: Initial Benchmark Average Score



AS OF 10/26/2020

Student Check-Ins

Structure

- Twice a week students in grades 3 through 12 are responding to questions about:
 - ability to use technology,
 - ability to focus on schoolwork,
 - feeling connected to peers,
 - feeling connected to adults,
 - need to connect with school staff
 - areas of weakness and strength with remote learning
- Approximately 60% participation rate from week to week
- In our 5th week of conducting check-ins

Key Findings from 4th week of check-ins

- Approximately **2 out of 3 students in grades 3 through 12** say **technology is easy to use**
 - Approximately **1 out of 2 student with disabilities** responded positively to this question
- Approximately **2 out of 3 students in grades 3 through 6** say they are able to **focus on schoolwork**
- Approximately **2 out of 5 students in grades 7 through 12** say they are able to **focus on schoolwork**
- % of students responding positively to questions about tech and focus is relatively flat across first 4 weeks

Key Findings from 4th week of check-ins

- Approximately 1 out of 2 students in grades 3 through 6 say they feel connected to peers and adults
- Approximately 1 out of 3 students in grades 7 through 12 says they feel connected to peers and adults
- % of students responding positively to questions about connected has incrementally increased across first 4 weeks

Ongoing Supports for Students

Schools are using the check-in responses to connect students with staff and collect feedback on remote learning instruction

Secondary students participated in socio-emotional survey to collection additional information about:

- Self-efficacy
- Growth Mindset
- Social Awareness
- Emotion Regulation
- Sense of Belonging

Attendance

Overall Student Attendance Rates by Grade

Grade	Attendance Rate	Rate (M-TH)	Rate (F)
K	89.00%	89.90%	85.90%
1	92.30%	93.00%	89.70%
2	93.30%	94.10%	90.20%
3	94.50%	95.30%	91.50%
4	95.50%	96.10%	93.10%
5	94.50%	95.50%	90.90%
6	94.60%	95.40%	91.50%
7	92.60%	94.00%	87.50%
8	93.00%	94.60%	87.30%
9	91.80%	94.10%	83.40%
10	91.80%	93.90%	84.30%
11	92.20%	93.60%	86.80%
12	92.70%	93.90%	88.30%
District wide Average	92.90%	94.20%	88.50%

As of 10/26/2020

Overall Student Attendance Rates by Student Groups

Grade	Attendance Rate	Rate (M-TH)	Rate (F)
Non SWD	93.60%	94.80%	89.40%
SWD	90.00%	91.40%	84.70%
Non EL	94.20%	95.30%	90.20%
EL	89.90%	91.40%	84.30%
American Indian or Alaska Native	-	-	-
Asian	95.70%	96.60%	92.30%
Black or African American	93.70%	95.00%	89.00%
Hispanic or Latino	91.30%	92.70%	85.90%
Multi-Race, Non-Hispanic	93.60%	94.60%	89.80%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-	-	-
White	94.30%	95.20%	91.10%
District wide Average	92.90%	94.20%	88.50%

As of 10/26/2020

WPS Testing Calendar (Tentative)

2020-2021

Grade	Test	Approximate Testing Time	Administration Dates
Mandatory for Grade K -2	Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment Systems (BAS)	45 minutes per student	BOY No Mandatory Screening MOY 1/25 - 2/26 EOY 5/3 - 6/4
K-1 Early Literacy * 2-9 Reading 1-9 Math	STAR	15-20 minutes per session (Math & Reading)	BOY 9/21 - 10/9 MOY 1/18 - 1/29 EOY 5/10 - 5/21
3-6	enVision Common Assessments	30-60 minutes	Q1 Week of 11/2 Q2 Week of 1/19 Q3 Week of 4/5 Q4 Week of 6/7

7-12	StudySync Benchmark Assessment	60-90 minutes	BOY Form 1 9/21-10/5 MOY Form 2 1/11-1/22 EOY Form 3 5/17-6/11
7-12	ALEKS Assessment	45-90 minutes	BOY 9/15-9/30 MOY 1/11-1/27 EOY 5/17-6/11

* Students who are probable readers should continue to take STAR Early Literacy, but can also be administered STAR Reading for additional instructional information. Kindergarteners are expected to take STAR Early Literacy during the winter and spring windows.

We are still waiting for the State Testing Schedule in order to finalize testing dates for the 2020-21 school year.

Committee Members

John L. Foley, Chairman
Molly McCullough, Vice-chairman
Dianna Biancheria

City Council Members

Morris Bergman, Chairman
Khrystian King
Gary Rosen

Representative

Brian Allen

A C T I O N S

The Joint Meeting of the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations and the City Council's Standing Committee on Education met virtually at 5:49 p.m. on Thursday, October 8, 2020 in the Levi Lincoln Room at City Hall.

There were present:

Standing Committee on Finance and Operations

Miss Biancheria, Ms. McCullough and Chairman Foley

City Council's Standing Committee on Education

Mr. Rosen, Mr. King and Chairman Bergman

Representing Administration were: Mr. Allen, Superintendent Binienda and Dr. Friel

Others in attendance: Mrs. Kyriazis, Dr. Morse, Dr. Meade-Montaque, Mr. Pezzella, A. Pottle and Mr. Walton

motion gb #0-246 - Mayor Petty (August 13, 2020)

Request that the 2020-21 Educational Plan entitled Fall 2020 - Return to School Guidance be forwarded to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations and the City Council's Standing Committee on Education for a joint meeting.

Superintendent Binienda introduced the following individuals who presented the PowerPoint presentation regarding the Summary of the School Re-Opening:

- Mr. Allen discussed the facility capacity analysis, the transportation capacity analysis and the FY21 Budget update slides.
- Dr. Meade-Montaque and Dr. Morse discussed the back to school model slides.
- Mrs. Kyriazis and Mr. Walton discussed the technology support slides.
- Mr. Pezzella discussed the school safety slides.

Councilor King questioned how many school buildings are ready for the return of students to which Mr. Allen stated that there are no schools ready at this time but the work on the ventilation systems soon.

Councilor King questioned if the Collaborative is part of the Worcester Public Schools and, if so, will the district be looking to provide additional monies.

Superintendent Binienda stated that it is not part of the Worcester Public Schools and that the it has its own budget.

Councilor King ask whether the technology needs for the school system have been met to which Superintendent Binienda stated that there will always be a need for improvements in technology.

Councilor King requested that the Administration provide an updated report on the diversity hiring processes and goals to the City Council.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the Worcester Public School's Strategic Plan contains the diversity goals for the system and that the Chief Diversity Officer is working on establishing a mentoring plan for the newly hired diversity staff.

Councilor Rosen asked if the Administration has received any feedback from teachers regarding how they feel about the virtual learning classes.

Superintendent Binienda stated that many teachers are requesting additional equipment, like dual monitors and more powerful devices so they can run their videos consistently to monitor their students in their classroom. The teachers stated that they felt more confident now than in the Spring due to the 10 week extensive training they received.

Councilor Rosen asked if the teacher evaluations would continue this year to which Superintendent Binienda stated that they are still in negotiations for that issue.

Councilor Rosen asked how the students are doing during virtual learning and if the school system will be doing a traditional grading system or a pass/fail system.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the attendance for the synchronous learning days is 90 percent and the asynchronous day is 80 percent. The consensus is that the high school students like their schedule while the younger students find it more difficult due to the fact that they need more help with the technology. She also stated that the school system will use the regular grading system for all students.

Councilor Bergman asked whether snow days will be used during the remote learning phase.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the Commissioner of Education is going to make that decision based on equity because there are some schools in the state that are in person learning while others are remote learning.

Councilor Bergman questioned if there are enough nurses for each school when the system returns to in person learning.

Superintendent Binienda stated that there were four nurses interviewed but not on the roster yet due to the remote learning phase. Once the system goes to the hybrid model, there will be one nurse for every school.

Councilor Bergman questioned the number of staff that have been furloughed and if the Administration anticipates there will be any more of them in the future.

Mr. Allen stated that approximately 330 staff members were furloughed and depending on the State Budget, Federal stimulus monies and/or additional stimulus monies, or the lack thereof, will determine whether more furloughs are needed.

Council Bergman questioned if the Administration has a been tracking the extra expenses versus the savings the school system has seen due to COVID-19 and, if so, could the report be forwarded to the City Council members.

Mr. Allen stated that the Administration is reconciling the additional costs and additional savings, coupled with the federal stimulus money that the system has received to date. The final report will be reported out at the next Standing Committee on Finance and Operations and could also be forwarded to the City Council members.

