

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, October 10, 2024**
at: 5:00 Executive Session
5:30 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 litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares – Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination/Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Charge, MCAD Docket No. 24WEMxxxxx and EEOC Charge No. 16C-2024-xxxxx, Former Employee.

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 – Worker Compensation Settlement - Teacher.

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 School Committee meeting on September 19, 2024.

To consider approval of minutes from the School Committee Finance, Operations and Governance Standing Committee on September 18, 2024.

To consider approval of minutes from the School Committee Finance,

[Operations and Governance Standing Committee on September 23, 2024.](#)

[To consider approval of minutes from the School Committee Teaching, Learning, and Student Success Standing Committee on September 26, 2024.](#)

ii. Approval of Donations

To consider approval of a donation of books, estimated value \$2,000, from KPMG Boston to Sullivan Middle School's library to help promote child literacy.

To consider approval of a donation in the amount of \$3,170.00 from the Marcia R. Katter Memorial Fund of Greater Worcester Community Foundation to support Preschool programs.

To consider approval of a donation in the amount of \$520.00 from the Mary Oakley Memorial Fund of Greater Worcester Community Foundation to provide art supplies to Worcester Public School Students.

To consider the approval of a donation in the amount of \$500.00 from the Fidelity Charitable Ricciardi Family Fund for the Girls Basketball Program at South High.

To consider approval of a donation in the amount of \$6,266.70 from the Sarah Daniels Pettit and William Pettit Jr Fund of Greater Worcester Community Foundation for Worcester Technical High School.

To consider approval of a donation in the amount of \$570.00 from the Saul A. Seder Fund of Greater Worcester Community Foundation for Worcester Technical High School for participation in the Skills USA program.

To consider approval of a donation in the amount of \$470.00 from the Thurston E. Solomon and Everett J. Morter Memorial Fund of Greater Worcester Community Foundation for Worcester Technical High School for the Skills USA Program.

To consider approval of a goods donation of winter jackets from Operation Warm for three elementary schools.

To consider the approval of a Book Nook including new and used books, help with maintenance, and restocking inventory from Hygge House Community Book Nook Initiative for Vernon Hill School.

To consider the approval of a \$500 donation from Park & Shop to support families in the Head Start Program.

[To accept a donation from the George I. Alden Trust in the amount of \\$2,500,000 for the reconstruction of the Veterinary Tech Clinic at Worcester Technical High School.](#)

To consider approval of a \$500.00 donation from Diamond Auto Group for Burncoat Middle School.

- iii. [Notification of Personnel Records](#)
[New Hires-Instructional Positions](#)
[New Hires-Non-Instructional Positions](#)
[Resignations/Retirements/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

H. Recognitions

- 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 4-12 \(James Coughlin, Sharon, MA\)](#)
(October 10, 2024)

[That the Chandler Magnet Elementary School, located at 525 Chandler Street that is currently being considered for a name change be renamed as "The Elizabeth L. "Betty Price Magnet Elementary School" to honor her as the first African American ever elected to the Worcester School Committee.](#)

Recommendation of Maker: Refer to FOG

K. Report of the Superintendent

[ros 4-12 Administration](#)
(October 10, 2024)

[From Here, Anywhere... Together: Student Academic Achievement Part I](#)
[Rachel H. Monárrez, PhD](#)

Recommendation of Maker: Approve

L. Reports of the Standing Committees

1. Finance Operations, and Governance, September 18, 2024

[gb 4-56 \(Administration\)](#)
(May 16, 2024)

[To consider changing the name of Chandler Magnet La Familia School to La Familia](#)

[on Chandler Multicultural School.](#)

Chairperson McCullough made a motion to create a new survey with three new name suggestions: Nuestra Dual Language Magnet School, Worcester Dual Language Magnet School, and La Chandler Familia Magnet School. This survey will be put out to stakeholders and results will be discussed at a future meeting. Member Roy made a motion to hold a naming ceremony once the new name is settled on. On a roll call vote, Vice Chair Biancheria, yes; Member Johnson, yes; Member Roy, yes; Chairperson McCullough, yes; both motions passed unanimously 4-0.

