

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

AGENDA #27

The School Committee will hold a regular meeting:

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ACTION

I. CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION – Reverend Jonathan Slavinkas
Our Lady of Providence Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

NATIONAL ANTHEM - Monique Daylue
South High Community School

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #7-26 - Clerk
(November 27, 2017)

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

IV. MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION – NONE

The Worcester Public Schools is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer/Educational Institution and does not discriminate regardless of race, color, gender, age, religion, national origin, gender identity, marital status, sexual orientation, disability or homelessness. The Worcester Public Schools provides equal access to employment and the full range of general, occupational and vocational education programs. For more information relating to Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action contact the Human Resource Manager, 20 Irving Street, Worcester, MA 01609, 508-799-3020.

V. IMMEDIATE ACTION

ACTION

gb #7-357.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/
Miss McCullough/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Foley
Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo/Mayor Petty
(November 6, 2017)

To congratulate UniBank on its recognition as Corporate Friend of the Worcester Public Schools, selected by the Worcester Educational Development Foundation.

gb #7-376 - Administration
(November 27, 2017)

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

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

ROS #7-18 Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Miss McCullough/
Ms. Colorio/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Miss Biancheria
(October 20, 2017)

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING DEPARTMENT

VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS - NONE

VIII. REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE - NONE

IX. PERSONNEL

ACTION

7-33 The Superintendent has APPROVED the APPOINTMENT of the persons named below:

Gribbons, Timothy, Teacher, Vocational, Worcester Tech, VL4, Step 4, \$61,981*, effective November 28, 2017. Licensed: Marketing 9-14.

Mojica-Coffin, Margarita, Teacher, English as a Second Language, Woodland Academy, MA, Step 5, \$65,665*, effective November 20, 2017. Waiver: English as a Second Language PreK-6.

Perry, Callista, Teacher, Science, University Park, MA, Step 2, \$54,511*, effective November 15, 2017. Waiver: General Science 5-8.

Preston, Charlene, Teacher, English as a Second Language, Clark Street, MA +30, Step 9, \$81,653*, effective November 27, 2017. Waiver: English as a Second Language PreK-6.

Stephens, Denis, Teacher, Special Education, Systemwide, MA, Step 4, \$60,644*, effective November 21, 2017. Licensed: Moderate Disabilities 5-12.

Toscano, Maureen, Teacher, English as a Second Language, Wawecus, BA +15, Step 3, \$54,442*, effective November 27, 2017. Waiver: English as a Second Language PreK-6.

**prorated*

7-34 The Superintendent has APPROVED the RETIREMENT of the following person named below:

Villanueva, Minerva, School Adjustment Counselor, Systemwide, effective November 15, 2017.

7-35 The Superintendent has ACCEPTED the RESIGNATION of the person named below:

O'Brien, Maureen, Teacher, Special Education, North, effective November 24, 2017.

PERSONNEL (continued)ACTION

7-36 The Superintendent has provisionally APPOINTED the person named below to the position of Word Processor, permanent/fulltime at a salary of \$19.13 (minimum) to \$ 23.27 per hour (maximum) effective as shown:

Phillips, Kelly 11/20/17

7-37 The Superintendent has provisionally APPOINTED the persons named below to the position of Junior Custodian, permanent/fulltime at a salary of \$15.58 (minimum) to \$19.84 (maximum), per hour, effective as shown:

Letourneau, Brian Jr. 10/24/17
Keaton, Jonathan 11/1/17

X. GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #7-377 - Mr. Monfredo
(November 9, 2017)

Request that the Administration forward a letter to the State Delegation requesting that it include funding in the FY19 Budget for full day Pre-school Programs for four year old students at all level 3 schools.

gb #7-378 - Mr. Monfredo
(November 9, 2017)

Request that the Administration establish a committee to include early learning teachers to discuss the feasibility of developing a two year kindergarten I program for four year old students to provide readiness skills for school success.

gb #7-379 - Mr. O'Connell
(November 14, 2017)

Request that the Administration forward letters of congratulations to Julio Morales-Mena, Jacob Boatright, Jessica Clivio, Maxim Attiogbe, Galen Greenwald and Samuel Poser and their coaches Kitren Farell and Kayla Avellino on their selection to compete in the ninth season of WGBH Television's "High School Quiz Show".