Councilor King questioned if there were any discussions in regarding students participating in sports.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the City Manager will announce today the cancellation of Fall Sports. Discussions will take place to discuss the possible start of the Fall Two Sports Season during the Winter and Spring. The MIAA has not made the decision of what sports will be offered during the winter season.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report on the order status of the Chromebooks for Instructional Assistants, Guidance Counselors and Principals.

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

Miss Biancheria requested that the Administration provide an update on all staff members who have viewed the training video prior to return to work.

Mr. Foley thanked the City Council, the City Manager and Mayor Petty for their support of the Capital Improvement monies for the ventilation systems in the school buildings.

Mr. Foley made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report on the current status of the ventilation and other safety considerations in the buildings, the status of teaching and learning with the Collaborative and to share that report with the City Council's Standing Committee on Education.

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

Council King requested that the City's Human Recourse Department collaborate with the WPS one regarding the diversity hiring goals throughout the pandemic.

Superintendent Binienda stated that a conversation about diversity hiring could take place relative to the diversity goals but it is important to note that the hiring process is very different on the City side than what the law states on the school side. The Superintendent makes all the appointments for the school system. However, she stated that she would like to collaborate with the City to help with the advertisement of the school system's Job Fair.

Council King requested that the following Order be put on the City Council's agenda:

Request that the City Manager make available to the Superintendent of the Worcester Public Schools, the availability of the City's Chief Diversity Officer for any assistance that might be requested.

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

On a roll call of 3-0 the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

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

Committee Members

Molly McCullough, Chairman
John F. Monfredo, Vice-Chairman
Jack Foley

AGENDA #5
TLSS
10-22-20
Page 1

A C T I O N S

The Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports met virtually at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 22, 2020 in Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building.

There were present: Chairman McCullough, Vice-Chairman Monfredo and Mr. Foley

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

Others in Attendance: K. Seale, C. Kelly, E. Garvin, L. Kuczka, S. Gallagher

gb #8-356.1 - Administration/Miss McCullough/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Foley/Mayor Petty (February 13, 2019)

Response of the Administration to the requests to:

- explore the feasibility of implementing the Orton-Gillingham model for dyslexic students for those students in need of specific services.
- provide a summary of the Orton-Gillingham model program.
- study the feasibility of implementing the cost of this program in the FY20 Budget
- study the feasibility of including students from outside the district, on a tuition basis, if a proposed program is established in the Worcester Public Schools.

Kay Seale, Manager of Special Education and Intervention Services, stated that Susan Gallagher and Erin Garvin, Special Education Department Heads have worked closely with their staff to coordinate extensive staff development training.

Ms. Gallagher outlined the proposed Multi-Sensory Institute for Education model, which is a comprehensive training for teachers and entails an interactive, hands on approach to working with students. She highlighted the following courses from the training manual which she felt would be great resources for teachers which are:

- Comprehensive course geared for kindergarten to second grade and
- Intermediate training specifically for grades 3 and up for remedial reading support.

Mrs. Seale spoke to the need for recruitment of 10-14 teachers as this is a very intensive training.

Mrs. Seale stated that these services are also provided to non-public, parochial and private schools as well as to homeschooled students.

Vice-Chairman Monfredo requested information on early identification screening and what work is being done to bridge the gap between kindergarten and grade one.

Ms. Garvin stated that based on last year's data, utilizing the screening tools for the kindergarteners benefitted the district more by doing it in the Spring after the students had some instructional time.

Mrs. Seale stated that another asset for the district is being able to target interventions based on those screenings in order to train teachers prior to Special Education services. Dr. O'Neil stated that parents and students had the opportunity to work on a tutorial with Massachusetts General Hospital during school closures.

Vice-Chairman Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report on the teacher training meeting with Massachusetts General Hospital that is scheduled to take place in December.

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

Mr. Foley was pleased to see the work done by the Administration since the January meeting when parents attended and voiced their opinions on alternatives for dyslexia training.

Chairman McCullough requested that a report be provided on the number of students who were flagged for the Mass General study and Dr. O'Neil stated that she would provide that information.

On a roll call of 3-0, the item was filed.

FILE

gb #9-313 -Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria /Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell
(September 17, 2019)

Request that the Administration establish a committee by November to include early learning teachers to review the two year kindergarten 1 program for students who are four years old and lack the necessary readiness skills for school success.

Dr. O'Neil stated that the committee that was established will begin meeting next week in order to have a proposal for the budget.

Laurie Kuczka, Director of Head Start and Early Childhood Education, provided an update regarding low enrollment figures as a result of the shutdown. She stated that in March, 1,281 students in pre-school and Head Start and over 2,000 kindergarten students left the face to face model and went remote. She and Mr. Allen discussed ways in which to ensure that those children get the social, emotional and academic support to be prepared for first grade without being face to face. They also talked about the creation of a transitional kindergarten, a 2 year program for students who are not ready to move into grade 1. The program would be two-fold, not only would it help support social and emotional learning gaps, but also help move the cutoff date to September 1st. She stated that they looked at possibly moving the start date to November 1st one year, October 1st the next year and finally in year three to September 1st in order to not interfere with funding.

Vice-Chairman Monfredo made the following motions:

Request that the Administration consider establishing a 2 year kindergarten program for those students who are in need of service.

Request that the Administration consider moving the start date from December 31 to November 1 and then to September 1 by the 2022 school year.

Request that the Administration consider expanding the pre-school program to full day starting with two in each quadrant.

Request that the Administration provide a report on this item in late January.

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

Mr. Foley made the following motion:

Request that the Administration study the feasibility of involving community partnerships to work with neighborhood schools and families to build parent skills and family capacity and to prepare their children for successful entrance into kindergarten.

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

On a roll call of 3-0 the item was held.

HELD

gb #9-349 - Miss McCullough/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo (October 14, 2019)

Request that the Administration invite educators who currently teach or train NoticeAbility Curriculum and consider implementing it for students with dyslexia.

Mrs. Seale stated that, due to current circumstances, there is no additional information to provide, but that a follow-up conversation with representatives from NoticeAbility will be forthcoming.

Chairman McCullough made the following motion:

Request that the item be held for a report in February.

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

HELD

gb #9-389 - Mr. Comparetto (November 13, 2019)

Request that the Administration provide an update on the efforts of the Administration to create ethnic studies programming.

Colleen Kelly, Curriculum Liaison, provided information on the ethnic studies curriculum by stating that for the 2020-21 school year the following courses have been added:

- African American Studies as an elective at North High, South High, UPCS and Claremont Academy.
- African American Literature to the course catalogue as an ELA at Burncoat High School and
- Historia De Latin America to the course catalogue under Foreign Languages.

Chairman McCullough asked for information on the ongoing exploration to add more courses to which Ms. Kelly replied that the teachers meet quarterly to discuss lesson plans and ideas for new programming with the Social Studies Liaison.

On a roll call of 3-0, the item was filed.

FILE

gb #9-409 - Mr. Comparetto/Miss McCullough (November 26, 2019)

Request that the Administration review recommendations made by the organization Teaching Tolerance for culturally appropriate Thanksgiving programming.

Dr. O'Neil provided a list of resources available that will be provided to teachers in a weekly newsletter.

On a roll call of 3-0, the item was filed.

FILE

On a roll call of 3-0, the meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

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

LName	FName	Status	Location	Contract_Disc	Hire_Date		Degree	Step
Bisceglia	Breanne	Active	Systemwide	School Adj Couns	28-Sep-20	28-Sep-20	MA	1
Cosgrove	Kiersten	Acting - 1 Year	Systemwide	Special Education	13-Oct-20	13-Oct-20	MA	1
Dornescu	Tudor	Active 4/5	Tatnuck Magnet	Music	29-Sep-20	29-Sep-20	PHD	1
Gaxhi	Malvina	Acting - 1 Year	Doherty High School	Special Education	23-Oct-20	23-Oct-20	BA	5
Henault	Stephanie	Active	Systemwide	Special Education	05-Oct-20	05-Oct-20	MA	5
Kapurch	Catherine	Acting - 1 Year	Roosevelt	Elementary	28-Sep-20	28-Sep-20	MA	3
Kramer	Keith	Acting - 1 Year	Worcester Arts Magnet	Music	24-Sep-20	24-Sep-20	CAGS/2M	8
Leary	Erin	Acting - 1 Year	Woodland Academy	ESL	05-Oct-20	05-Oct-20	BA	1
McLeary-Wilson	Melecia	Active	Systemwide	School Adj Couns	21-Sep-20	21-Sep-20	MA	3
Mitre	Katarzyna	Acting - 1 Year	Worcester Technical High	English	28-Sep-20	28-Sep-20	BA	5
Ortiz	Enrique	Acting - 1 Year	Woodland Academy	ESL	13-Oct-20	13-Oct-20	BA	3
Pellegrini	Michael	Active	Worcester Technical High	Vocational Education	02-Oct-20	02-Oct-20	VL 6	7
Potvin	Brandon	Acting - 1 Year	Systemwide	Phys Education	26-Oct-20	22-Oct-20	MA	1
Trainor	Stephanie	Acting - 1 Year	Francis J. Mcgrath Elementary	Elementary	21-Oct-20	21-Oct-20	BA	1
Vail	Courtney	Acting - 1 Year	Union Hill	English as a Second Language	26-Oct-20	26-Oct-20	BA	1
Walsh	Kara	Acting - 1 Year	Forest Grove Middle School	Mathematics	18-Sep-20	18-Sep-20	BA	1
Walsh	Meghan	Active	Worcester Technical High	Special Education	28-Sep-20	28-Sep-20	MA+30	8

