

The following items will be discussed at the meeting of the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports to be held on Monday, May 14, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building:

gb #4-259 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (September 17, 2014)

To initiate a course in Mandarin Chinese at the Advanced Placement level, offered either in a customary classroom setting or through Virtual High School.

gb #6-264 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio/Miss McCullough/Miss Biancheria (July 6, 2016)

To consider opportunities to enhance the education of the academically gifted students of the Worcester Public Schools, at all appropriate levels.

gb #6-270 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/Miss McCullough/Miss Biancheria (July 22, 2016)

Request that the Administration provide a report on the summer school programs to include:

- academic progress
- attendance
- community involvement
- engagement of colleges in summer activities
- number of ELL students
- number of grade 1 and 2 students

and suggest improvements for next year.

gb #6-334 - Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (September 26, 2016)

Request that the Administration consider the feasibility of establishing a citywide girl's ice hockey team.

gb #7-59 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Colorio/Miss Biancheria/Miss McCullough (February 6, 2017)

To reestablish the PEAK ("Providing Enrichment for Able Kids") Program in the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #8-94 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell (March 2, 2018)

Request that the Administration consider expanding the Worcester: Future Teachers Program in conjunction with Worcester State University in an effort to recruit the best and brightest students.

Committee Members
Brian A. O'Connell, Chairman
John F. Monfredo, Vice-Chairman
Molly O. McCullough

Administrative Representative
Susan O'Neil, Ph.D.

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

AGENDA #3

The Standing Committee on TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS will hold a meeting:

on: Monday, May 14, 2018
at: 5:00 p.m.
in: Room 410, Durkin Administration Building

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #2-139 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio (April 11, 2012)

To consider development of a partnership with the Boston Debate League to support academic debate teams in high schools in Worcester.

gb #4-175 - Ms. Novick/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell (May 28, 2014)

To consider the possible benefits and drawbacks of later secondary school start times on teaching and learning.

gb #4-259 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (September 17, 2014)

To initiate a course in Mandarin Chinese at the Advanced Placement level, offered either in a customary classroom setting or through Virtual High School.

gb #5-328 - Administration (November 24, 2015)

To consider the Coordinated Program Review (CPR).

ROS #6-3 - Administration (March 9, 2016)

THE OPIATE EPIDEMIC: IMPACT ON THE WORCESTER COMMUNITY

gb #6-28.1 - Administration/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/
Miss Biancheria (February 17, 2016)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a list of assessments that were administered to kindergarten students for the 2015-16 academic year.

gb #6-37 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio/Miss McCullough
(January 11, 2016)

To address the incidents of violent and aggressive behavior on the part of students toward teachers, administrators and other staff members in school, including staff development training in responses to student aggression, and consideration of appropriate policies and practices to curtail such incidents.

gb #6-260.1 - Administration/Miss Biancheria/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/
Mr. Monfredo (November 1, 2016)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a report indicating by individual school its designated level (I, II, III, IV or V) and outline ways in which these levels can be improved.

gb #6-264 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio/Miss
McCullough/Miss Biancheria (July 6, 2016)

To consider opportunities to enhance the education of the academically gifted students of the Worcester Public Schools, at all appropriate levels.

gb #6-270 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/Miss McCullough/Miss
Biancheria (July 22, 2016)

Request that the Administration provide a report on the summer school programs to include:

- academic progress
- attendance
- community involvement
- engagement of colleges in summer activities
- number of ELL students
- number of grade 1 and 2 students

and suggest improvements for next year.

gb #6-334 - Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (September 26, 2016)

Request that the Administration consider the feasibility of establishing a citywide girl's ice hockey team.

gb #7-2 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Miss McCullough (December 16, 2016)

To review the 2016 Successor Settlement Agreement between the United States of America and the Worcester Public Schools, and to determine the financial costs of implementing it in full, for use in preparation of the fiscal year 2018 Budget.

gb #7-4 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/Miss McCullough (December 16, 2016)

To urge the individual Worcester public schools, and departments, to review and expand their websites, as a means of (1) increasing the information available through them, (2) showcasing student work and achievements, (3) sharing detailed curricular and programmatic information, and (4) assisting prospective students and parents in making informed decisions as to selection of an appropriate school.