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #7-380 - Administration
(November 21, 2017)

To authorize the Administration to enter into contractual agreements for up to five years for the lease of thirteen 71-passenger school buses.

gb #7-381 - Miss Biancheria
(November 21, 2017)

Request that the Administration provide a report regarding evening adult education career pathway courses offered at Worcester Technical High School and the Fanning Building.

gb #7-382 - Miss McCullough
(November 24, 2017)

Request that the Administration explore the feasibility of implementing a "share table" at schools throughout the district in order to reduce waste and help others.

gb #7-383 - Administration
(November 29, 2017)

To consider approval of the following donations:

- \$1,000 from Chapter 9 of the 173rd Airborne Brigade Association to Worcester Technical High School for a graphic communications scholarship for a deserving student
- \$560 to Tatnuck Magnet School from Gomez Enterprises, LLC (Trade name-McDonalds)
- \$ 35 from various donors to Tatnuck Magnet School

gb #7-384 - Administration
(November 29, 2017)

To accept the Supplemental Support MassGrad Promising Practices Grant in the amount of \$52,000.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #7-385 - Mr. O'Connell
(November 29, 2017)

To fly the flags of the United States of America, of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and of the City of Worcester at all of the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #7-386 - Mr. O'Connell
(November 29, 2017)

To provide the School Committee with a list of the members of the Citywide Parent Planning Advisory Council (CPPAC), identifying the members by the schools represented.

gb #7-387 - Administration
(November 29, 2017)

To consider approval of the appointments of the following provisional civil service employees as School Nurses:

Allaway, Karen, Systemwide, Step 5, Bachelors +15, \$59,468, effective November 27, 2017. Licensed: School Nurse All Levels

Mondor, Kimberly, Systemwide, Base Step 1 \$45,064, effective October 10, 2017. License Pending: School Nurse All Levels

Murphy, Jessica, Systemwide, Step 1, Masters +15, \$53,342, effective November 27, 2017. License Pending: School Nurse All Levels

gb #7-388 - Administration
(November 29, 2017)

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

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for Occupational Therapy Assistants and Physical Therapy Assistants, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #7-388 (continued)

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

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

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation and collective bargaining for an International Union of Public Employees (I.U.P.E.) Grievance Complaint – HVAC Technician, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating and collective bargaining position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS
Clerk
(November 27, 2017)

ITEM - aor #7-26
S.C. MEETING - 12-7-17

ITEM:

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

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

Annex A (13 pages) contains a copy of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday November 16, 2017.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve.

IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Worcester, Massachusetts
Thursday, November 16, 2017
Agenda #26

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met in Open Session at 6:20 p.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall on Thursday, November 16, 2017.

There were present at the Call to Order:

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

Ms. Colorio and Mr. O'Connell arrived at 6:30 p.m.

It was moved to recess to Executive Session:

1. gb #7-375 - Administration
(November 8, 2017)

Executive Session

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining for Occupational Therapy Assistants and Physical Therapy Assistants, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

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

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

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

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

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation for J. Perez vs Worcester School Committee et al. if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the School Committee and the chair so declares.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell, Mayor Petty	5
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Against the motion:	0
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Absent: Ms. Colorio and Mr. O'Connell	<u>2</u> 7
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The motion carried.

The School Committee recessed to Executive Session from 6:20 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

The School Committee reconvened in Open Session at 7:27 p.m.

The invocation was given by Pastor Mark Nilson from Salem Covenant Church.

The Pledge of Allegiance was offered and the National Anthem was sung by Heather Bachand and Jessica Cohen from South High Community School.

There were present at the second Call to Order:

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

APPROVAL OF RECORDS

2. aor #7-25 - Clerk (November 7, 2017) Minutes/approval of

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, November 2, 2017.