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration/Miss Biancheria
(August 31, 2020)

CURRENT ITEM - gb #0-273.2
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

1ST ITEM gb #0-273 S.C.MTG. 8-27-20
2ND ITEM gb #0-273.1 S.C.MTG. 9-3-20
3RD ITEM gb #0-273.2 S. C.MTG. 11-5-20

ITEM:

Response of the Administration to the motion to provide an update on the successes and challenges that took place during the Fall Sports Season.

ORIGINAL ITEM: Administration (August 19, 2020)

Request that the School Committee approve the participation of the WPS in the following Fall sports, as recommended by the EEA, MIAA and DESE Guidance in order to proceed with exploring and modifying, as needed.

Field Hockey
Boys and Girls Soccer
Cross Country
Golf for Fall 1 Term for practices and competition games.

Based on EEA, DESE and MIAA Guidelines, the following sports would be allowed to practice only for skills, drills and conditioning:

Football
Cheerleading
Girls' volleyball

The following sports will be played during the Floating Phase between Winter and Spring Seasons:

Football
Unified Basketball
Cheerleading
Girls' Volleyball

Both individual and team crew will be moved to the Spring Season.

PRIOR ACTION:

8-27-20 - (See page 2.)

BACKUP:

.
Annex A (1 pages) contains a copy of the Administration's response to the motion.

.
RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Accept and file.

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

8-27-20 - Mayor Petty stated that he is very supportive of bringing sports back and feels that students need physical activity to keep them busy.

Mr. David Shea, Athletic Director, provided information on the plans for fall sports after receiving guidelines from EEA, MIAA, DESE and the COVID-19 Task Force.

He explained that the vote will allow the district to go forward, but will have the opportunity to make changes. The vote is needed in order to proceed with options and things could be modified on a daily basis.

Ms. Novick stated that there could be an equity issue due to the lack of transportation to sporting events.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the district will be providing bus tickets for student athletes to get to and from their games.

Ms. Novick expressed concern regarding the state's policy and procedures for athletics as well as the inequity with other activities such as robotics, theater, chorus or band.

Mr. Foley questioned the ability for students to participate in sporting events yet the inability for them to be in a classroom.

Mr. Shea explained that the proposed geographical pod, that consists of the seven WPS, Notre Dame Academy, Abby Kelley Foster Charter School and St. Paul Diocesan Junior/Senior High School will allow for limited travel. It also allows for a shutdown if the city becomes a red zone and provide for limited exposure and easier contact tracing.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide immediate updates of the new rulings to parents and the School Committee, as warranted.

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

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Request that the Administration map out the time it takes to get to the various sporting events.

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

Ms. McCullough requested that the item be amended to include "in order to proceed with exploring and modifying, as needed."

On a roll call of 6-1 (nay Ms. Novick) the item was approved as amended.

9-3-20 - Superintendent Binienda provided an overview of the updates on the new MIAA requirements for fall sports and stated that:

- Boys and girls soccer, field hockey, cross country and golf can be competitive sports.
- Football, volleyball and cheerleading can only be practices.
- Fifty fans will be allowed at each event.
- An onsite administrator will be hired to supervise the fans.

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

9-3-20 - Mr. Shea, Athletic Director, stated that the information he (continued) received from the Central Massachusetts Athletic Directors Association was that Abby Kelley Foster Charter School has opted not to participate in Cross-country or Soccer until the Fall phase two. Under the EEA guidelines, the allotment of 50 fans at each game was discussed with other athletic directors. They considered whether to have either a pass or a lanyard designated to players from each team, in order to have one family member to attend a game. He also stated that the coaches' contract is being discussed and that they would get paid for their in-season practices and games. Anything that is outside the season would be on a voluntary basis and they would have to sign the volunteer form.

Mayor Petty commended Mr. Shea and the Superintendent for all their hard work to make sports possible and believed that it is very important for students to play sports.

Ms. Novick stated that given both the rates of infection in the City and what is still being researched about the long term impact of COVID-19, she is not in favor of students' participation in athletics.

Miss Biancheria asked what training was provided to the coaches to deal with a student or coach who tested positive for COVID-19.

Mr. Shea stated that the he, the Superintendent and Mr. Pezzella will have protocols developed prior to September 18th. Mr. Pezzella and Mr. Bedard are the two COVID-19 Administrators for the district who will be providing information to the students and coaches.

Miss Biancheria questioned whether the PPE equipment would be included in the discussions with the coaches and students.

Mr. Shea stated that the coaches are able to obtain any type of PPE, hand sanitizer and/or wipes from the custodial crew at each of the high schools.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide an update in December on the successes and challenges that took place during the Fall Sports Season.

On a roll call of 6-1 (nay Ms. Novick) the motion was approved.

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to approve the item.

The fall season of sports had some successes and quite a few challenges. At August 27th and September 3rd meetings, we discussed whether or not we could safely have a fall season which would consist of boys and girls cross country, field hockey, boys and girls soccer and boys golf. We also added an out of season protocol in football, girls' volleyball and cheerleading. With the final vote in favor of fall sports on September 3rd, there was an extremely short turn around to have everything up and running for the September 18th start date for fall sports. Prior to the start of the fall season, in two weeks, we prepared the coaches and student's paperwork; had the new permission slips and coaches contracts prepared by our legal experts; met with all coaches regarding the new sports specific guidelines; and ensured each coach/team had all their supplies, equipment, uniforms, and PPE's needed to hold practices and games in compliance with the new guidelines.

A separate challenge took place on September 16th. The new Covid-19 metrics were announced for the state. The city of Worcester was coded as a red city. This meant that we had to shut down all practices and games for fall sports. We continued to get updated guidance from the MIAA, DESE, and the EEA as to whether or not we could start back up again. Unfortunately, the city was not able to get out of the red coding for 4 weeks straight. In response, Dr. Hirsh, Superintendent Binienda, Mayor Petty, and City Manager Ed Augustus postponed all fall sports until Fall Phase 2 which takes place in February. The decision was extremely difficult for our coaches, players, and parents to hear but, ultimately, it was the right thing to do in order to protect the health and safety of everyone involved. We are currently working to identify where the postponed sports will play in February and March.

Successes this fall included:

1. The amount of work that was handled by the athletic office in such a short time;
2. The amount of helpful work that the principals and athletic liaisons did at each school to help get the teams ready for their season
3. The work that the coaches did regarding organizing and implementing the new rules and guidelines, and making sure their paperwork and their player's paperwork was all completed prior to the start of the season
4. The overall positive attitude shown by everyone involved; and
5. The amount of collaboration it took by the school committee, the superintendent, the Quadrant managers, school safety, facilities, transportation, human resources, school Administrators, and staff to have the fall sports season ready to start on September 18th.

Everyone involved should be extremely proud at the attempt that was made to get the fall season up and running. It is with mixed emotion as I look back on the fall season. Sad and disappointed for the players, coaches, and fans having the fall season end without getting a chance to practice or play. Happy that the season was not cancelled but postponed until fall phase 2, which gives everyone another chance to play a fall sport. Sad that all that hard work, energy, and effort that was put into getting the season up and running was cut short by the metrics and city coding. Happy that all of our coaches, players, and fans are healthy and safe. For me that is the number one goal!

Let us hope that the winter, fall phase 2, and spring seasons allow for our players and coaches to practice and compete while maintaining their safety and health.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration/Mayor Petty/
Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(October 28, 2020)

CURRENT ITEM - gb #0-286.3
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

1ST ITEM	gb #286	S.C.MTG. 9-17-20
2ND ITEM	gb #286.1	S.C.MTG. 10-1-20
3RD ITEM	gb #0-286.2	S.C.MTG. 10-15-20
4 TH ITEM	gb #0-286.3	S.C.MTG. 11-5-20

ITEM:

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

ORIGINAL ITEM: Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick (September 8,2020)

To provide a brief update on COVID-19 and remote learning and file all other outstanding items pertaining to these topics.

