

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

The School Committee will hold an in-person meeting with a virtual option\*:

on: **Thursday, September 5, 2024**

at: 5:00 p.m. Executive Session

5:30 p.m. Regular Session

in: Esther Howland Chamber, City Hall

Virtual:

<https://worcesterschools.zoom.us/j/82746440670?pwd=dmp4TnIxYThBdnhkZWQ1bm1hMjFFZz09>

Also accessible by telephone, to dial in call: +1 301-715-8592 or +1 305-224-1968

*\*This meeting/hearing of the Worcester School Committee will be held in-person at the location provided on this notice. Members of the public are welcome to attend this in-person meeting. Please note that while an option for remote attendance and /or participation is being provided as a courtesy to the public, the meeting/hearing will not be suspended or terminated if technological problems interrupt the virtual broadcast, unless otherwise required by law. Members of the public with particular interest in any specific item on this agenda should make plans for in-person vs. virtual attendance accordingly.*

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

#### **A. General Business Items taken in Executive Session**

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—Contract Negotiations - Massachusetts Laborers’ District Council for and in behalf of Worcester Public Service Employees Local Union 272 of the Laborers’ International Union of North America, AFL-CIO, Custodians, South High School and Doherty High School Senior Custodian Position and Grade Classification.

#### **B. Call to Order**

#### **C. Pledge of Allegiance/National Anthem**

#### **D. Roll Call**

#### **E. Consent Agenda**

i. Approval of Minutes

[To consider approval of the minutes from the August 15, 2024 School Committee meeting](#)

ii. Approval of Donations

To consider approval of a donation in the amount of \$25,000 from the United Way of Central Massachusetts for the SPARK Program

iii. Notification of Personnel Records

[New Hires - Instructional](#)

[New Hires - Non-Instructional](#)

[Resignations, Retirements, and Non-Renewals](#)

iv. Initial filing of Recognition

- v. Notices of Interest to the District or to the Public

**F. Item for Reconsideration**

**G. Held Items**

gb 4-78 Administration

(August 15, 2024)

To approve the second meal breakfast, lunch, snack, and adult meal prices for the 2024-25 school year.

Recommendation of Maker: Continue to hold

**H. Recognitions**

McCullough

(August 15, 2024)

To recognize WPS students from Jesse Burkett Little League who made it to 2024 12U Little League Softball New England Region Tournament Semi Finals. Jocelyn Baumann, Leah Becker, Jaily Buccico, Sophia Carrero, Amaiya Feebles, Annie Friend and Sofia Rogers.

- I. Public Comment**-Any member of the public may address the Committee regarding any item before them for two (2) minutes. Those speaking will state their name, their residence, and the item on which they wish to speak for the record. Those speaking may do so in person or via remote participation. Those wishing to address the Committee in a language other than English are asked to notify the Clerk of the Committee in advance, so the Committee may be provided with an interpreter. Members of the Committee may not respond to the comments of the public at the meeting.

**J. Public Petition**

c & p 4-11 Educational Association of Worcester, Inc.

(September 5, 2024)

Yes on 2 Resolution: Elimination of MCAS as High School Graduation Requirement

**K. Report of the Superintendent**

ros 4-10 Administration

(September 5, 2024)

From Here, Anywhere... Together: Welcome Back, School Year 2024-25

Rachel H. Monárrez, PhD

**L. Reports of the Standing Committees**

**M. Student Advisory Committee Items**

**N. Approval of Grants and other Finance Items**

To consider approval of a grant from DESE Promoting Safe and Healthy Learning Environments: Elevating Student Voice and Well-Being This grant is a 2 Part District-Wide:

Part 1 - \$40,000. This program prioritizes funds to support the mental health and

wellbeing, and education of students who are placed in eligible new emergency assistance family shelter that was during the 2023-2024 or 2022-2023.

Part 2F- \$75,000. WPS will commit to using a model of Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) to engage youth as partners in understanding issues that impact academic, social, and or personal well being and becoming agents of change.

- To consider approval of three prior year payments in the amount of \$1,393.73.
- To consider approval of prior year payment to a translator in the amount of \$292.42.
- To consider approval of prior year payment to a mentor in the amount of \$900.
- To consider approval of prior year payment for Coaching support work in the amount of \$1751.12.
- To consider a prior year payment of \$3,600 to EAW members for class size differentials.

**O. General Business**

qb 3-156.4 Clancey

(June 1, 2023)

To consider renaming St. Casimir's to The Dr. Michael O'Neil Program at the Alternative School.

**Recommendation of Maker: Refer to Administration**

4-23 Binienda

(February 15, 2024)

**Response from Administration**

To provide a report including ten (10) years of data on the amount of funding per school for credit buyback with additional motion to provide a report on how many students walked the stage at graduation without achieving 24 credits for this year.

**Recommendation of Maker: File**

The following two items will be considered together:

**Response from Administration**

qb 4-57 Biancheria

(May 16, 2024)

Request the administration to provide a report to the School Committee on the status of the SLO School Program.

qb 4-58 Biancheria

(May 16, 2024)

Request the administration provide the School Committee all MOU's signed by the Superintendent and the present Chief of Police.

**Recommendation of Maker: File**

gb 4-70 Binienda

(July 18, 2024)

**Response from Administration**

To provide a report that shows the total number of teachers, administrators, and support personnel who have resigned their positions at WPS from May 2024 to the present.

**Recommendation of Maker: File**

gb 4-81 Mailman

(September 5, 2024)

To gather ideas from the Administration in order to better schedule recognitions. For example could we schedule 3 or 4 specific dates per school year where we handled academic / athletic / other recognitions versus the current process of "as things come up".

**Recommendation of Maker: Refer to Administration**

gb 4-82 Administration

(September 5, 2024)

To authorize the Administration to enter into lease agreements for up to five years the replacement of 6,000 Chromebooks, 1,000 MacBooks, and 1,000 iPads in accordance with the district's technology replacement schedule.

**Recommendation of Maker: Approve**

gb 4-83 Roy

(September 5, 2024)

To request that Administration have Worcester Public Schools provide vehicular and pedestrian safety education to students K-12.

**Recommendation of Maker: Refer to TLSS**

gb 4-84 Binienda

(September 5, 2024)

To request a report on additional funding needed, if any, to provide safety measures, new or additional, in the Worcester Public Library branches located inside Worcester Public Schools buildings.

**Recommendation of Maker: Refer to Administration**

gb 4-85 Clerk

(September 5, 2024)

To consider rescheduling the November 7, 2024 full School Committee meeting to November 14, 2024 due to the MASC/MASS Joint Conference.

**Recommendation of Maker: Approve and File**

**P. Announcements****Meeting Dates:****School Committee Meetings:**

- September 18, 2024, 5:00 p.m., Standing Committee on Finance, Operations, and Governance, Room 410, Durkin Administration Building, 20 Irving Street

- September 19, 2024, 6:00 p.m. Regular Session, Esther Howland Chamber, City Hall, 455 Main Street.
- September 23, 2024, 5:00 p.m., Standing Committee on Finance, Operations, and Governance, Room 410, Durkin Administration Building, 20 Irving Street
- September 26, 2024, 5:00 p.m., Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning, and Student Success, Room 410, Durkin Administration Building, 20 Irving Street

**Q. Adjournment**

Kristi Turgeon,  
Clerk of the School Committee