

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

AGENDA #17

on: Thursday, April 15, 2021
at: 5:00 p.m. - Executive Session
6:00 p.m. - Regular Session
Virtually in: Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ACTION

I. CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

NATIONAL ANTHEM

II. ROLL CALL

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

Miss Biancheria arrived at 6:30 p.m.

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS -NONE

IV. MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION - NONE

V. IMMEDIATE ACTION

gb #1-119 - Administration
(April 7, 2021)

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

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

ros #1-7 - Administration
(April 7, 2021)

RENNIE CENTER-PROGRESS ON STRATEGIC PLAN

Filed

**On a roll call of 7-0,
the item was
referred to the
Standing Committee
on Governance and
Employee Issues
(See notes)**

VII. COMMUNICATION AND PETITION

c&p #1-6 - Clerk
(March 31, 2021)

To consider a communication from the EAW to allow members of City View School's faculty and staff to donate sick days to a colleague.

ACTION

On a roll call of 7-0, the item was referred to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues

VIII. REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES - NONEIX. PERSONNEL -NONEX. GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #0-286.8 - Administration/Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(April 9, 2021)

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

gb #0-328.1 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo
(April 5, 2021)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report on the Adult Learning Center application process and success of remote learning.

gb #1-7.1 - Administration/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Ms. Novick
(April 6, 2021)

Response of the Administration to the request to work with community clinical providers to provide additional in-school clinical services to students.

gb #1-20.1 - Administration/Mr. Foley
(April 6, 2021)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide safety protocol signage in all school buildings

gb #1-29.1 - Administration/Mrs. Clancey/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/
Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(April 6, 2021)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide an update on the Pre-K programs offered throughout the district for the 2021-22 school year and the community outreach planned for enrollment.

On a roll call of 7-0, the item was held for updates

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

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

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

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

X. GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #1-62.1 - Administration/Mrs. Clancey/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/
Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(April 7, 2021)

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

Response of the Administration to the request to provide an update on trainings for School Adjustment Counselors and Counselors prior to the reopening of schools.

gb #1-104 - Ms. McCullough/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(March 25, 2021)

**On a roll call of 7-0,
the item was
referred to the
Standing Committee
on Teaching,
Learning and
Student Supports**

To explore the feasibility of including recess for students in grades seven and eight.

gb #1-120 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Monfredo
(April 7, 2021)

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

To respond to the House Ways and Means proposed FY22 Budget.

gb #1-121 - Mayor Petty/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(April 9, 2021)

**On a roll call of 7-0,
the item was
referred to the
Standing Committee
on Governance and
Employee Issues
(See notes)**

To consider a report from the Worcester Mayoral Commission on Latino Education and Advancement.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

gb #1-122 -Administration
(April 7, 2021)

**Held from 5:10 p.m.
to 6:19 p.m.**

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation for Worker’s Compensation-Cafeteria Helper, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

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

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

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

ACTION

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

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 vs. Worcester Public Schools, Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, MCAD Docket No. 20WEM02609 and EEOC Docket No. 16C-2021-00275

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares – Successor Contract Negotiations – Educational Association of Worcester Units A & B (Educators/Administrators); Educational Association of Worcester, Aides to the Physically Handicapped, Monitors and Drivers; Educational Association of Worcester, Instructional Assistants; Educational Association of Worcester, Parent Liaisons; Educational Association of Worcester, Tutors; and Educational Association of Worcester, Therapy Assistants; NAGE R1-156, 52 Week Secretaries; NAGE R1-16, Cafeteria Workers; Massachusetts Laborers District Council, Worcester Public Service Employees Local Union 176, Custodians; Massachusetts Laborers District Council, Worcester Public Service Employees Local Union 176, Educational Secretaries; Massachusetts Laborers District Council, Worcester Public Service Employees Local Union 176/Unit D, Computer Technicians; IUPE Local - 125 Plumbers and Steamfitters; IUPE Local -135, Tradesmen; Massachusetts Nurses Association, Worcester School Nurses.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

AGENDA #17A

SUPPLEMENTAL

The School Committee will hold a regular meeting:

on: Thursday, April 15, 2021
at: 5:00 p.m. – Executive Session
6:00 p.m. – Regular Session

Virtually in: Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ACTION

- I. CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR MEETING
INVOCATION
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/NATIONAL ANTHEM
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS - NONE
- IV. MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION - NONE
- V. IMMEDIATE ACTION - NONE
- VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT – NONE
- V. COMMUNICATION AND PETITION - NONE
- VI.
- VIII. REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

The Standing Committee on Finance and Operations met virtually on Monday, April 12, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building.