PRIOR ACTION:

9-17-20 - Superintendent Binienda updated the Committee on the attendance rates, Chromebook distribution and the Caregivers Academy.
Mayor Petty requested a written report on the Chromebook distribution and an update on the work that has been done to date.
Mayor Petty requested that the Administration schedule a forum for parents on Monday, September 28, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. or Wednesday, September 30, 2020.
Ms. Novick requested that a forum be held in order to allow students to speak to any issues or concerns encountered during the first quarter of remote learning.
At the Commissioner's meeting, he commended the work done by the WPS and indicated that the Caregivers Academy should be a model for the rest of the state.

(Continued on page 2.)

BACKUP:

The Administration will be prepared to speak to the item.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Discuss and hold for updates on Thursday, December 3, 2020.

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

- 9-17-20 Ms. Novick made the following motion:
(continued) Request that the Administration provide, in a Friday letter, the weekly attendance for all schools.
On a roll call of 7-0, the motion was approved.
Ms. Novick requested that item #gb 0-250 from the outstanding items not be filed.
On a roll call of 7-0, the report was accepted and the outstanding items were filed as amended.
- 10-1-20 - Superintendent Binienda provided a brief update on remote learning as follows:
- There were some difficulties with the Wi-Fi going down in some areas during a storm but was fixed within an hour.
 - The Administration has responded quickly to every email that it receives from parents.
 - The Administration is also answering calls from parents of Worcester Technical High School students who are inquiring about the Chapter 74 courses and how they will be taught remotely.
 - The Administration is still problem solving as it gets the calls. For example, some teachers were having trouble with Google Meet and this resulted in the IT department updating it.
- Ms. Kyriazis stated that the district purchased Google Enterprise, which includes the premium features of Google Meet. Mr. Walton has put the system on the rapid, rapid release, which allows these features to come faster as they're being rolled out. There is also a need for more training on how to set up the Google Meet in the classrooms for the teachers.
- Ms. McCullough stated that if families are still having problems with connectivity, they should reach out to the IT Department and the Caregivers Academy.
- Ms. Novick questioned how the elementary attendance is being calculated and Mrs. Morse stated that it's taken four times a day.
- Ms. Novick asked if the Administration could provide an update on work in the buildings on the HVAC system.
- Mr. Allen stated that there will be information provided at the October 15th meeting and the contract process, is still ongoing.
- Ms. Novick questioned how the food distribution is going.
- Mr. Allen stated that the system is working out some of the kinks of the system but is serving an average of 31,000 meals per day, which is a little lower than expected. The system is still looking at ways to expand food delivery options to families.
- Ms. Novick suggested that the Administration post on Social Media reminding families that the Friday schedule for the meal pickup time is different than the other days. She also questioned about the learning loss over the Spring and Summer.
- Superintendent Binienda stated that the STAR assessment is happening right now and the results will be forwarded to the School Committee upon completion.
- Miss Biancheria made the following motion:
Request that the Administration provide a report in November regarding the number of meals that have been distributed weekly.
On a roll call of 7-0, the motion was approved.
Miss Biancheria questioned how the monies in the Budget for the nutrition department is calculated.

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

- 10-1-20 - Mr. Allen stated that the model that was developed anticipates the number of meals that are being served and the revenue being collected. That's why the district made the difficult decision to furlough members of the Nutrition Department. If the number of meals expand, the staff can be brought back or if meals are not as many, the system may need to furlough additional staff. Miss Biancheria made the following motion:
Request that the Administration provide an updated report on the number of furloughs in the Nutrition Department.
On a roll call of 7-0, the motion was approved.
Miss Biancheria questioned if there is enough PPE for the teachers and staff in the school buildings.
Mr. Pezzella stated that there is sufficient PPE in stock.
Miss Biancheria made the following motion:
Request that the Administration provide a report to the School Committee on October 15th relative to the number of teachers who are teaching their class/es remotely from their respective schools.
On a roll call of 7-0, the motion was approved.
On a roll call of 7-0, the item was held.
- 10-15-20 - Ms. Novick again asked the Administration to alert parents via social media to the time changes for Friday food pickup.
On a roll call of 7-0, the item was held for updates at the meeting of Thursday, November 5, 2020.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration/Ms. Novick/
Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo
(October 19, 2020)

CURRENT ITEM - gb #0-308.1
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

1ST ITEM gb #0-308 S.C.MTG. 10-1-20
2ND ITEM gb #0-308.1 S.C.MTG. 11-5-20

ITEM:

Response of the Administration to the request to provide an updated full student enrollment report for discussion of possible state advocacy regarding the FY22 budget.

ORIGINAL ITEM: Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo
(September 23, 2020)

Request Administration provide an updated full student enrollment report for discussion of possible state advocacy regarding the FY22 budget.

PRIOR ACTION:

10-1-20 - Ms. Novick requested that the Administration provide the report for the October 15th School Committee meeting.
On a roll call of 7-0, the item was referred to the Administration.

BACKUP:

Annex A (1 page) contains a copy of the Administration's response to the item.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Accept and file.

**WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 2020-2021 ENROLLMENT TOTALS SUMMARY**

Comparison to 2019-2020 Enrollment Totals (as of October 13, 2020)

Worcester Public Schools Enrollment	
Enrollment – October 1, 2019 Certified	25,049
Enrollment – October 1, 2020 Not Certified	<u>24,003</u>
Difference	-1,046
Change	-4.2%

Individual school’s enrollment change ranges from a decrease of 18.2% to an increase of 10.0%. Overall, the following is the grade level enrollment change:

Grade	10/1/2019	10/1/2020	Change	% Change
Pre-K	1,045	802	-243	-23.3%
K	2,026	1,532	-494	-24.4%
1	1,956	1,878	-78	-4.0%
2	1,869	1,849	-20	-1.1%
3	1,805	1,802	-3	-0.2%
4	1,803	1,767	-36	-2.0%
5	1,882	1,752	-130	-6.9%
6	1,879	1,835	-44	-2.3%
7	1,759	1,764	5	0.3%
8	1,789	1,734	-55	-3.1%
9	1,978	1,934	-44	-2.2%
10	1,808	1,848	40	2.2%
11	1,676	1,764	88	5.3%
12	1,710	1,683	-27	-1.6%
SP	<u>64</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>-5</u>	<u>-7.8%</u>
TOTAL	25,049	24,003	-1,046	-4.2%

Enrollment Summary Notes:

- Pre-K and Kindergarten enrollment of 2,335 represents a decrease of 737 students, or 24%, from last year (from 3,071 students).
- The Pre-K and Kindergarten enrollment decline represents 70.5% of the total enrollment decrease from last year.
- Grades 1-6 enrollment of 10,883 represents a decrease of 311 students from last year’s enrollment of 11,194 (or -2.8%).
- Grades 7-8 enrollment of 3,498 represents a decrease of 50 students from last year’s enrollment of 3,548 (or -1.4%)
- Grades 9-12 (and Transition Program students) enrollment of 7,288 represents an increase of 52 students from last year’s enrollment of 7,236 (or 0.7%).

October 1 enrollment is used for following year funding calculation in the district’s foundation budget. Further analysis of enrollment by foundation budget categories is on-going, however, the district could expect to see a foundation budget decline of \$10 million because of this enrollment change. (The district may be entitled to hold harmless funding next year depending on the state budget action or further actions of the Student Opportunity Act implementation next year).

Due to the unusual circumstances and understanding of statewide enrollment decline, the Administration recommends legislative support for enrollment hold harmless (at the 2019-2020 levels) for funding purposes for next year.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Mr. Monfredo/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Ms. Novick/Mayor Petty
(October 19, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-333
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

Request that the Administration forward a letter of appreciation to the Worcester Bravehearts for their work with Carol Manning, the Health and Physical Education Liaison, in putting together a video on physical education activities for the elementary children to use on Fridays.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

Refer to the Administration for implementation.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Forward letter.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(October 19, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-334
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

To consider an amendment to Rule 47 of the School Committee Rules by changing the start time of the Open meeting as follows:

47. Regular meetings of the School Committee shall be held on the first Thursday and the third Thursday of the month and shall convene at 6:00 p.m., at a place so designated on the School Committee Agenda of business, unless by a majority vote, the School Committee determines another day, time and/or place.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. McCullough/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Monfredo/
Ms. Novick/Mayor Petty
(October 22, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-335
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

To set a date to recognize Chantale Zuzi, a student at Burncoat High School, for receiving the Women's initiative of Central Massachusetts 2020 Meridith D. Wesby Young Leader Award.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

She will be recognized at the 18th Annual Stepping Up for Girls Virtual Kickoff Celebration on November 10th.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Set the date of Thursday, November 19, 2020.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(October 22, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-336
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

Request that the Administration make certain that there is district consistency regarding workload assigned to students during remote learning to include work for both the school day and homework assignments.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo
(October 26, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-337
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

Request that the Administration provide a report that includes the number of students, teachers, nurses and additional staff that participated in the SAT testing at the school sites.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(October 26, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-338
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

To approve the following prior fiscal year payments:

1. \$8,052.00 to a WPS teacher.
2. \$451.26 to School Health Corporation
3. \$14.80 to Toshiba America Business Solutions
4. \$3,290 to 15 staff members at Lincoln Street School
5. \$493.52 to a WPS School Clerk
6. \$410.00 to Early's on Park Ave for towing expenses related to WPS vehicles.
7. \$3,842.30 to American Arbitration Association for various arbitration.