ROS #7-6 - Administration (March 20, 2017)

UPDATE ON THE AVID (ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION) SYSTEM IN THE WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ROS #7-9 - Administration (May 10, 2017)

INNOVATION SCHOOL END OF CYCLE REPORT

gb #7-23 - Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/Miss McCullough/Miss Biancheria (January 3, 2017)

To consider making an online grading system available to all teachers for the 2017-18 academic and fiscal year.

gb #7-59 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Colorio/Miss Biancheria/Miss McCullough (February 6, 2017)

To reestablish the PEAK ("Providing Enrichment for Able Kids") Program in the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #7-127 - Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (March 21, 2017)

To consider establishing a literary magazine for the Worcester Public Schools, to publish the writings, paintings, drawings, and other creative work of WPS students, teachers and other staff members.

gb #7-201 - Mr. O'Connell (May 8, 2017)

To implement the new Chinese Language and Culture Advanced Placement course in the Worcester public secondary schools as soon as a sufficient number of students have completed all prerequisites required to enable them to take the course.

gb #7-207 - Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria (May 17, 2017)

To discuss with appropriate members of the staff of Elm Park Community School the possible conversion of the school into an autonomous Horace Mann Charter School.

gb #7-275 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley (July 25, 2017)

To consider participating in the Harvard University's Teacher Fellows Program, with placement of Fellows in the Worcester high schools.

gb #7-282 - Administration (August 2, 2017)

To approve the proposed 2018-19, 2019-20 and the 2020-21 School Calendars.

gb #7-285 - Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O'Connell (August 7, 2017)

To explore options and policies regarding work assigned and performed at home on snow days in an effort not to extend the school year.

gb #7-322 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/Ms. Colorio (September 25, 2017)

Request that the Administration consider developing a student program to instruct secondary students about food allergies and anaphylactic risks.

gb #7-333 - Ms. Colorio/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria (September 27, 2017)

Request that the Administration consider establishing a confidential student drug and alcohol hotline and indicate how it would be implemented in the schools.

gb #7-367 - Miss Biancheria/Miss McCullough/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo (October 24, 2017)

Request that the Administration provide a report on the UNITEY Program at North High School that involves civic engagement and internships for students.

gb #8-29 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Comparetto/Miss McCullough (January 16, 2018)

To engage in a comprehensive plan in an effort to have children read on grade level by the end of grade three.

gb #8-42 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Comparetto/Miss McCullough (January 23, 2018)

Request that the Administration study the feasibility of involving students in community service projects at the Senior Center.

gb #8-43 - Mayor Petty/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Comparetto/Miss McCullough (January 24, 2018)

Request that the Superintendent create an updated Health and Wellness Curriculum for middle and high school students.

gb #8-55 - Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. Comparetto/Miss Biancheria (February 3, 2018)

Request that the Administration provide a progress report on the Hanover Academy at Burncoat Middle School.

gb #8-59 - Mr. Comparetto/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo (February 7, 2018)

To consider a review of a publication entitled Teaching Hard History: American Slavery from the Southern Poverty Law Center.

gb #8-94 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell (March 2, 2018)

Request that the Administration consider expanding the Worcester: Future Teachers Program in conjunction with Worcester State University in an effort to recruit the best and brightest students.

gb #8-97 - Mr. Comparetto/Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell (March 7, 2018)

Request that the Administration provide a report on school libraries.

gb #8-107 - Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Comparetto/Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo (March 16, 2018)

To request that the administration review the January 2018 Policy Statement of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education "Alternative Structured Learning Day Programs" and that it recommend to the School Committee whether any such programs should be implemented in the Worcester Public Schools for 2019-20.

gb #8-139 - Mr. Comparetto/Mr. Foley/Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell (April 18, 2018)

Request that the Administration provide a report regarding all Early Childhood Programs in the Worcester Public Schools.

motion (gb #7-148.2) Mr. O'Connell (June 15, 2017)

Request that the report of the actual grants be referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports for a review of the grants and the programs operated under the grants.

motion (gb #7-220) Miss Biancheria (June 1, 2017)

Request that the approved Admission Policy for Worcester Technical High School be referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.

motion (ros #7-14) Miss Biancheria, Ms. Colorio

Request that the Administration provide a breakdown of the backup by sections as follows:

- Elementary Education
- Secondary Education
- Curriculum and Professional Learning
- Instructional and Digital Learning

IV. ADJOURNMENT

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

STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Monday, May 14, 2018

ITEM: Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (September 17, 2014)

To initiate a course in Mandarin Chinese at the Advanced Placement level, offered either in a customary classroom setting or through Virtual High School.

PRIOR ACTION:

10-2-14 - Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.

5-19-15 - Mr. O'Connell made the following motions:

Request that the Administration interact with the College of the Holy Cross as to enrollment of Worcester public school students, on a dual enrollment basis, in appropriate Mandarin Chinese courses.