**On a roll call of 7-0,
the Action Sheet was
approved as
amended
(See notes)**

- IX. PERSONNEL - NONE
- X. GENERAL BUSINESS -NONE

N O T E S

The School Committee convened in Open Session at 6:20 p.m.

There were present at the Call to Order:

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

There was absent: Miss Biancheria

The School Committee recessed to Executive Session from 5:08 p.m. to 6:19 p.m.

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met virtually in Open Session at 6:20 p.m. in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building on Thursday, April 15, 2021.

There were present at the Call to Order:

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

There was absent: Miss Biancheria

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

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation for Worker’s Compensation-Cafeteria Helper, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

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

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

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

To discuss strategy with respect to 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 vs. Worcester Public Schools, Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, MCAD Docket No. 20WEM02609 and EEOC Docket No. 16C-2021-00275

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body and the chair so declares – Successor Contract Negotiations – Educational Association of Worcester Units A & B

(Educators/Administrators); Educational Association of Worcester, Aides to the Physically Handicapped, Monitors and Drivers; Educational Association of Worcester, Instructional Assistants; Educational Association of Worcester, Parent Liaisons; Educational Association of Worcester, Tutors; and Educational Association of Worcester, Therapy Assistants; NAGE R1-156, 52 Week Secretaries; NAGE R1-16, Cafeteria Workers; Massachusetts Laborers District Council, Worcester Public Service Employees Local Union 176, Custodians; Massachusetts Laborers District Council, Worcester Public Service Employees Local Union 176, Educational Secretaries; Massachusetts Laborers District Council, Worcester Public Service Employees Local Union 176/Unit D, Computer Technicians; IUPE Local - 125 Plumbers and Steamfitters; IUPE Local -135, Tradesmen; Massachusetts Nurses Association, Worcester School Nurses.

On a roll call of 6-0-1 (absent Miss Biancheria), the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria arrived at 6:30 p.m.

GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #1-121

Mayor Petty stated that in May 2018, he asked Dr. Pedraja and Ms. Marion to gather and analyze data from the Worcester Public Schools and other sources, to listen to the community and engage with other Worcester leaders and stakeholders in a productive citywide dialogue. Those findings and recommendations were provided by Dr. Luis Pedraja, President of Quinsigamond Community College and Mary Jo

Marion, Assistant Vice-President of Urban Studies and Latino Education at Worcester State University in the presentation.

Dr. Pedraja stated that over the course of the commission from Mayor Petty, there have been eleven meetings and four at-large community sessions. The data analyzed revealed that 43.1% of Worcester Public Schools' students are Latinx and that there are significant barriers and equity issues. He provided recommendations for improvement which included rebuilding trust, transparency, equity, accountability and quality of life.

Ms. Marion stated that the Latinx community does not feel represented and would like to be seen and heard more. She recommended that there be no suspensions for students in grades K-3.

Dr. Pedraja stated that the report also recommended an equity audit of the WPS and would require that all WPS employees attend implicit bias training sessions. He also offered suggestions for curriculum changes and culturally responsive outreach.

In conclusion, Dr. Pedraja and Ms. Marion recommended that the Strategic Plan include an Equity Advisory Committee and that the WPS should implement a Comprehensive Sex Education curriculum.

Mr. Foley stated that he was happy to see the collaboration with community groups and families. He asked for the commission's help in providing outreach to Latinx families regarding enrollment in pre-k and Head Start

Mr. Monfredo suggested that the commission also seek assistance from parents to enroll their child(ren) in summer school programs and also would like to see Latinx college students be recruited for mentoring.