DEPARTMENT	REASON	AMOUNT
Human Resources/Accounts Payable	American Arbitration Association Invoice #12449277	\$325.00
Human Resources/Accounts Payable	American Arbitration Association Invoice #12551229	\$325.00
Human Resources/Accounts Payable	Arbitrator Invoice for case #01-19-0002-4172	\$1,612.67
Human Resources/Accounts Payable	Arbitrator Invoice for case #01-19-0001-9177	\$788.12
Human Resources/Accounts Payable	Arbitrator Invoice for case #01-19-0002-4173	\$791.51

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

1. The teacher was not paid at the extended day rate which resulted in the additional amount to be paid.
2. The Purchase Order was closed in error
3. The Invoice for overage charges was received after the Purchase Order was closed.
4. The staff was preparing for MCAS testing (multiplication strategy, creating documents to be used for MCAS practice) and has not been compensated for the hours worked.
5. Employee did not receive the increased pay for the 10 year step due to an error with hire date in increment database.
6. The invoices were never received by WPS Accounts Payable and only brought when vendor reached out in October 2020 with questions regarding payment.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(October 26, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-339
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

To approve the following donations in the amounts of:

- \$1,000 to Lincoln Street School from the Blackbaud Giving Fund/Boston Scientific.
- \$500.00 to Life Skills at Worcester Technical High School from Harvard Pilgrim Health Care.
- \$500.00 to be used for the arts programs at Worcester Arts Magnet School from a parent.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(October 26, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-340
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

To recognize Brian Allen, Chief Financial and Operations Officer and the Budget office personnel for receiving the 2020-21 Meritorious Budget Award (MBA) for the 8th time from the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO).

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Recognize.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Miss Biancheria/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo
(October 28, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-341
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

Request that the Administration review the social distancing among students and staff to include the number of students in each classroom.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

Annex A (3 pages) contains a copy of the Building Capacity Analysis.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

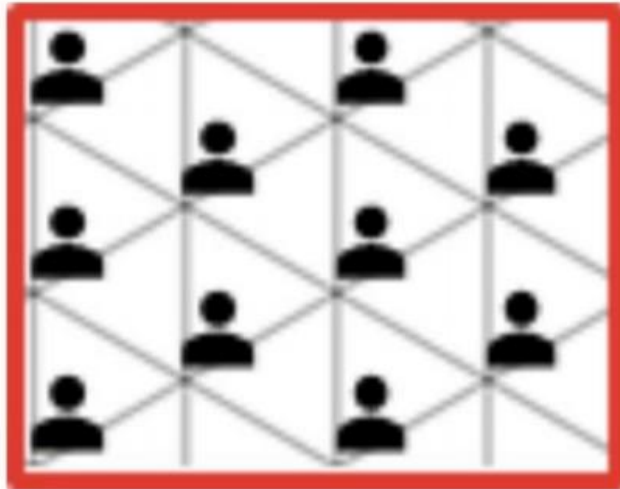
Accept and file.

Building Capacity Analysis

Brian E. Allen, Chief Financial & Operations Officer

Building Capacity Analysis

6 Foot Social Distancing (and 3 feet personal space)



25' less 1.5'

30' less 1.5'

4x3/2 isometric grid (@ 9')

10 seats

- 3 teacher space/s

= 7 student capacity



Building Capacity Analysis

Six-Foot Social Distance Capacity

School Capacity	Learning Model
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 0 Schools would be at or less than 100% Capacity	NO school could accommodate all students in-person at the same time
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 11 Schools would be at 100-200% capacity	At this ratio, students at the 11 schools would be able to attend no more than school 50% of the time and participate in remote learning 50% of the time.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● 28 Schools would be greater than 200% capacity	At this ratio, students at the 28 schools would be able to attend school <u>no more than</u> 33% of the time and participate in remote learning 67% of the time.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo
(October 28, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-342
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

Request that the Administration review the procedures for teachers or students who test positive for COVID-19 and are attending schools.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

Annex A (2 pages) contains a copy of the School Safety Protocols.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Accept and file.

School Safety Protocols

Our main goal is to ensure the safest return to school possible. As recommended by the CDC and DESE, detailed safety protocols have been developed.

Event	Location of Event	Testing Result	Quarantine
Individual is symptomatic	<p>If an individual is symptomatic at home, they should stay home and get tested.</p> <p>If an individual student is symptomatic on the bus or at school, they should remain masked and adhere to strict physical distancing. Students will then be met by the nurse and stay in the medical waiting room until they can go home. They should not be sent home on the bus.</p> <p>If an individual staff member is symptomatic at school, they should find coverage for their duties and then go home and <u>get tested</u>.</p>	Individual tests negative	Return to school once asymptomatic for 24 hours
		Individual tests positive	Remain home (except to get medical care), monitor symptoms, notify the school, notify personal close contacts, assist the school in contact tracing efforts, and answer the call from the local board of health or MA Community Tracing Collaborative. Most people who have relatively mild illness will need to stay in self-isolation for at least 10 days and until at least 3 days have passed with no fever and improvement in other symptoms.
		Individual is not tested	Remain home in self- isolation for 14 days from symptom onset
Individual is exposed to COVID-19 positive individual	If an individual is at home when they learn they were in close contact with an individual who tested positive for COVID-19, they should	Individual tests negative	Return to school, if asymptomatic or once asymptomatic for 24 hours

	<p>stay at home and be tested 4 or 5 days after their last exposure.</p> <p>If an individual is at school when they learn they were in close contact with an individual who tested positive for COVID-19, they should be masked for the remainder of the day (including K-1 students) and adhere to strict physical distancing. At the end of the day, they should go home and should not take the bus home. They should stay at home and be tested 4 or 5 days after their last exposure.</p>	<p>Individual tests positive</p>	<p>Remain home (except to get medical care), monitor symptoms, notify the school, notify personal close contacts, assist the school in contact tracing efforts, and answer the call from local board of health or MA Community Tracing Collaborative. Most people who have relatively mild illness will need to stay in self-isolation for at least 10 days and until at least 3 days have passed with no fever and improvement in other symptoms.</p>
		<p>Individual is not tested</p>	<p>Remain home in self- quarantine for 14 days from exposure</p>

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo
(October 28, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-343
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

Request that the Administration provide the number of students that will be attending school, beginning November 16, 2020, to include the sites, the number of teachers and nurses and any additional staff that will be at the school sites.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

Annex A (4 pages) contains a copy of information regarding the item.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Accept and file.