Request that the Administration consider the options for instruction of students in Mandarin Chinese through on-line programs including, but not limited to, the virtual high school, the Michigan on-line program and the Stanford University on-line high school.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

Mr. Monfredo and Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that students be surveyed, during the Fall of 2015, as to courses that they would like to have considered for inclusion on the Course Selection Sheet for 2016-17 including, but not limited to, instruction in World Languages.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

BACKUP:

At present, Mandarin Chinese is not offered as a high level AP course. However, the students can access courses through the Virtual High School Program. In addition, the Administration is studying the feasibility of establishing a Foreign exchange program with a village in China in conjunction with State Representative James O'Day. As part of the program, the visiting teacher from China will teach interested Worcester public school students at no charge.

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

- 2-1-16 - Dr. Meade-Montaque made a presentation indicating that 213 students are currently taking Mandarin courses. The Mandarin Part 1 and Part 2 are the middle school level courses and Mandarin I to IV are the high school level courses. She reported that Doherty Memorial High School has 21 students interested in continuing with Mandarin IV which will be offered next year. All eleven 11th grade students currently taking Mandarin IV are interested in continuing and the question would be whether to offer Mandarin V or AP Mandarin at Doherty Memorial High School. In the future, if there aren't enough students to offer AP Mandarin courses in one school, a districtwide course could possibly be offered to the students. Mr. O'Connell made the following motion: Request that the Administration submit a report in April in connection with interest in expanding World Language Programs at both the elementary and secondary levels. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.
- 8-16-16 - It was moved and voice voted to request that students be surveyed, during the Fall of 2016, as to courses that they would like to have considered for inclusion on the Course Selection Sheet for 2017-18 including, but not limited to, instruction in World Languages. It was moved and voice voted to request that the Administration respond to the item in December 2016.
- 3-8-17 - Mr. Monfredo made the following motion: Request that the Administration provide a report in May 2017 which would contain the names of the courses available by grade levels and also indicate the way in which the Administration will keep the parents apprised of how they can help their children with academic pursuits at home. On a voice vote, the motion was approved.
- 1-18-18 - There is an urgent need to approve more courses under this item, not Mandarin Chinese courses. The approval needed now is for the courses listed in Annex A. The reason is that the Administration needs to add them to the course selection sheet. Mr. O'Connell made the following motions: Request that the Administration report back to the Standing Committee in June 2019 as to the effectiveness of the Independent Study Physical Education course. Request that the Administration amend the prerequisites of the academic AP Research paper by amending the number of words from 4000-5000 to 4000-8000.

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

1-18-18 - Request that the Administration notify the School Committee of (continued) the date, time and location of the Career Technical Education Department's Open House highlighting a viewing of the students' presentations as an integral part of the Career Readiness Capstone Program.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

It was moved to approve the following courses as contained in Annex A of the backup:

- Activities of Daily Living Awareness
- Activities of Daily Living Development
- Activities of Daily Living Independence
- AP Research Course
- Career Readiness Capstone Course
- Independent Study Physical Education
- Intro to Advanced Manufacturing
- Intro to Construction
- Intro to Health Assisting
- Introductory Physics
- IT Essentials
- Language Seminar
- Literacy Access
- Literacy Application
- Literacy Skills
- Numerical Skill Development
- Numerical Awareness
- Numerical Skills
- Science Awareness
- Science Development
- Science Skills
- Social Studies Awareness
- Social Studies Development
- Social Studies Skills

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

ITEM: gb #6-264

STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Monday, May 14, 2018

ITEM: Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio/Miss McCullough/
Miss Biancheria (July 6, 2016)

To consider opportunities to enhance the education of the academically gifted students of the Worcester Public Schools, at all appropriate levels.

PRIOR ACTION:

- 8-18-16 - Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.
- 8-16-17 - HOLD for a progress report in November 2017.

BACKUP:

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

1. The WPS Strategic Plan (Defining Our Path: A Strategic Plan for Education in Worcester, <http://www.wrrb.org/defining-our-path-a-strategic-plan-for-education-in-worcester/>) proposes:
 - **More Advanced Course Options: Increase the number of advanced learning options and enrichment opportunities in 9th grade to better prepare students to succeed in advanced courses throughout high school (p.14)**
 - **Credit-Bearing Courses in Partnership with Colleges and Universities: Partner with local colleges and universities to offer high school students access to additional credit-bearing course opportunities through dual enrollment (p.15)**
 - **Development of an Enrichment Academy Supported by Learning Institutions in the Community: Develop a public/ private enrichment academy to support advanced learners, including after-school and summer opportunities for children in grades 7-12, that leverages Worcester's distinct community, STEM, and civic assets (p.15)**
2. Worcester East Middle School Innovation Academy will be reorganized for 2019-2020 into a grade 7-8, citywide, gifted and talented program focused on science and applied for a state planning grant.
3. The Hanover Arts Academy at Burncoat Middle School will expand to grade 8 in 2018-2019.
4. The AP Seminar and AP Research courses will be fully implemented by June 2019 which will provide student access to the AP Capstone Diploma.

STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Monday, May 14, 2018

ITEM: Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/Miss McCullough/Miss Biancheria
(July 22, 2016)

Request that the Administration provide a report on the summer school programs to include:

- academic progress
- attendance
- community involvement
- engagement of colleges in summer activities
- number of ELL students
- number of grade 1 and 2 students

and suggest improvements for next year.

PRIOR ACTION:

- 8-18-16 - Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports to be discussed at a meeting in January 2017. Miss Biancheria made the following motion:
Request that the Administration provide information on the College Community Connections Program regarding:
- the list of internships that took place at various sites and
 - feedback from the students that attended the Community Connection Program and will be taking the MCAS retest in the Fall.
- On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

BACKUP:

Annex A (6 pages) contains a copy of the Administration's response to the item.

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

- 4-24-17 Dr. Rojas spoke to the item.
Mr. Monfredo and Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:
Request that the item be held for a Standing Committee meeting in the Fall of 2017 in order to include recommendations from the Administration as to the program for the Summer of 2018. It was further requested that the Administration provide information on the following:
- expansion of opportunities for students in grades 1 and 2 with a focus on enrolling more of them in appropriate summer school programs
 - expansion of internships and externships for students for enrichment purposes
 - feasibility of offering a full course at the secondary level for full academic credit during the summer as a double period course
 - opportunities in connection with summer school initiatives with a focus on the needs of at-risk students
- On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Academic progress was framed around credit buyback for students in grades 8 and up and as a preventative step to stem summer learning loss for elementary students entering grades 3 through 6. Elementary students received ELA, math, science (weather theme), and the arts daily.

Attendance at both the secondary and elementary programs was lower than expected. This was attributed to: late announcement and recruitment, limited/condensed sites, the initiation of 3 bus tiers, and the elementary limitation to grades 3-6 for enrollment. The 3 bus tiers were an attempt to save transportation costs. Several families voiced they were unable to attend the last tier sites because of parent work schedules. Other families explained that older students were needed at home to watch younger siblings who were not old enough to attend.

In summer 2017, community involvement at the elementary level included coordination with Recreation Worcester for an afternoon component in coordination with the Worcester Public Library for the book mobile visits to schools. District Title III funds supported a camp for middle school English learners through the Latino Educational Institute (LEI) at Worcester State University; African Community Education (ACE) programming, a soccer group, and several other initiatives for English learners through community based organizations.

Worcester State University, through LEI, was the only college engaged in these summer activities.

Elementary English Learners grades 3-6 with an EPL level of 1 or 2 received a full morning of ESL instruction. The number of English learners attending would have to be determined based on all programs and students identified EPL status. Attendance was not monitored/coded this way other than in the EL program.

Grade 1 and 2 students were not initially enrolled due to staffing limitations. Some schools, such as Canterbury, reorganized to take in younger siblings when it was apparent older siblings had to stay home to babysit if younger siblings did not attend.

Please note that this response does not include the special education programs that were provided for students in the summer of 2017.

The organizational structure was:

High School	15 days of credit buyback/Plato (Burncoat, North, Claremont, Doherty)
Middle School Grade 8	15 days of credit buyback/Plato (housed in high schools)
Sullivan Middle School	21 st Century Summer Program
Burncoat Middle School	21 st Century Summer Program
Claremont Academy	ESL Jump Start Program
NCC New Ludlow	18 days ESL Camp
Elementary Schools	15 days Camp Explore, Grades 3-6 Canterbury, Woodland (Goddard, Chandler), Quinsigamond (Vernon, Union), Roosevelt (Grafton, Rice Sq.), Columbus Park (Gates Lane), City View (Belmont St.), Clark St. (Burncoat Prep, Lincoln), McGrath (Elm Park), Chandler Magnet (May St., Tatnuck) 18 days ESL Camp for grades 3-6, EPL 1 and 2 at each elementary site 18 days ESL Camp NCC Clark St. 10 days Camp Invention, all grades Grant through Inventors Hall of Fame and AbbVie Housed at Clark St. and Woodland Academy for students in schools not serviced by Camp Explore

Suggested improvements:

Data collection:

- Collect data on English Learners enrolled across programs offered and across grades.
- Collect data on secondary students successfully completing buyback.
- Monitor MAP Fall to Fall for grade 3-6 students to assess success at preventing summer learning loss.