2. Finance, Operations, and Governance, September 23, 2024

gb 3-195 Administration

(August 2, 2023)

[To review the status of the FY24 Budget and make appropriate transfers as required.](#)

A motion was made to approve and file this item. On a roll call, Vice Chair Biancheria, yes; Member Roy, yes; Member Johnson, yes; Chairperson McCullough, yes; the motion passed 4-0.

gb 4-64 Administration

(June 20, 2024)

[To review the annual audit \(year ending June 30, 2023\) and agreed-upon procedures report on compliance and internal controls for the City of Worcester, including the Worcester Public Schools, which includes the Government Accountability Office \(GAO\) and the Office of Management and Budget \(OMB\) A-133 Reports and the Management Letter.](#)

A motion was made to approve and file this item. On a roll call, Vice Chair Biancheria, yes; Member Roy, yes; Member Johnson, yes; Chairperson McCullough, yes; the motion passed 4-0.

gb 4-65 Administration

(June 20, 2024)

[To review the Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures for the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education End of Year FY23 Financial Report.](#)

A motion was made to approve and file this item. On a roll call, Vice Chair Biancheria, yes; Member Roy, yes; Member Johnson, yes; Chairperson McCullough, yes; the motion passed 4-0.

gb 2-92.14 - Clancey/McCullough/Johnson/Kamara/Mailman

(March 8, 2022)

[Request that the Administration provide quarterly reports regarding building maintenance to include timeframes on when work will begin and be concluded.](#)

Member Biancheria made a motion to have the Administration provide a report for all mold remediation costs.

Member Biancheria made a motion to review all skilled labor salary scales.

A motion was made to approve and hold this item with the aforementioned motions. On a roll call, Vice Chair Biancheria, yes; Member Roy, yes; Member Johnson, yes; Chairperson McCullough, yes; the motion passed 4-0.

gb 4-47 (Biancheria)
(April 4, 2024)

[To request that the Administration provide an update on school choice, including funding, number of requests, and the number of students, as well as the budget for the School Choice account.](#)

A motion was made to approve and file this item. On a roll call, Vice Chair Biancheria, yes; Member Roy, yes; Member Johnson, yes; Chairperson McCullough, yes; the motion passed 4-0.

gb 3-219 McCullough
(September 5, 2023)

[To receive an update on fund utilization for money WPS received to support Afghan refugees.](#)

A motion was made to approve and file this item. On a roll call, Vice Chair Biancheria, yes; Member Roy, yes; Member Johnson, yes; Chairperson McCullough, yes; the motion passed 4-0.

3. Teaching, Learning, and Student Success, September 26, 2024

2-94.4 Johnson/Clancey/Mailman/Kamara/McCullough
(March 9, 2022)

Response from Administration

To receive a report on the efforts to backfill health education/sexual education positions to ensure students have access to the curriculum.

A motion to approve this report and hold this item for a future report in June, 2025 was made. On a roll call, Member Binienda, yes; Member Mailman, yes; Chairperson Guardiola, yes; the motion passes 3-0. Vice Chair Alvarez was absent for the vote.

3-89.3 Johnson
(March 8, 2023)

[To consider a review of the Chapter 74 programs in the comprehensive high schools including enroll Proposed Changes to Worcester Chapter 74 & WTHS Admissions Policy 2022-2023 \(1\).docxent processes, criteria, and acceptance. \(Proposed amendments to the admissions policy at WTHS\).](#)

A motion was made to approve these amendments, with a final updated copy to be sent to this Committee, and hold this item for further updates and discussion. Member Mailman also made a motion to receive a report with application data breakdown, including a comparison of applications and enrollments. On a roll call, Vice Chair Alvarez, yes; Member Binienda, yes; Member Mailman, yes; Chairperson Guardiola, yes; the motion passes 4-0.