It was moved and voice voted to approve the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, November 2, 2017.

IMMEDIATE ACTION

3. gb #7-357.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/
Miss McCullough/Ms. Colorio/
Mr. Foley/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. Monfredo/Mayor Petty
(November 6, 2017) Recognition/
UniBank/
Corporate Friend of the
Worcester Public
Schools

To congratulate UniBank on its recognition as Corporate Friend of the Worcester Public Schools, selected by the Worcester Educational Development Foundation.

It was moved and voice vote to hold the item.

4. gb #7-371 - Administration (November 6, 2017) Student
Representatives/
consider input

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

It was moved and voice voted to file the item.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Report of the
Superintendent/
Superintendent's
self-evaluation/
End-of-Cycle
Summative
Evaluation Report

5. ROS #7-17 - Administration
(November 8, 2017)

**SUPERINTENDENT'S END-OF-CYCLE REPORT
BASED ON HER GOALS**

Superintendent Binienda presented an excellent PowerPoint relative to her End-of-Cycle Summative Evaluation Report based on her Goals and the feedback from the School Committee was extremely positive.

It was moved and voice voted to file the item.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

6. The Standing Committee on Finance and Operations met at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 13, 2017 in Room 410 at the Dr. John E. Durkin Administration Building.

The School Committee approved the action of the Standing Committee as amended.

Policy JJF/consider
adoption of

gb #6-146 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss McCullough (April 4, 2016)

To consider adoption of Policy JJF of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, regarding student activity accounts, to reflect the audit guidelines recently updated by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

11-13-17 - STANDING COMMITTEE ACTION

FILE.

11-16-17 - SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACTION

The School Committee approved the action of the Standing Committee as stated.

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

FY17 Budget

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

11-13-17 - STANDING COMMITTEE ACTION

Accept and file.

11-16-17 - SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACTION

The School Committee approved the action of the Standing Committee as stated.

gb #7-342 - Administration (September 29, 2017)

FY18 Budget

To review the status of the FY18 Budget and make appropriate transfers as required.

11-13-17 - STANDING COMMITTEE ACTION

Mr. Allen provided an update on the FY18 Budget First Quarter Report.

Ms. Colorio made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a Report of the Superintendent, if the Worcester Public Schools receives funding from the State for additional students from the disaster areas, so that the School Committee can vote on the allocation of these funds.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

It was moved to approve the following transfers:

Amount	From Account	Account Title	To Account	Account Title
\$3,289,000	500123-96000	Health Insurance	500-91111	Teacher Salaries
\$78,500	500123-96000	Health Insurance	50013026-92000	Staff Development
\$74,145	500123-96000	Health Insurance	500J01SN-91133	Nurse Salaries
\$15,700	500123-96000	Health Insurance	500I01Q6-91123	Technology - Unit D
\$70,600	500123-96000	Health Insurance	500-92222	School Clerical

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Ms. Colorio, Mr. Foley,
Miss McCullough 3

Against the motion: 0

Absent: 0
3

The motion carried.

11-16-17 - SCHOOL COMMITTEE ACTION

The School Committee approved the action of the Standing Committee as amended.

It was moved to approve the following transfers:

Amount	From Account	Account Title	To Account	Account Title
\$3,289,000	500123-96000	Health Insurance	500-91111	Teacher Salaries
\$78,500	500123-96000	Health Insurance	50013026-92000	Staff Development
\$74,145	500123-96000	Health Insurance	500J01SN-91133	Nurse Salaries
\$15,700	500123-96000	Health Insurance	500I01Q6-91123	Technology - Unit D
\$70,600	500123-96000	Health Insurance	500-92222	School Clerical

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio,
Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: 0

Absent: 0
7

The motion carried.

7. PERSONNEL

7-30 The Superintendent has APPROVED the APPOINTMENTS of the persons named below: Appointments

Linden, Meredith, Teacher, Elementary, Lincoln Street, BA, Step 4, \$54,613*, effective November 3, 2017. Licensed: Elementary 1-6.