Ms. Novick asked that the Mayor forward this report to the City Council.

Jasmine Owusu, School Committee Student Representative, stated that she appreciated the report and felt that the information reflected what she and other students of color have experienced.

On a roll call of 7-0, the item was referred to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues and a copy of the report be sent to the City Manager and City Council.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

ros #1-7

Superintendent Binienda stated that the Rennie Center partnered with the WPS in the formulation of the Strategic Plan and was given the task of looking at data, working with and interviewing personnel regarding the progress being made on the Strategic Plan.

Annelise Eaton, Research Director at the Rennie Center for Education Research and Policy, presented a mid-point progress report focusing on three sections:

Welcoming Schools

This section focused on the climate of schools in order to make students and families feel welcome along with discipline and attendance. She indicated that attendance was better and there was a decline in punitive discipline rates, but there is still a significant racial gap.

Academic Excellence

This section focused on career exploration. The work with Innovation Pathways and AVID were presented as bright spots. Culturally Responsive Teaching and elementary math instruction were areas in need of continued growth.

Culture of Innovation

This section focused on evidence based best practices and support of school leaders. The Reggio Emilia early childhood opportunity in Head Start and ST Math were highlighted as positives. Aligning and adapting high quality curricula were areas that still need to be addressed.

Mr. Monfredo asked for an update on The Worcester Future Teachers Program.

Superintendent Binienda stated that she met with Worcester State University on continuing the Worcester Future Teachers Program. Due to COVID, there will be no summer program for WFT, so a two-day program will be held. There is a partnership agreement in progress with Generation Teach which would involve 250 WPS students next summer.

Mr. Monfredo suggested recruiting more Latinx students for the Generation Teach program and also would like to have them as mentors assigned to assist on the attendance issues facing Latinx students. He also suggested having businesses provide incentives and rewards to Latinx students to encourage greater attendance.

Mr. Foley requested that representatives from the Worcester Education Collaborative and the Worcester Research Bureau be present at the next update of the Strategic Plan in order to provide community perspective and feedback.

Ms. Novick stated that having a five-year Strategic Plan is no longer considered among best practices within other school districts. The district should be looking at building a culture within the schools that encourages students to stay and become teachers as well as enticing them to want to part of the WPS.

On a roll call of 7-0, the item was referred to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

gb #0-286.8

Superintendent Binienda provided an update by stating that hybrid learning has been successful. More than seventy percent of students will be returning full time on May 3rd and she attributes that to the success of hybrid learning. She reported that there has been an increase in COVID cases from last week's report.

Last week's **staff** numbers
10 (1 remote and 9 within buildings)
15 quarantined

This week's **staff** numbers
7 (all within buildings)
13 quarantined

Last week's **student** numbers
40 (13 remote and 27 within buildings)
6 quarantined

This week's **student** numbers
60 (25 remote and 35 within buildings)
4 quarantined

Superintendent Binienda also provided information on hotpots that have been overheating. She provided the Verizon phone number to call (1-800-540-4263) regarding this issue and stated that the information will be posted on the website along with the CDC Guidelines for April school vacation travel. Ms. Novick asked whether Night Life programs will be happening this Spring. Superintendent Binienda stated that there are some limited programs that will be conducted virtually.

Ms. McCullough asked if there is plan to inform families about the process for returning to school fulltime. After much discussion, it was decided to hold a Public Forum on Tuesday, April 27th at 6:30 p.m.

On a roll call of 7-0, the item was held for updates.

gb #1-7.1

Response of the Administration to the request to work with community clinical providers to provide additional in-school clinical services to students.

Mrs. Clancey requested that the Administration continue to reach out to community partners in order to provide in-house counseling.

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

gb #1-29.1

Response of the Administration to the request to provide an update on the Pre-K programs offered throughout the district for the 2021-22 school year and the community outreach planned for enrollment.

Mr. Monfredo requested that the Worcester Housing Authority be added to the list of community outreach partners.

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report on the cost that would be incurred to convert the half day pre-k programs to full day.

On a collective roll call of 7-0, the motion was approved and the item was accepted and filed.

gb #1-62.1

Response of the Administration to the request to provide an update on trainings for School Adjustment Counselors and Counselors prior to the reopening of schools.