Secondary Program:

- Include 7th grade and create an engaging curriculum for grades 7-8
- Recruit and contact parents earlier. Follow up after final report card and across 15 days.

Elementary Program:

- Revert to 2 bus tiers.
- Enroll students entering grades 1 through 6.
- Continue with book club and math game format.
- Continue with hands on science activities.
- Continue with enrichment activities.

Enrollment
See attached

2017 Summer School Enrollment

(Please note - There was not a program at each site. Several sites were combined)

School	Camp Explore	Camp Invention
Belmont Street School	31	1
Burncoat Prep. School	14	3
Canterbury St, School	47	0
Chandler Elementary School	19	0
Chandler Magnet School	26	0
City View School	44	0
Clark Street School	14	8
Columbus Park School	25	3
Elm Park School	12	0
Flagg St. School	0	7
Gates Lane School	16	5
Goddard School	13	3
Grafton Street School	28	4
Heard St. School	0	6
Jacob Hiatt School	44	4
Lake View School	0	6
Lincoln St. School	7	16
May Street School	4	0
McGrath Elementary School	25	6
Midland St. School	0	4
Nelson Place School	0	2
Norrback Ave School	0	3
Quinsigamond School	151	1

Rice Square School	31	0
Roosevelt School	33	0
Tatnuck Magnet School	5	0
Thorndyke Road School	0	6
Union Hill School	40	2
Vernon Hill School	39	6
Worcester Arts Magnet School	0	8
Wawecus Road School	3	7
Woodland Academy	29	10

EL Camp Enrollment

(Please note - There was not a program at each site.
Several sites were combined)

SCHOOL	EL ENROLLMENT
Belmont	10
Burncoat Prep	1
Canterbury	6
Chandler Elementary	4
City View	1
Clark Street Explore	5
Columbus Park	6
Elm Park	8
Gates Lane	4
Grafton Street	6
Jacob Hiatt	3
McGrath	5
NCC - Clark St.	39
Rice Square	2
Union Hill	2
Vernon Hill	2
Woodland Academy	12
TOTAL	116

2017 Summer School Enrollment

High Schools	Students Enrolled	Earned Credit
Burncoat High School	72	51
Claremont Academy	85	69
Dohety High School	95	64
North High School	114	95
South High School	64	55
Worcester Technical High School	60	57

Middle Schools	Students Enrolled	Earned Credit
Burncoat Middle school	18	17
Claremont Academy	20	13
Forest Grove Middle School	29	28
Sullivan Middle School	14	11
Univeristy Park Campus School	6	6
Worcester East Middle School	49	39

STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Monday, May 14, 2018

ITEM: Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria
(September 26, 2016)

Request that the Administration consider the feasibility of establishing a citywide girl's ice hockey team.

PRIOR ACTION:

- 10-6-16 - Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.
- 12-5-16 - STANDING COMMITTEE ON TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS
Miss McCullough made the following motion:
Request that the item be held for discussion in February for additional information from the Administration relative to the possibility of forming a co-op.
On a voice vote, the motion was approved.
Mr. Monfredo suggested that the Administration check with the local colleges and Michael Myers, Manager of the Worcester Railers, the new professional hockey team for possible equipment support for a citywide girls hockey team In the Worcester Public Schools.
- 12-15-16 - SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING - The School Committee approved the action of the Standing Committee as stated.

BACKUP:

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

PRIOR ACTION (continued)

- 2-14-17 - Mr. Monfredo, Miss McCullough and Mr. O'Connell made the following motions:
Request that the Administration provide a report at the next Standing Committee meeting as to the costs of establishing a cooperative initiative with other girls' ice hockey programs.
Request that the Administration report as to further developments and progress made with regard to a cooperative girls' ice hockey team in August or September.
Request that the Administration provide information as to students' interest in participating in a girls' ice hockey team and seek assistance from physical education teachers to help with recruitment efforts.
Request that the Administration provide a report in September 2017 with regard to progress made regarding interest in establishing a girl's ice hockey program.
On a voice vote, the motions were approved.
- 2-16-17 - THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING - The School Committee approved the action of the Standing As stated.
- 8-16-17 - Mr. O'Connell made the following motions:
Request that the Administration provide a report in October 2017 as to the interest in participation in a girls ice hockey team on a Cooperative interschool basis.
Request that the Administration address the individual topics listed in Annex A, page 1 of the backup and report back as to the feasibility of establishing a girls ice hockey team.
It was moved and voice voted, to approve the motions.