Smith, Samantha, Teacher, Special Education, Burncoat Middle School, BA, Step 4, \$54,613*, effective November 6, 2017. Waiver: Moderate Disabilities Prek-8.

Van Eck, Carla, Teacher, Kindergarten, Rice Square, MA, Step 2, \$54,511*, effective November 7, 2017. Licensed: Early Childhood PreK-2.

7-31 The Superintendent has APPROVED the RETIREMENT of the following persons named below: Retirement

Rafferty-Morway, Christine, Teacher, Elementary, Woodland, effective November 1, 2017.

7-32 The Superintendent has ACCEPTED the RESIGNATIONS of the persons named below: Resignations

Salter, Katherine, Teacher, Elementary, Rice Square, effective October 27, 2017.

Quinlan, Emilie Miller, Teacher, English as a Second Language, Clark Street, effective November 2, 2017.

**prorated*

GENERAL BUSINESS

Responses/FY17
Budget motions

8. gb #6-153.11 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/
Ms. Colorio/Mr. O'Connell
(November 3, 2017)

Response of the Administration to the following motions to:

- Request that the Administration investigate options relative to cost effective means of providing appropriate and necessary translation services
- Request that the Administration consider the list issued by trial court in terms of translators that are available for translation services
- Request that the Administration report on the number of the translators in the system
- Request that the Administration provide a list of teams fielded at each of the secondary schools and
- Request that the Administration provide a report on Staff Development in teacher content training.

It was moved and voice voted refer the item to the Standing Committee on Accountability and Student Achievement.

Playground
Equipment/
inventory of

9. gb #7-172.1 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/
Mr. Monfredo
(November 6, 2017)

Response of the Administration to provide an inventory, by school, for outside playground equipment.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report in a Friday Letter on the number of schools that have playground structures and indicate:

- either the year it was built or the year it was replaced and
- seek monetary support from community representatives to possibly provide mulch or repair broken equipment etc. due to financial constraints in the budget of the Worcester Public Schools

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Superintendent Binienda stated that many schools have put in for playground structures which cost \$10,000 each. The goal is to have a playground installed in all elementary schools.

The following schools do not have playground structures:

Canterbury Street Magnet Computer-Based School
Chandler Magnet School
Clark Street Developmental Learning School
Columbus Park Preparatory Academy
Goddard School of Science and Technology
Heard Street Discovery Academy
Lave View School and
Midland Street School (limited structure)

A new playground structure will be installed at Clark Street Developmental Learning School in April 2018.

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

10. gb #7-353.1 - Administration/Mr. O'Connell/
Ms. Colorio/Mr. Foley/
Ms. Biancheria
(November 6, 2017)

Licensure/options for
teachers from
Hurricane impacted
areas

Response of the Administration to the request to investigate options for licensure for educators who arrive in the Worcester area from Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Texas, Florida and other hurricane damaged regions.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration offer assistance to individuals from Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Texas, Florida and other hurricane impacted areas by guiding them through the process of securing waivers or provisional licenses that will be beneficial for them to teach.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved

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

Grant/\$5,550

- 11. gb #7-372 - Administration
(November 6, 2017)

To consider approval of a grant in the amount of \$5,550 from the Engineering is Elementary/ District Scholarship Program.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell, Mayor Petty	7
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Against the motion:	0
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Absent:	$\frac{0}{7}$
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The motion carried.