Mrs. Clancey stated that some of the School Adjustment Counselors were looking for more support and additional training and were told it may not be possible due to budget constraints. She asked if the Administration has reached out to them for their input. Mrs. Mahoney stated that the district has been providing open house/office hours where staff discuss what they would like to see in the area of training.

Mrs. Clancey made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide an update on the Bridge for Resilient Youth Program at Woodland Academy.

Ms. Novick asked to amend Mrs. Clancey's motion by adding "**prior to the Budget**".

On a collective roll call of 7-0, the item was and accepted and filed and the motion was approved as amended.

gb #1-120

Ms. Novick stated that although the local aid agreement implements SOA at 1/6 of the goal rate rather than 1/7, it does not allow the district to use the higher 2019-20 enrollment.

Mr. Allen stated that the 1/6 provides a 2.1 million dollar increase in funding above what the Governor proposed. Overall, the WPS Budget goes up almost 2.2 million dollars more than what was being used from the Governor's budget. It does not fund hold harmless enrollment, but 40 million dollars has been set aside statewide for a reserve fund for districts in November when enrollment numbers are known. The WPS Budget was reduced by 16.1 million dollars from the Budget that was passed last June and this House Budget increases it by 16.1 million dollars, but with cost increases and inflation, there will be a structural deficit. He stated that the Superintendent and the City Manager will be working on a multi-year plan combining ESSER funds with the FY22 Budget that will be presented as one comprehensive spending plan for FY22.

Ms. Novick stated that WPS will be dealing with a structural deficit in the first year of SOA implementation if the Legislature does not fix the hold harmless enrollment issue.

Ms. Novick made the following motions:

Request that the Administration strongly advocate within the next twenty-four hours to the Local Delegation that they put something into the House Budget that would actually do hold harmless enrollment.

Request that the Administration also forward letters to MASC, MASS, MASBO and MMA to get hold harmless enrollment into the House Budget.

A copy of the letter is as follows:

TO:
FROM: Helen A. Friel
DATE: April 16, 2021

At the School Committee Meeting that was held on Thursday, April 15, 2021, the following item was discussed:

To respond to the House Ways and Means proposed FY22 Budget.

Ms. Novick made the following motion:

Request that the School Committee urge (organization) to join in advocating now for enrollment hold harmless—using the higher of 2019 or 2020 enrollment by category—in the House budget.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact this office.

HAF/ers
cc: Superintendent Binienda

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

Mayor Petty suggested that the Administration solicit input from the community during the Budget decision process.

Mr. Monfredo requested that the members of the School Committee also place calls to the Local Delegation.

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

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

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

gb #0-33

Mr. Foley made the following motion:

Request that the Administration and School Committee work with the City Solicitor to produce a notice of Breach of Contract letter to be sent to Durham School Services highlighting the Breach of Contract reaffirming the Worcester Public Schools' legal and financial rights and raising the imperative nature of the May 3, 2021 return to school and the need to have the full allotment of bus drivers in place by that time.

On a roll call of 5-2 (nays Miss Biancheria and Mr. Monfredo), the motion was approved:

Mr. Foley requested a vote to reconsider the motion.

On a roll call of 2-5 (yeas Miss Biancheria and Mr. Monfredo), the motion for reconsideration was defeated.

gb #0-267

It was moved to approve the following transfers:

Amount	From Account	Account Title	To Account	Account Title
\$200,000	500132-92000	Tuition	500130-92000	Personal Services
\$100,000	500132-92000	Tuition	500-92204	Instructional Materials
\$250,000	500-91120	Maintenance Salaries	500152-92000	Facilities Ordinary Maintenance
\$900,000	500123-96000	Health Insurance	500-91111	Teacher Salaries
\$400,000	540103-92000	Transportation	500130-92000	Personal Services
\$300,000	540103-92000	Transportation	500136-92000	Miscellaneous Educational OM
\$400,000	540103-92000	Transportation	540103-93000	Transportation

On a roll call of 7-0, the transfers were approved and the item was held.

gb #1-44

Mr. Foley made an amendment to the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide updates to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations as they are developing the budget for next year to include plans for the ESSER funds for next year and subsequent years.