Worcester Public Schools Transition from Remote to Hybrid Learning Proposal

All plans including start dates can be affected by building readiness & changes in State Guidance and COVID-19

Second Term

November 16, 2020 - January 22, 2021

Students Moving to Hybrid

All plans including start dates can be affected by building readiness & changes in State Guidance and COVID-19

- **PreKindergarten - Grade 12 Students with Complex Significant Disabilities** - includes all students with disabilities that receive 75% or more of their services on the C grid.
 - Date beginning - Monday, November 16, 2020
 - In-person days - 4 days weekly, Monday - Thursday, Total In-person days = 114
 - Number of students - 904

- **Worcester Technical High School 10th, 11th, and 12th Grade Students**
 - Date Beginning - Monday, November 16, 2020
 - In-person days - 1/4 model - one day weekly during technical weeks, either Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday depending on cohort, Total In-person days = 13 Mondays & Wednesdays, 14 Tuesdays, 12/13 Thursdays
 - Number of students - 1,109

- **Comprehensive High Schools Chapter 74 Program Students**
 - Date Beginning - Monday, November 16, 2020
 - In-person days - 1/4 model - one day weekly Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday depending on cohort, Total In-person days = 26 Mondays or Wednesdays, 28 Tuesdays, 25 Thursdays
 - Number of students - 604
 - Doherty High School - Engineering Technology - 370 Students
 - North High School - 110 Students
 - Allied Health - 69 Students
 - STB - 41 Students
 - South High School - 124 Students
 - Culinary - 40 Students
 - Diesel Technology - 45 Students
 - Early Childhood - 40 Students

- **Innovation Pathway Students**
 - Date beginning - Monday, November 16, 2020
 - In-person days - 1/4 model - one day every other week, Total In-person days = 14 Tuesdays, 13 Wednesdays, 12/13 Thursdays cohorts
 - Number of students - 180

- **New Citizen Center Elementary, Secondary, and Young Adult Students**
 - Date beginning - Monday, November 16, 2020
 - In-person days - 4 days weekly, Monday - Thursday, Total In-person days = 114
 - Number of students - 71
 - NCC Elementary - 14

- NCC Secondary - 38
- NCC Young Adult- 19
- **Academic Center for Transition (ACT), Alternative Program @ St. Casmir's, Challenge & Reach Academy, and Gerald Creamer Center Day & Evening Programs, Transitions Program**
 - Date beginning - Monday, November 16, 2020
 - In-person days - 4 days weekly, Monday - Thursday, Total in-person days = 114
 - Number of students - 264
 - Academic Center of Transition - 42 Students
 - Alternative Program @ St. Casmirs - 37 students
 - Challenge & Reach Academy - 35 students
 - Gerald Creamer Center Day Program - 104 students
 - Gerald Creamer Center Evening Program - 46 students
 - Transitions Program - 58 students

Site Locations

Included by each school is the total number of students, number and type of classrooms, school start & end times. The use of **St. Casmirs, Burncoat High, South High and Doherty High** are questionable.

- **Alternative Program @ St. Casmirs**
 - Alternative Program @ St. Casmirs (37) 7:30-1:11
- **Burncoat High School**
 - Burncoat High (91)(5-COAST, 1-LS, 3-STEP) 7:20-1:43
 - Burncoat Middle (22)(2-COAST, 4-STEP & Resource) 7:20-1:43
- **Central Mass Collaborative - New Bond Street**
 - ACT Program (42) (10) SPED Teachers 8:30-2:30
- **Claremont Academy**
 - Sullivan (53) (2-AULS, 2-TLS, 1-LS, 2-STEP) 8:47-3:10
 - South High (68) (1-AULS, 3-LS, 4-STEP) 7:20-1:43
 - NCC Secondary (38) (SLIFE) 8:00-2:15
 - NCC Young Adult (20) (SLIFE) 7:20-1:43
- **Doherty High School**
 - Doherty (22) (1-LS, 3-STEP) 7:20-1:43
 - Doherty Chapter 74 (370) 7:20-1:43
- **Forest Grove Middle School**
 - Forest Grove (44) (2-LS, 2-TLS, 2-STEP) 8:47-3:10
 - Transitions Program (58) (8) SPED Teachers 8:00-2:00
 - WEMS (14) (2-STEP & 4- Resource) 7:20-1:43
 - Challenge & Reach (35) 7:17-1:40
 - Burncoat Middle (22) (2-COAST, 2-STEP & 2- Resource) 7:20-1:43

- **Jacob Hiatt School**

- Chandler Elementary (11) (2-STEP) 7:50-1:55
- NCC Elementary (14) (SLIFE) 8:25-2:30

Nelson Place School

Nelson Place (77) (10-SAIL) (1) PK sub/sep) (1) Young Voices 9:05-3:10

West Tatnuck School (13)(2-LS) 9:05-3:10

Norrback Avenue School

Norrback (54) (3- AU/SAIL & 2-LS) 7:55-2:00

Lincoln Street (6) (1-PK sub/sep & 1-AU/SAIL) 7:45-1:50

Wawecus (20) (3-TLS) 8:25-2:30

Burncoat Prep (15) (2-STEP) 8:05-2:10

North High School

North High (60) (1-AULS,3-LS, 3-STEP) 7:20-1:43

North High (110) (Chapter 74) 7:20-1:43

Doherty (22) (2-LS, 2-STEP, 2-TLS) 7:20-1:43

Burncoat High (91) (5-COAST, 1-LS,3-STEP) 7:20-1:43

Quinsigamond Elementary School

Quinsigamond (30) (2-LS & 2-STEP) 8:25-2:30

Vernon Hill School (13) (2-STEP) 7:45-1:50

Columbus Park (18) (2-STEP) 7:45-1:50

Roosevelt Elementary

Roosevelt Elementary (43) (1-PK sub-sep, 2-K/1, 2-STEP, 3-LS,) 8:15-2:20

City View (26) (2-K/1 & 2-STEP) 9:05-3:10

South High Community School

South High (68) (1-AU/LS, 3-LS, 4-STEP) 7:20-1:43

South High (125) (Chapter 74 Program) 7:20-1:43

Woodland Academy

Canterbury (14) (2-TLS) 7:45-1:50

Gates Lane (72) (1/pk sub-sep & 9-AU/SAIL) 9:05-3:10

Worcester Technical High School

WTHS (40) (4-Voc-P) 7:20-1:43

WTHS (381) 10th graders, (374)11th graders, (354) 12th graders 7:20-1:43

GCC Day (104) 7:15-1:45 & GCC Evening (46) 2:30-6:00

Innovation Pathways Program (180) 7:20 - 5:30

Staff Involved

- Principals
- Assistant Principals
- Focused Instructional Coaches
- School Nurses, LPNs, and CNAs
- Cafeteria Workers (some)
- Secondary Special Education Department Heads
- Special Education System-wide Department Head of Intervention Specialist
- Special Education Teachers, Instructional Assistants, Behavioral Specialist, Behavior Intervention Consultants (BIC), Board Certified Behavioral Analyst (BCBA), Related Service Providers (Speech and Language Pathologist, Occupational and Physical Therapist, Vision and Deaf and Hard of Hearing)and other support staff who teach and support students with complex significant disabilities
- NCC Teachers
- Alternative Education Program Teachers
- Chapter 74 Teachers and support staff
- School Adjustment Counselors & School Psychologists
- Behavioral Health Specialists
- Other staff as ventilation upgrades are completed (staff will be given two weeks advance notice)

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(October 28, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-344
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

Request that the School Committee APPROVE the APPOINTMENT of the following provisional civil service employee as a School Nurse, effective as shown:

St. Laurent, Kathleen, Claremont Academy, Bachelors, Step 3, \$54,757, effective August 27, 2020. Emergency License: School Nurse All Levels

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo
(October 28, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-345
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

To set budgetary priorities for the fiscal year 2022 budget in line with the Worcester Public Schools' strategic plan and recognizing likely fiscal constraints.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

Set priorities.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

The Administration concurs with the maker.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo
(October 28, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-346
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

Request administration report on actual total cost to district families of 2021 Advanced Placement exams for consideration with the full committee's consideration of the first quarter budget report.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

Refer to the Administration for a response for the November 19th Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

The Administration concurs with the maker.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
(October 28, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-347
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

Request administration propose for School Committee deliberation and decision alternative methods for determining admission to limited admission programs and schools in light of the lack of 2020 MCAS data.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

Refer to the Administration.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

The Administration concurs with the maker.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo
(October 28, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-348
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

Request administration propose for School Committee deliberation and decision alternative methods for determining admission to limited admission programs and schools in light of the lack of 2020 MCAS data.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

Annex A (1 page) contains a copy of page four of the DESE World Languages Newsletter.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

Refer to the Administration.

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

The Administration concurs with the maker.

Seal of Biliteracy Assessments

In 2020, the Department was pleased to add two new assessments to our list of approved assessments. For modern Greek, the [Ellinomatheia](#) exam is now an approved assessment. We were very excited to offer our first full assessment in Tamil through the [AJA Tamil Language Proficiency Assessment](#). This means that Tamil no longer qualifies as a portfolio assessment.

We have made some changes regarding the Advanced Placement exams and their appropriateness for the Seal of Biliteracy. Beginning in 2020-2021, the AP Spanish **Literature** exam is no longer a valid measure of assessment for the Seal of Biliteracy. Students who take the AP Spanish exam in 2021 and beyond may not count the exam toward the Seal of Biliteracy. **The 2020 AP Language and Culture exams for all modern languages may not count toward the Seal of Biliteracy**, due to the changes made to accommodate the COVID crisis. The 2020 AP Latin exam may still be counted toward the Seal. It is not yet known whether the 2021 AP Language and Culture exam for modern languages will qualify students for the Seal of Biliteracy.