Donations

- 12. gb #7-373 - Administration
(November 6, 2017)

To consider approval of the following donations:

- \$2,100 from WEDF to fund the 4th grade Leap Program in collaboration with the Worcester Art Museum.
- \$6,000 from Journey Community Church to Belmont Street Community School

- \$3,500 from fundraising efforts for Woodland Academy
- \$1,672.14 to Tatnuck Magnet School from the following individuals:

\$ 25.00	Andrew & Kristine Whittemore
\$ 50.00	Mark Tozer
\$ 20.00	Lynette Rose
\$ 40.00	Patricia Provost
\$ 60.00	Kathleen Potter
\$ 13.00	Irene & Anthony Planchiunas
\$ 26.00	Walter & Cheryl Park
\$ 5.00	John & Nancy O'Connell
\$ 152.00	Athena Notidis-Curtiss
\$ 30.00	Kim Munck
\$ 13.00	Timothy Mitchell
\$ 40.00	Mary Melican
\$ 14.00	Susan & Paul Mathieu
	Jonathan Lashua & Amy
\$ 10.00	Humphrey-Lashua
\$ 23.00	Kostina & Kristaq Kostani
\$ 80.00	Maureen Kennedy
\$ 40.00	Kevin & Amy Kennedy
\$ 46.00	Juljan Imeraj
\$ 40.00	Katie Harrington
	Christopher Guzman & Erin
\$ 50.00	Kiriungi

\$ 24.00	Andrea D. Goyette
\$ 27.00	Reynaldo & Kandida Garcia
\$ 10.00	Ronald & Carol Froment
\$ 46.00	Cailin Duram
\$ 80.00	Eric & Erin Dobson
\$ 50.00	Melissa & Brian Dekker
\$ 5.00	Debra & Dung Dang
\$ 25.00	Kimberly Dambra
\$ 14.00	Lauren Colwell
\$ 10.00	Elizabeth & Ross Coghlan
\$ 62.00	Nicholas & Kendra Cantrell
\$ 127.00	Katherine Campbell
\$ 98.00	Deborah & Gregory Campagna
\$ 40.00	Cathleen & Frederick Burke
\$ 200.00	Megan Bourget
\$ 77.14	Bio Enterprises, LLC

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio, Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Mr. O'Connell, Mayor Petty	7
Against the motion:	0
Absent:	$\frac{0}{7}$
The motion carried.	

13. gb #7-374 - Miss Biancheria
(November 8, 2017)

School Accountability
Plan/North High School

Request that the Administration provide a report regarding the School Accountability Plan for North High School when it is completed in December.

It was moved and voice voted to refer the item to the Administration for a report in December.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

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

The contract for Athletics and Field Trip Transportation will expire at the end of the current school year. The district recently issued a two-year bid for these services on October 2, 2017, replicating the existing specifications under the current contract. The bid opening for these services was on October 27, 2017 and no bids were received.

As a result, and in connection with the district's stated plans to conduct a feasibility analysis of providing all or an expanded student transportation (as reference, see FY18 Budget Book, page 16 and FY17 Budget Book, page 15) the district has determined that it is both financial and operational advantageous to acquire (lease) thirteen 71-passenger school buses to provide a share of the district's big bus transportation services and fully conduct athletic transportation services for the district.

This will be accomplished through reducing the number of contracted buses with Durham School Services next year by ten buses (savings \$768,700), reallocating existing athletics transportation costs (\$163,800), and conducting the additional charter school transportation with these routes (\$76,870) yielding \$1,008,670 in savings to fund the lease of thirteen buses (10 operating and three spares), drivers, fuel, maintenance, support staff, and ancillary costs within this existing budget. The district will align routes in a manner that these ten buses will provide all morning routing as needed by the district and will be scheduled in a way that allows them to complete at least one afternoon tier run and then be available for athletic transportation as needed. This model can be accomplished at no added cost to the district budget for next year but through a reallocation of transportation funds already existing in the budget.

By the end of FY19, the district Administration will complete its analysis of whether to expand self-operation of transportation services and forward its recommendation to the School Committee for inclusion in FY20 and FY21 budget planning, as well as for proper equipment, staffing, and bid planning. This will then allow a full year of planning for the FY21 school year, upon expiration of the existing transportation contracts.

In order to accomplish the needed services for next year, the Administration is requesting authorization by the School Committee to enter into contracts for the lease of 71 passenger buses for a term of up to five years.

Schools Are Implementing 'Share Tables' To Cut Back On Food Waste



[KATE STREIT](#) · [1 WEEK AGO](#)

Schools across the country have found a way to cut back on food waste and feed hungry kids: They are implementing "[share tables](#)."