M. Student Advisory Committee Items**N. Approval of Grants and other Finance Items**

[To consider approval of a MA Department of Early Education and Care Grant FY25 FC718 Commonwealth Preschool Partnership Initiative \(CPPI\) Planning and Implementation Renewal Grant in the amount of \\$750,000.](#)

[To consider approval of the DESE FY25 FC325 Targeted Assistance Grant in the amount of \\$200,000.](#)

[To consider approval of 11 prior year payments in the amount of \\$10,295.36.](#)

To consider approval of a prior year payment for teacher coverage as a paraeducator in the amount of \$119.16.

To consider approval of a prior year payment for paraeducator sub-separate stipend in the amount of \$1,000.00

To consider approval of a prior year payment for paraeducator sub-separate stipend in the amount of \$1,000.00.

To consider approval of a prior year payment for mentoring services in the amount of \$900.00.

O. General Business

gb 4-56 (Administration)

(May 16, 2024)

[To consider changing the name of Chandler Magnet La Familia School to La Familia on Chandler Multicultural School.](#)

[Click here to view the April 2024 report on this item.](#)

[Click here to view the prior action for this item.](#)

[Click here to view survey results and naming recommendations.](#)

Recommendation of Maker: Approve and file

gb 4-91 (Mailman)

(October 10, 2024)

To provide October 1 enrollment data by grade per school and by grade per quadrant.

Recommendation of Maker: Refer to Administration

gb 4-92 (McCullough)

(October 10, 2024)

To have administration review school names with magnet in the title and determine if it is an appropriate designation and, if not, to consider replacing the word magnet with elementary or a designation so recommended by the administration.

Recommendation of Maker: Refer to Administration

gb 4-93 (McCullough)

(October 10, 2024)

To review procedures around Know Your School Nights to ensure maximum possible participation. Additionally, to consider transportation options via in house transportation if logistically and financially feasible.

Recommendation of Maker: Refer to Administration

gb 4-94 (Binienda)

(October 10, 2024)

To provide a list of schools and grade levels for the "pocket teachers" and to discuss funding for additional staff, if needed.

Recommendation of Maker: Refer to Administration

gb 4-95 (Administration)

(October 10, 2024)

[To consider the establishment a Capital Reserve Fund for the Central Massachusetts Collaborative.](#)

Recommendation of Maker: Refer to FOG

gb 4-96 (Administration)

(October 10, 2024)

[To approve the revised Report of the Superintendent Schedule for the 2024-2025 school year. Revisions are in red.](#)

Recommendation of Maker: Approve and file

gb 4-97 (Biancheria)

(October 10, 2024)

Request that the Administration survey all of our school sites for safety purposes while evaluating the number of crossing guards assigned to each school.

Recommendation of Maker: Refer to Administration

gb 4-98 (Mayor Petty)

(October 10, 2024)

To consider moving the time of the October 24, 2024 meeting to 4:00 p.m.

Recommendation of Maker: Approve and file

gb 4-99 (Mayor Petty)

(October 10, 2024)

To pick an *alternate* delegate to represent the Worcester School Committee at the MASC resolution meeting at the MASC/MASS Joint Conference in November.

[Click here to see memo from MASC regarding delegates and resolutions](#)

[Click here to see MASC 2024 Resolutions](#)

Recommendation of Maker: Approve and file

P. Announcements

Meeting Dates:

School Committee Meetings:

- October 21, 2024, 5:00 p.m., Standing Committee on Finance, Operations, and Governance, Room 410, Durkin Administration Building, 20 Irving Street.
- October 24, 2024, 5:00 p.m., School Committee Meeting, 5:00 p.m. Executive Session/5:30 Open Session, Esther Howland Chamber, Worcester City Hall, 455 Main Street.
- October 28, 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