April 20, 2018

UPDATED GIRL'S ICE HOCKEY INFORMATION:

A year ago, the Administration asked the athletic liaisons to make announcements and have dialogue with the girls in their school regarding the feasibility of having the Worcester Public Schools start an Ice Hockey Team. We fielded 5 girls that said they were interested. With the very low numbers and the fact that it would cost roughly \$46,000 dollars to start our own team the Administration decided that the best option for the Worcester Public Schools was to seek out a CO-OP possibility by joining another team that had already established Girl's Ice Hockey.

When the Administration interacted with other schools, it discovered that Saint Peter Marian and the Advanced Math and Science Academy were also looking to start up a team. All three groups wanted teams but didn't have enough girls so the Worcester Public Schools joined together with them to form one team with the host school as Saint Peter Marian. Thus, the Advanced Math and Science Academy and the Worcester Public Schools would be the guest schools. This was approved by the MIAA and Saint Peter Marian agreed to hire the coaches. The Worcester Public Schools gathered equipment, supplies and uniforms and then finally secured the new Fidelity Bank Worcester Ice Center on Harding Street as the rink on which they were going to practice and play the ice hockey games. The team was up and running and was very successful in the first year. The team went 9-10-2 and made it to the first round of the playoffs where they lost to Woburn.

The Worcester Public Schools only had two players on the team this year. We had one girl from Worcester Technical High School and one girl from Burncoat High School. The Administration is hoping to utilize the success of the team this year to continue to have more and more girls come out for the team in the future. As the fall season approaches, the Administration will once again start to make announcements and post information for the students to see at their school regarding a sign up procedure to become part of the CO-OP Girls' Ice Hockey Team.

ITEM: gb #7-59

STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Monday, May 14, 2018

ITEM: Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio/Miss Biancheria/
Miss McCullough (February 6, 2017)

To reestablish the PEAK ("Providing Enrichment for Able Kids") Program in the Worcester Public Schools.

PRIOR ACTION:

- 2-16-17 - Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.
- 4-24-17 Dr. Gacias stated that the Administration is proposing that it organize a PEAK-like experience for students using the Title I SES funds.
Mr. Monfredo inquired as to the feasibility of establishing after-school PEAK-like enrichment programs for students, and, if possible, provide a report on such a program at the Standing Committee in September.
Dr. Gacias indicated that she could provide a list of after-school programs that are PEAK-like.
Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:
Request that the item be held for a progress report in June or July.
On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

BACKUP:

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

Title I funds were used to support the development of math skills using a PEAK like format. In second semester of 2016-2017, each Title I elementary school was offered the opportunity to provide a before and/or after school math club that was strategy based game playing. Teacher training to use the 24 Game and Greg Tang math games was provided. The 24 Game is an arithmetical card game in which the objective is to find a way to manipulate four integers so that the end result is 24. There are varied levels of play. Tang's games require the use of visual models and number bonds to actively problem solve. At the end of the semester, school's had a 24 game tournament and/or a parent workshop with the Greg Tang games where parents and children played the games together. The resources were left in the schools for replication in the 2017-2018 school year.

In 2017-2018, Title I funds to the district were decreased. In addition, our middle and high schools received the Title I designation to ensure they would qualify for anticipated grant opportunities. As a result, the system was unable to offer before/after school programs through Title I this school year. Title I money will fund the elementary and secondary summer school in 2018.

ITEM: gb #8-94

STANDING COMMITTEE: **TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS**

DATE OF MEETING: Monday, May 14, 2018

ITEM: Mr. Monfredo/Miss McCullough/Mr. O'Connell
(March 2, 2018)

Request that the Administration consider expanding the Worcester: Future Teachers Program in conjunction with Worcester State University in an effort to recruit the best and brightest students.

PRIOR ACTION:

- 3-15-18 - Referred to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.
Mr. Monfredo suggested that the Administration forward a Future Teachers Plan to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports by the end of the year.

BACKUP:

- Annex A (1 page) contains a copy of the Administration's response to the item.
Annex B (1 page) contains a copy of the backup from gb 8-58.1 that Mr. O'Connell requested to be annexed with this item.
Annex C (3 pages) contains a copy of the Administration's response to gb #8-58.1 that was forwarded in a Friday Letter.