Students are encouraged to drop off any food or drink they don't want at the table, which other kids are then free to take from throughout the day. Whatever is left at the end of the day goes to a local food bank or charity. It sounds a bit like a [little free library](#) for food!

The concept is a great way to reduce waste as well as feed people who are hungry.



[Getty Images | Jana Birchum](#)

In Orange County, Florida, about 20 public elementary schools have implemented the tables to great success, according to the [Orlando Sentinel](#). In addition to donating to charity, some schools choose to send the leftover food home with kids whose families are in need.



83 likes 4 comments

Tune in to Twitter tomorrow at 1pm ET for a LIVE school lunch food waste audit (and 6th-grade silliness). Follow @melissaAtery or @foodfuelfuture on Twitter to find it. Meanwhile, there's a link in our profile to our new blog post about school food waste audits. * * #foodwaste #schoolfoodwaste #foodwasteaudit #education #STEM #sharetables #nofoodwasted #nokidhungry #savethefood #foodconservation #schoollunch #sustainability #sustainableschools #ivaluefood

APRIL 18



“Without this program, that would literally go in the dumpsters,” Pastor Stan Reinemund of Redeemer Lutheran Church, which receives food from Aloma Elementary School, told the Sentinel.



[Getty Images | Jana Birchum](#)

The church puts some of the items in its food pantry and uses the rest for a weekly breakfast served to about 100 homeless people each week.

Eighth grader Nick Iannone started a share table at his school, James H. Moran Middle School in Wallingford, Conn., and takes pride in helping out his fellow classmates.



[Getty Images | Christopher Furlong](#)

"Students that are maybe less fortunate than others, don't have a lunch or a snack at school lunch, they can come up and take fruit or we've seen things like chips and yogurt come off the tables," Iannone told [WBUR](#).



[Getty Images | Andreas Rentz](#)

He says that since the table is open to all kids, there is no stigma in partaking in the free food offered.



333 likes 12 comments

Excited about our new #sharetable at school! 20 unwanted items were left in the share basket today for another student enjoy! #childhunger #schoolnutrition

In June 2016, the [United States Department of Agriculture](#) endorsed share tables as “an innovative strategy to encourage the consumption of nutritious foods and reduce food waste.”



[Getty Images](#) | [Peter Macdiarmid](#)

“Children may not always want to consume certain food or beverage items included in their meal,” the department wrote. “Share tables” are tables or stations where children may return whole food or beverage items they choose not to eat, if it is in compliance with local and state health and food safety

codes. These food and beverage items are then available to other children who may want additional servings.”



[Flickr | anotherlunch.com](https://www.flickr.com/photos/anotherlunch/)

What a great idea! Hopefully even more schools catch on to this clever idea!

Worcester Public Schools
Office of Grants Management

Grant Acceptance Form

Name of Grant: Supplemental Support MassGrad Promising Practices

Type of Funder: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Awarded Amount: \$52,000.00

Grant Funding Period: November 27, 2017 - August 30, 2018

Project title: MassGrad Promising Practices

Program coordinator: Meade-Montaque/Knowles

Purpose: To increase alternative education pathways for students who are: facing school expulsion or long-term suspension; homeless, migrant and immigrant; "over-aged and under credited" compared with their peers; expectant and parenting teens; and/or as identified through EWIS or local knowledge/data.

Description of the program: As part of the application, WPS has chosen to include the Alternative Pathways Strategy that will entail the development and refinement of competency based education at our alternative sites and comprehensive high schools. The strategy of Individual Learning Plans has also been chosen. This will deepen and broaden the work within the district. in future years, including refurbishment of consumable materials.

Program location: Worcester Public Schools

Outcomes and Measures: The creation of the competency based assessments as well as the production of a process for creating an ILP for students, especially older students, who have never had one. Success for this program will be defined using multiple measures: The number of students who are retained at the school and who are achieving. Through the district data systems, these will be easily obtained.