Seal of Biliteracy Regional Teams

In our ongoing effort to support the Seal of Biliteracy, the Department is pleased to introduce Seal of Biliteracy Regional Teams (SeBRTs – pronounced *sea birds*). SeBRTs will consist of teams of World Language and ELL teachers, department heads, principals, and/or district-level administrators. The SeBRTs have four goals: 1) Engage in collective analysis of statewide and regional data; 2) expand awareness of the Seal in their region; 3) establish a Seal of Biliteracy mentorship program in their region; and 4) engage in collective inquiry around a statewide challenge in Seal implementation. Please see below for a list of potential challenges around which SeBRTs may engage in collective learning. The SeBRT program is a two-year commitment and offers 2 levels of engagement – team

facilitator and team member. Facilitators will meet quarterly with the Department to discuss the initiatives in their region. They must also prepare and facilitate quarterly meetings with SeBRT team members. SeBRT team members will attend regional meetings and complete independent work in preparation for those meetings. PDPs are available upon completion of the collective learning project. If interested, please find more information on the Seal of Biliteracy website.

[More information and applications to join the team are available on the website](#), or by clicking [here](#).

Applications to join the team will be due on October 31st.

Topics for collective learning may include, but are not limited to:

- Equity in the administration of the Seal of Biliteracy
- Supporting instruction to facilitate higher levels of attainment of the State Seal of Biliteracy
- Supporting programs to facilitate higher levels of attainment of the State Seal of Biliteracy
- Expanding the Seal of Biliteracy to more districts
- Generating buy-in for the Seal of Biliteracy among various stakeholders
- Supporting districts to purchase and implement high-quality assessments

Please consider joining one of these important teams. Please contact Andy McDonie with any questions.

Seal of Biliteracy Data Companion Survey

We want to understand more about the effectiveness of the Seal program than SIMS can record. Please help us understand how the Seal is administered at your [school by filling out this form](#) (one per district) by October 31st. It is a bit time-intensive, but the data could be invaluable.

September is Hispanic Heritage Month!

To all our Spanish-speaking and Spanish-learning educators, students, and families, thank you for enriching the Commonwealth with your linguistic skills.

It is important for all of us to appreciate where we come from and how that history has really shaped us in ways that we might not understand. – Sonia Sotomayor

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(October 28, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-349
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

To consider filing a list of outstanding administrative items or motions.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

Annex A (3 pages) contains a copy of the list of items to be filed.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Accept and file the list of outstanding General Business items or motions.

Item Number	Maker	Items and Motions	Responses
<p>ros #9-13 10-17-19</p>	<p>Administration</p>	<p>ITEM: DESE DISTRICT REPORT</p> <p>MOTION Miss Biancheria requested that the Administration provide information relative to the recognition awards that will be given to West Tatnuck and Belmont Street Community schools by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to include the date and time the recognitions will be held at the State House.</p>	<p>Mr. Robert Curtin, Associate Commissioner, Data and Accountability, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, discussed the school discipline state data. Therefore, the Administration recommends that the item be filed.</p> <p>The recognition was held for West Tatnuck and Belmont Street Community Schools.</p>
<p>gb #9-97 3-21-19</p>	<p>Mr. Comparetto</p>	<p>ITEM Request that the Administration review the Memorandum of Understanding between the Worcester Public Schools and the Worcester Police Department and make any necessary changes.</p>	<p>Item gb #0-213 (To review for possible implementation of the Massachusetts Attorney General's Model Memorandum of Understanding for School Resource Officers.) is currently in the Standing Committee on Governance. Therefore, the Administration recommends that this item be filed.</p>
<p>gb #9-315 10-3-19</p>	<p>Mr. Monfredo Miss Biancheria Mr. O'Connell</p>	<p>ITEM: Mr. Monfredo requested that the Administration provide a report, in April 2020, on the ways in which the WPS is taking the initiative to recruit students into the "Worcester Future Teachers" program in conjunction with the Chief Diversity Officer.</p>	<p>The Chief Diversity Officer, Ivonne Perez, is developing a plan for Worcester to recruit students for the "Worcester Future Teachers" program. Upon the completion of the plan, it will be forwarded to the School Committee. Therefore, the Administration recommends that the item be filed.</p>

<p><u>gb #0-29</u> 1-16-20</p>	<p>Mayor Petty Mrs. Clancey Mr. Foley Ms. McCullough Mr. Monfredo Ms. Novick</p>	<p>ITEM To charge the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations with the responsibility to develop and conduct public forums that will solicit community input for the planned expenditure of new funding for public education as required by the Commonwealth under the Student Opportunity Act. It should also recommend to the school committee alternative means for soliciting community-based input for this funding.</p> <p>MOTION Mayor Petty requested that the Administration invite certain people and discuss the format for these meetings and provide a report at the February 6, 2020 meeting.</p>	<p>Due to the fact that forums were held on 2-10, 2-13, 3-2 and 3-4, the Administration recommends that the item be filed.</p>
<p><u>gb #0-48</u> 2-6-20</p>	<p>Mrs. Clancey Mr. Foley Mr. Monfredo Ms. Novick</p>	<p>ITEM Request that the Administration provide updates on the CPPAC, ELPAC and SPED-Pac meetings to include attendance and ways in which to increase parental participation.</p>	<p>Meetings from March through June were not held due to the pandemic. Therefore, the Administration recommends that the item be filed.</p>
<p><u>gb #0-50</u> 2-6-20</p>	<p>Ms. McCullough Mrs. Clancey Mr. Foley Mr. Monfredo Ms. Novick</p>	<p>ITEM Request that the Administration provide a report on the busing needs for the proposed merger of Saint Peter Marian and Holy Name High School for the 2021 school year.</p>	<p>The busing needs were satisfied. Therefore, the Administration recommends that the item be filed.</p>
<p><u>gb #0-55</u> 2-6-20</p>	<p>Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey Mr. Foley Mr. Monfredo</p>	<p>ITEM Request that the Administration provide a summary of the new courses under Chapter 74 that will be offered in the future to include school sites.</p>	<p>The response was provided on October 1, 2020 under gb #0-269.1. Therefore, the Administration recommends that the item be filed.</p>
<p><u>gb #0-90</u> 3-5-20</p>	<p>Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey Ms. McCullough Mr. Monfredo</p>	<p>ITEM Request that the Administration provide an update on the funded programs for the Summer of 2020 to include the College Community Connection.</p>	<p>The response was provided on September 17, 2020 under gb #0-229.1. Therefore, the Administration recommends that this item be filed.</p>

Item Number	Maker	Items and Motions	Responses
<u>gb #0-122</u> 4-2-20	Miss Biancheria	ITEM Request that the Administration notify the seniors regarding the granting of diplomas to those who meet the requirements.	Due to the fact that the 2019-20 graduations were held remotely, the Administration recommends that this item be filed.
<u>gb #0-161</u> 5-7-20	Mrs. Clancey Miss Biancheria Mr. Foley Ms. McCullough Mr. Monfredo Ms. Novick	ITEM: Request that the Administration provide a report on the district's plan to enhance extended learning for the remainder of the school year that will ensure students are meeting the standards and are ready for the next grade level.	Due to the fact that the 2019-20 school year is over, the Administration recommends that this item be filed.
<u>gb #0-164</u> 5-7-20	Ms. Novick Mrs. Clancey Mr. Foley Ms. McCullough Mr. Monfredo	ITEM: Request that the Administration consider the number of Worcester Public Schools' students in a family in the distribution of district Chromebooks.	Responses to this item were provided monthly, and every student received a Chromebook. Therefore, the Administration recommends that the item be filed.
<u>gb #0-226</u> 7-16-20	Mrs. Clancey Miss Biancheria Mr. Foley Ms. McCullough Mr. Monfredo Ms. Novick	ITEM Request that the Administration study the feasibility of implementing Google Classroom Trainings for parents/guardians prior to the start of the school year.	The system has a Caregivers Academy on the website. Additional staff are working with community agencies on how to help their clients and parent workshops are held virtually. Therefore, the Administration recommends that this item be filed.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(October 28, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-350
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

To accept the Innovation Pathway Planning Grant in the amount of \$25,000.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

Annex A (9 pages) contains a copy of the Grant Acceptance Form.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

Grant Acceptance Form

Name of Grant: FY 21 Innovation Pathways Planning Grant

Type of Funder: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education – pass through from Federal government

Awarded Amount: \$25,000.00

Grant Funding Period: October 14, 2020 through June 30, 2021

Project title: Innovation Pathways Planning

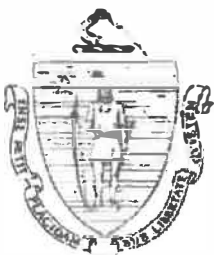
Program coordinator: Weymouth/Petrella

Purpose: To support the development of Innovation Pathways Planning that will expand existing and/or develop new Career Technical Education (CTE) programs and initiatives that increase student access to CTE opportunities. This will potentially lead to an additional IP designation in the Life Science - Biomanufacturing program.