The Worcester Public Schools, Worcester State University, and Quinsigamond Community College are committed in their efforts to recruit and retain the best and brightest students to participate in the Worcester Future Teachers initiatives. Through this partnership, it is hoped that a diverse pool of educators can be created to help fill the future needs of the Worcester Public Schools.

Worcester State University is steadfast in continuing to provide students with the weeklong, summer campus experience that many students have enjoyed in the past. With the WeTEACH , EPIC Diversity grant on its last year, alternative funding sources are being investigated in order to continue with the Worcester Future Teachers dual enrollment and internship opportunities (See Annex C Gb #8-58).

Regardless of funding, Dean of Education, Raynold Lewis, intends to continue recruitment of underrepresented populations by offering spring and fall campus visits for North and South High School, as well as begin a dialogue with middle school students regarding opportunities in education.

In the fall of 2016, the Worcester Future Teachers went through a revitalization due to an EPIC (Educator Candidates in Education Preparation) Diversity Grant received by Worcester State University, Quinsigamond Community College funds, and a robust partnership with Worcester Public Schools. Prior to the EPIC funding, the Worcester Future Teachers participants met regularly, afterschool, for club meetings to discuss the teaching profession and had the opportunity to attend a week-long college campus exploration each summer. Since the fall of 2016, the Worcester Future Teachers has been transformed into the Worcester's Teacher Education Attainment Collaborative Highway (WeTEACH) initiative that includes college counselling, college level courses, internships, all the while providing students with individualized support to ensure success. In an effort to increase the number of qualified teachers from underrepresented groups and create a diverse teaching staff, Worcester State University, Quinsigamond Community College, and Worcester Public Schools has made it possible for students interested in the field of education to begin their postsecondary experience while still in high school in the following ways:

- Students are recruited through the Worcester Future Teachers school-based groups, Chapter 74 and CTE Early Childhood Education Programs, guidance counselor and teacher recommendations, whole class email, parent letters, word-of-mouth, and annual "Call to Teaching" events hosted by Worcester State University that features presentation from the presidents of WSU and QCC, as well as WPS' Maureen Binienda. In February 2018, a student speaker from Cohort 1 was able to talk to interested students about his experience with WeTEACH, thus offering a contemporary's perspective on the initiative.
- Students are given the Accuplacer test in their home-schools to eliminate the need for students to find transportation to QCC. All pre-registration is provided at the time of testing, processed by the WPS staff person, and moved on to QCC and/or WSU.
- Students are able to earn fifteen college credits, at no cost and take the courses at QCC or WSU.
- Course sequence has been modified to begin with a First-Year Seminar (not Accuplacer dependent) to allow students to progress towards a passing Accuplacer score with the help of their senior English course as well as First-Year Seminar writing component. This initiative does not include the Math Accuplacer, as the courses are general core requirements or education based.
- Students are matched with a paid internship during the summer, in the afternoons, while taking courses.
- Students are provided a contact at WPS to call/text/email for any comments, questions, or concerns and are assisted accordingly.

The partnership, collaboration and dedication to this initiative continues as WPS, QCC, and WSU begins the enrollment process of Cohort 3.

Item gb #8-58.1

School Committee Item

Response of the Administration to the request to work collaboratively with Quinsigamond Community College, Worcester State University and other colleges in Worcester to develop a pipeline of students interested in pursuing a teaching career in Worcester.

Response

Worcester Public Schools, Quinsigamond Community College, and Worcester State University have been collaborating since the fall of 2016 in providing Worcester Public School students with an educational and career pipeline for those wishing to become teachers. In the fall of 2016, the Worcester Future Teachers went through a revitalization due to an EPIC (Educator Candidates in Education Preparation) Diversity Grant received by Worcester State University, Quinsigamond Community College funds, and a robust partnership with Worcester Public Schools. Prior to the EPIC funding, the Worcester Future Teachers participants met regularly, afterschool, for club meetings to discuss the teaching profession and had the opportunity to attend a week-long college campus exploration each summer. Since the fall of 2016, the Worcester Future Teachers has been transformed into the Worcester's Teacher Education Attainment Collaborative Highway (WeTEACH) initiative that includes college counselling, college level courses, internships, all the while providing students with individualized support to ensure success. Through this committed partnership, Worcester State University, Quinsigamond Community College, and Worcester Public Schools have made it possible for students interested in the field of education to begin their postsecondary experience while still in high school in the following ways:

- Students are recruited through the Worcester Future Teachers school-based groups, Chapter 74 and CTE Early Childhood Education Programs, guidance counselor and teacher recommendations, whole class email, parent letters, word-of-mouth, and annual "Call to Teaching" events hosted by Worcester State University that features presentation from the presidents of WSU and QCC, as well as WPS' Maureen Binienda. In February 2018, a student speaker from Cohort 1 was able to talk to interested students about his experience with WeTEACH, thus offering a contemporary's perspective on the initiative.
- Students are given the Accuplacer test in their home-schools to eliminate the need for students to find transportation to QCC. All pre-registration is provided at the time of testing, processed by the WPS staff person, and moved on to QCC and/or WSU.
- Students are able to earn fifteen college credits, at no cost and take the courses at QCC or WSU.
- Course sequence has been modified to begin with a First-Year Seminar (not Accuplacer dependent) to allow students to progress towards a passing Accuplacer score with the help of their senior

English course as well as First-Year Seminar writing component. This initiative does not include the Math Accuplacer, as the courses are general core requirements or education based.

- Students are matched with a paid internship during the summer, in the afternoons, while taking morning courses.
- Students are provided a contact at WPS to call/text/email for any comments, questions, or concerns and are assisted accordingly.

The partnership, collaboration, and dedication to, and for, this initiative continues as WPS, QCC, and WSU begins the enrollment process of Cohort 3 beginning classes this fall.

School Committee Item

Request that the Administration provide a report, in a Friday Letter indicating the total number of teachers that have gone through the Future Teachers Program, especially teachers of color.

Response

Worcester State University, Quinsigamond Community College, and Worcester Public schools is currently in its second year of providing students with a clear and direct pathway to becoming educators.

As the second cohort is still attending Worcester Public Schools as seniors, the program is not yet able to produce data for 'teachers that have gone through the Future Teachers Program.' In an effort to illustrate the number of students enrolled as well as the diversity of participants, please see the information below:

Cohort 1 2016-2017 – Class of 2017

Non-Hispanic/Black	1
Non-Hispanic/White	2
Non-Hispanic/Asian	3
Hispanic/No Race Indicated	7
Hispanic/Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1
Hispanic/Black	3
Hispanic/White	4
	Total Students 21

30% of students continued their postsecondary work as Education majors at WSU, QCC, Westfield State, Framingham State, and Clark University.

Cohort -2017-2018 -Class of 2018

Non-Hispanic/Black	6
Non-Hispanic/White	4
Non-Hispanic/Asian	3
Hispanic/No Race Indicated	9
Hispanic/Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1
Hispanic/Black	2
Hispanic/American/Alaska Native	1
Hispanic/White	2
Total Students	28

All students attending the ENG 101 this semester are planning to continue with the summer sessions.

Worcester Teacher Pipeline Project -

A WSU/QCC Presidents and WPS Superintendent Initiative

Project Purpose

Create an educational pathway to recruit students of color who graduate from the WPS and pursue a degree in education

Partners:

Worcester State University, Worcester Public School System, Quinsigamond Community College

Project Activities

- Study Conducted by Storm Associates, 2015-2016
- Presidents tasked a project team to design a model that builds off of current efforts and meets
- student needs
- WSU received a grant *EPIC* that supports current WSU activities and pays for 9 college level courses for high school seniors.

QCC Vision/Proposal

"Worcester Teacher Pipeline Transitional Program"

1. Use the 9 credits and 6 QCC credits to total 15 credits completed by summer's end
2. Move students as a cohort through QCC's Early Education program and
3. Build a strong QCC/WSU transfer, particularly at WSU transition

SEMESTER	COURSES/	CREDITS	COMMENTS
Spring 2017	Contextual English I 0	3-credits	Gen. Ed; EPIC Funds
Summer I 2017	EDU 101	3-credit	Gen Ed. EPIC Funds
	Paid Practicum I		Partner Funds (WPS and Summer Youth
	QCC Cohort	3-cred it	QCC fund
Summer II 2017	EDU 102	3 Cred it	Gen Ed.; EPIC Funds
	Paid Practicum		Partner Funds
	QCC Cohort	3- cred its	QCC Fund
Fall 2017- Spring 2018	QCC Cohort Matriculated	<i>FIT</i> 30 credits	Financial Aid/ Scholarships
Credits earned Sub-			45 CREDITS EARNED
Summer I	WSU Prep. Paid	3-Credit	Complete 3 credit courses at QCC
Summer II	WSU Prep Paid	3- Credit	
Credits Earned			60 CREDITS EARNED
F'18 - Sp. 19	Matriculate at WSU	<i>FIT</i>	