Request that the words "**and School Committee**" be added.

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

O T H E R

On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to suspend rules to allow Mr. Monfredo to make the following motion:

Request that the Administration forward letters to principals in recognition of Principals' Day on May 1st.

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

Committee Members
John Foley, Chairman
Molly McCullough, Vice Chairman
Dianna Biancheria

Annex A
AGENDA #1
F/O
4-12-21
Page 1

A C T I O N S

The Standing Committee on Finance and Operations met virtually at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 12, 2021 at the Durkin Administration Building in Room 410.

There were present: Miss Biancheria, Vice-Chairman McCullough and Chairman Foley

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

Others in attendance: M. Hunt, K. Spinelli, S. Consalvo, S. Kyriazis, R. Walton, J. Hennessey and K. Saad

gb #9-11 - Administration (January 2, 2019)

To review the annual audit and agreed upon procedures on the Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed Upon Procedures for Student Activity Fund Testing for fiscal years 2016, 2017, and 2018 prepared by CliftonLarsenAllen, LLP.

Matthew Hunt, Principal from CliftonLarsenAllen LLP, presented the findings on the Independent Accountant's Report of Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures for Student Activity Fund Testing for the fiscal years 2017 and 2018. He stated that each school provides its bank record reconciliations which should be done within 30 days of the month's end. He highlighted six minor findings and reported that none of them were found to be significant enough to warrant any action.

Mr. Allen stated that, in the past, the schools used Quicken to track their Student Activity Funds and that the district is now using an online platform for Student Activity Funds in order to support their account activities.

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

gb #9-267 -Administration (August 21, 2019)

To review the annual audit and agreed-upon procedures report on compliance and internal controls for the City of Worcester, including the Worcester Public Schools, for the year that ended on June 30, 2019 which included the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) A-133 Reports and the Management Letter.

Mr. Hunt also presented the annual audit and agreed upon procedures report on compliance and internal controls for the City of Worcester, including the Worcester Public Schools. He spoke specifically to the review of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Title I Grant and stated that there were no findings associated with that Grant.

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

gb #9-269 -Administration (August 21, 2019)

To review the annual audit and agreed-upon procedures on the Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures for the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education End of Year Financial Report for fiscal year 2018-19.

Karen Spinelli, CPA representing Spinelli Accountants and Advisors reported on the findings based on the Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures for the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education End of Year Financial Report for fiscal year 2018-19.

Under the Summary of Procedures and Finding for Procedure 2, Finding 2, there were two minor findings and Ms. Spinelli stated the numbers have been amended.

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

gb #9-260.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/Ms. McCullough/Mr. O'Connell (January 6, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide an update on the mold problem at Columbus Park Preparatory Academy and indicate whether or not the City Health Department has provided any recommendations for remediation of this problem.

Mr. Allen provided an update on Columbus Park which included replacement of windows, radon testing and ongoing work with Honeywell.

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

ROS #0-6 -Administration (May 15, 2020)

UPDATE ON THE STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (SIS) PROCUREMENT PROJECT – Center for Educational Leadership and Technology (CELT)

Mr. Walton stated that the District is on schedule with the RFP for the new Student Information System. He anticipates that the system will be fully in place by the Fall of 2022.

On a roll call of 3-0, the update was accepted and the item was held for further updates.

gb #0-33 - Mr. Foley/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick (January 8, 2020)

To include a standing item for "Transportation Update" at each Finance and Operations committee meeting with information provided regarding the problems facing student transportation and improvements experienced.

Mr. Allen stated that the Administration meets weekly with representatives from Durham School Services to discuss the number of drivers that are available to the Worcester Public Schools. The number of buses needed will be based upon the number of students choosing to return to school or remaining remote.

Ms. McCullough wondered what the options would be in the event of a shortage.

Mr. Allen offered potential options which included:

- subcontracting drivers from other companies
- moving tiered school times around
- reducing the number of students who may be eligible for transportation

Mr. Allen stated that all WPS owned buses have been used every day since the start of the school year.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide weekly transportation updates to include information from the Durham meetings and the status of Durham bus drivers.