Description of the program: The collaborative planning process among local partners, including business partners and workforce training experts, will develop an implementation plan for activities/initiatives that will increase student seats and student access to CTE pathways/programs, particularly for under-served populations.

Program location: Worcester Public Schools

Outcomes and Measures: To develop a partnership that will increase access to CTE opportunities through the development of an Innovation Pathways plan that will lead to a new IP designation in Life Science - Biomanufacturing program.



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133
(617) 725-4000

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

October 14, 2020

Dear Superintendent Binienda,

Congratulations! We are pleased to notify you that Worcester Public Schools has been awarded an FY21 Innovation Pathway Planning Grant of \$25,000.

We want to thank you for your commitment to developing an Innovation Pathway program at your institution to strengthen career education for high school students. Through this funding and your continued support, we hope to expand access to great educational opportunities in the Commonwealth.

You will be receiving further instructions from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education on next steps, and please contact Jennifer Gwatkin, Office for College, Career, and Technical education with any questions (jennifer.a.gwatkin@mass.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Baker".

Governor Charles D. Baker

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karyn E. Polito".

Lt. Governor Karyn E. Polito

50525221

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
 STANDARD CONTRACT FORM AND APPLICATION FOR PROGRAM GRANTS

PART I - GENERAL

A. APPLICANT: Worcester Public Schools				District Code:				0	3	4	8
ADDRESS: 20 Irving St. Worcester, MA 01609											
TELEPHONE: (508) 799-3108											

B. APPLICATION FOR PROGRAM FUNDING				
FUND CODE	PROGRAM NAME	PROJECT DURATION		AMOUNT REQUESTED
		FROM	TO	
FY2021	State - Innovation Pathways Planning Grant administered by the Office for College, Career, and Technical Education	10/1/20		\$25,000
418		Upon Approval	6/30/2021	

C. I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS APPLICATION IS CORRECT AND COMPLETE; THAT THE APPLICANT AGENCY HAS AUTHORIZED ME, AS ITS REPRESENTATIVE, TO FILE THIS APPLICATION; AND THAT I UNDERSTAND THAT FOR ANY FUNDS RECEIVED THROUGH THIS APPLICATION THE AGENCY AGREES TO COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL GRANT REQUIREMENTS COVERING BOTH THE PROGRAMMATIC AND FISCAL ADMINISTRATION OF GRANT FUNDS.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY: <i>Maureen F. Binlenda</i>	TITLE: Superintendent
TYPED NAME: Maureen F. Binlenda	DATE: 9/8/2020

Applicant Agency: Worcester Public Schools

Applicant Number: 348

Fiscal Year: 2021

Fund Code: 418

Program Name: Innovation Pathways Planning Grant

Budget Line Item Category					Amount	
1 ADMINISTRATOR SALARIES:					Total Amount	COMMENTS
Grant Program Manager/Coordinator	# of staff	FTE	MTRS	\$ 12,600	IPP Program Director - 10% of salary	
	1	0.10		\$ -		
				\$ -		
SUB-TOTAL					\$ 12,600	
2 INSTRUCTIONAL/PROF STAFF SALARIES:					Total Amount	COMMENTS
	# of staff	FTE	MTRS	\$ -		
				\$ -		
				\$ -		
				\$ -		
SUB-TOTAL					\$ -	
3 SUPPORT STAFF SALARIES:					Total Amount	COMMENTS
	# of staff	FTE	MTRS	\$ -		
				\$ -		
				\$ -		
SUB-TOTAL					\$ -	
4 STIPENDS:					Total Amount	
Teacher Instructional/Professional Staff	# of Staff	Rate	Rate Type	MTRS	\$ 1,400	Curriculum work
	3	\$35	per hour			

				\$	-	
				\$	-	
				\$	-	
SUB-TOTAL				\$	1,400	
5 FRINGE BENEFITS:				Total Amount		COMMENTS
5-a MTRS (automatically calculates if MTRS box is checked)				\$	-	
5-b Other				\$	-	
Health Insurance				\$	-	
Other Retirement Systems				\$	-	
Federal Insurance Contributions (FICA)				\$	-	
SUB-TOTAL				\$	-	

	Rate	Rate Type	Total Amount	
6 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES:				COMMENTS
Consultants/Prof Dev for Teachers & Support S	\$150	per hour	\$ 7,500	Curriculum development and grant draft MyCAP Professional Development Series
Consultants/Prof Dev for Teachers & Support S	DESE	flat	\$ 3,000	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
SUB-TOTAL			\$ 10,500	
7 SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS:			Total Amount	COMMENTS
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
SUB-TOTAL			\$ -	
8 TRAVEL:			Total Amount	COMMENTS
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
SUB-TOTAL			\$ -	
9 OTHER COSTS:			Total Amount	COMMENTS
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
SUB-TOTAL			\$ -	
10 INDIRECT COSTS (use indirect costs calculator)	enter rate %			COMMENTS
	2.00%		\$500	
11 EQUIPMENT:			Total Amount	COMMENTS
Items costing \$5,000+ per unit & having a useful life 1+ years				

		\$ -	
		\$ -	
SUB-TOTAL		\$ -	
TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED		\$ 25,000	

FY2021: Innovation Pathways Planning Grant

Fund Code: 418

Purpose:

The purpose of the grant is to provide Innovation Pathway program resources to an LEA who intends to seek Innovation Pathway designation (/ccte/innovation-pathways/) from DESE in FY21.

Priorities:

Priorities for this grant include, but are not limited to:

Supporting applicants in the preparation of their Innovation Pathway designation application materials.

Eligibility:

Eligible applicants are any Massachusetts school district or charter school that plans to seek Innovation Pathways designation in 2020-2021.

Applicants submitting an application for a planning grant agree to submit a Part A application (/ccte/innovation-pathways/) to DESE in fall 2020.

Preference may be given to an LEA who has not received Innovation Pathway grants in the past (/ccte/innovation-pathways/).

Funding Type:

Trust

Funding:

A total amount of \$600,000 is available to eligible applicants.

An LEA may submit only one application for a maximum award of \$30,000.

\$25,000 is available for support to prepare Part A of the Innovation Pathways Designation application.

An additional \$5,000 of funding may be requested if an applicant is planning for pathways in 2 or more of the eligible industry sectors: Advanced Manufacturing; Information; Environmental and Life Sciences; Health Care and Social Assistance; Business and Finance.

Note: \$3,000 of the award must be used for staff participation in the College and Career Advising (MyCAP) Professional Development Series in SY2020-21, provided that the school has not competed the series in the past.

Funding is contingent upon availability. All dollar amounts listed are estimated/approximate and are subject to change. If more funding becomes available it will be distributed under the same guidelines that appear in this RFP document.

Fund Use:

Funding may be used to support Innovation Pathway's adherence to the five guiding principles (</ccte/innovation-pathways/criteria.docx>).

Allowable funding expenses include:

Program administration and coordination; stipends for K12- and higher education faculty; curricular development; engagement with MassHire boards and industry; professional development; instructional-related supplies and materials; high quality college and career advising and MyCAP development embedded in the pathway.

Computer hardware, (e.g. laptops) and student stipends may not be funded by this planning grant.

Project Duration:

Upon approval – 06/30/2021

Program Unit:

Office for College, Career, and Technical Education

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(October 28, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-351
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

To accept a gift in the estimated amount of \$10,000 to provide distance learning consulting and technical deployment services to the WPS funded jointly by Google LLC and Amplified IT LLC.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION
Administration
(October 28, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-352
S.C. MEETING - 11-5-20

ITEM:

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining and the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares – Contractual Arbitration – Instructional Assistant/Educational Association of Worcester and Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination Litigation – Instructional Assistant.

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.

gb #0-324 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo (October 6, 2020)

Request that the Administration review the process of signing in and out at the WPS bus yard.

gb #0-325 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo (October 6, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide a report to include the process of assigning bus routes to bus drivers and include the itinerary for each route.

gb #0-326 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo (October 6, 2020)

Request that the Administration review the budget for the bus yard to insure that it contains monies and the necessary tools to provide a safe environment for our employees.

gb #0-327 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo (October 6, 2020)

Request that the Administration review the Job Descriptions and duties of all bus yard employees to include directors.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Discuss.