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

Mr. Foley made the following motion:

Request that the Administration and School Committee work with the City Solicitor to produce a notice of Breach of Contract letter to be sent to Durham School Services highlighting the Breach of Contract reaffirming the Worcester Public Schools' legal and financial rights and raising the imperative nature of the May 3, 2021 return to school and the need to have the full allotment of bus drivers in place by that time.

On a roll call of 2-1 (nay Miss Biancheria), the motion was approved.

On a roll call of 3-0, the item was held for additional updates.

qb #0-58 - Ms. Novick/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo (January 29, 2020)

To discuss the proposal to move city polling locations into the Worcester Public Schools.

Superintendent Binienda stated that last year the gymnasiums were used while the students and staff were fully remote, but it may be a challenge this year due to the fact that there is no way to tell what the COVID situation will be in the Fall.

Mr. Foley made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report, as soon as it becomes available, on the potential traffic situation, COVID protocols and student/staff safety issues of allowing Worcester Public Schools to be used as polling locations.

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

(Items gb #0-267, gb #0-346.1, gb #0-353 and motion gb #0-138 were taken together).

gb #0-267 - Administration (August 18, 2020)

To review the status of the FY21 Budget and make appropriate transfers as required.

Mr. Allen spoke to the status of the FY21 Budget and appropriate transfers.

It was moved to approve the following transfers:

Amount	From Account	Account Title	To Account	Account Title
\$200,000	500132-92000	Tuition	500130-92000	Personal Services
\$100,000	500132-92000	Tuition	500-92204	Instructional Materials
\$250,000	500-91120	Maintenance Salaries	500152-92000	Facilities Ordinary Maintenance
\$900,000	500123-96000	Health Insurance	500-91111	Teacher Salaries
\$400,000	540103-92000	Transportation	500130-92000	Personal Services
\$300,000	540103-92000	Transportation	500136-92000	Miscellaneous Educational OM
\$400,000	540103-92000	Transportation	540103-93000	Transportation

On a roll call of 3-0, the transfers were approved and the item was held.

gb #0-346.1 - Administration/Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo (November 10, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report on actual total cost to district families of the 2021 Advanced Placement exams for consideration with the full committee's consideration of the first quarter budget report.

gb #0-353 - Administration (November 10, 2020)

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

1. Request that the School Committee consider paying for the 2021 AP Exams.
(Fatimah Daffaie)

motion (gb #0-138.5) Ms. Novick (December 17, 2020)

500130-92000 Personal Services (Non-Salary)

Request that the Administration provide a report on how much it would cost the system to provide caps, gowns and tassels next year for graduating seniors.

Mr. Allen stated that \$37, 500 will be used for the payment of caps, gowns and tassels and that the cost of the AP exams would be provided through the Title IV Grant.

On a roll call of 3-0, items gb #0-346.1, gb #0-353 and motion gb #0-138.5 were filed.

gb #0-299 - Mayor Petty/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough (September 10, 2020)

Request that the Superintendent/Administration develop a Transition Plan to include HVAC upgrades to resume in-person educational services for high need special education students prior to the end of the first quarter.

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

gb #1-44 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Foley/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo (January 26, 2021)

Request administration propose for Committee consideration a priority list of facilities projects to improve the health and safety of school buildings using the new Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund.

Mr. Allen stated that he, along with Mr. Bedard, Superintendent Binienda and the City Manager, have discussed ways in which the ESSER funds can be used to improve school facilities by looking at what strategic improvements can be made for capital improvements to school ventilation systems and renovation projects.

Miss Biancheria inquired as to when the School Committee would be able to make their suggestions on how to use the ESSER funds for small line items such as increased security cameras, use of school auditoriums and furniture.

Mr. Foley stated that the ESSER funds are to be used specifically for COVID related issues.

Mr. Foley made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide updates to the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations as they are developing the budget for next year to include plans for the ESSER funds for next year and subsequent years.

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

On a roll call of 3-0, the meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.