

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

AGENDA #17

The School Committee will hold a regular meeting:

on: Thursday, July 31, 2014  
at: 5:00 p.m. - Executive Session  
4:00 p.m. – Regular Session  
in the: Esther Howland South Chamber, City Hall

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ACTION

I. CALL TO ORDER - REGULAR MEETING

INVOCATION - Pastor Leshy Payner  
Quinsigamond United Methodist Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/NATIONAL ANTHEM

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #4-13 - Clerk  
(June 25, 2014)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting of Thursday, June 19, 2014.

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, 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 Stacey DeBoise Luster, Human Resource Manager, 20 Irving Street, Worcester, MA 01609. 508-799-3020."

V. IMMEDIATE ACTION

ACTION

gb #4-166.1 - Administration/Mr. O’Connell/Mr. Monfredo/  
Ms. Novick/Mr. Foley/Miss Ramirez/  
Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria  
(July 14, 2014)

To congratulate the EcoTarium on receiving the 2014 Promising Practice Award Reimagined from the MetLife Foundation and Association of Children’s Museums for its innovative strategies “in adapting *Countdown to Kindergarten (CTK)*, a one-day celebration for incoming kindergarten students in Worcester Public Schools, to better accommodate families who experience physical or mental disabilities, and learning or social difficulties.”

gb #4-172.1 - Mr. O’Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick/Mr. Foley/  
Miss Ramirez/Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria

To recognize, with gratitude and appreciation, the work of Mass Aububon, Broad Meadow Brook and the EcoTarium in implementing the "Real Math, Real Science" project-based program in the Worcester Public Schools.

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT - NONE

VII. COMMUNICATION AND PETITION - NONE

VIII. REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

The Standing Committee on Accountability and Student Achievement met at 5:32 p.m. on Monday, June 23, 2014 in Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building.

The Joint Committee of the Standing Committee on Finance and Operations and the City Council’s Standing Committee on Education met at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 23, 2014 in Room 410 at the Durkin Administration Building.

THE ACTION SHEETS CAN BE FOUND IN THE APPROPRIATE PLACE IN THE BACKUP

IX. PERSONNEL - NONE

X. GENERAL BUSINESS

ACTION

gb #4-100.3 - Administration/Administration  
(July 21, 2014)

To consider the Administration's responses to the following motions:

- A. Request that the Administration provide a report to include the number of hours per school that Instructional Assistants are requested to work in the classrooms.
- B. Request that the Administration provide a copy of the section of the Instructional Assistants' contract regarding a monetary payment for covering a classroom.

gb #4-184.1 - Administration/Ms. Novick/Mr. O'Connell/  
Mr. Monfredo  
(June 30, 2014)

To allow Ms. Novick to thank the School Committee for expeditiously forwarding the approved backup regarding state mandates to the Massachusetts Association of School Committees.

gb #4-192 - Administration  
(June 16, 2014)

To accept a donation in the amount of \$400.00 made payable to Worcester Technical High School.

gb #4-193 - Administration  
(June 16, 2014)

To accept a donation in the amount of \$5,000 made payable to Worcester Technical High School.

gb #4-194 - Administration  
(June 25, 2014)

To accept a grant in the amount of \$94,279 from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Administration and Finance for a Vocational Opportunity Challenge Grant for Worcester Technical High School.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #4-195 - Administration  
(June 25, 2014)

To accept a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from the Learning Forward Foundation to support the Close Reading and Writing to Sources Program at Worcester Arts Magnet School.

gb #4-196 - Administration  
(June 30, 2014)

To review bid specifications and contract requirements for pupil transportation services for the period beginning on July 1, 2015.

gb #4-197 - Administration  
(June 30, 2014)

To consider amending the policy regarding Employee Use of Social Media, Websites, Blogs and Other Online Social Tools.

gb #4-198 - Mr. Monfredo  
(June 30, 2014)

Request that the Administration consider working with the WEDF on a pilot program for placing potential black and white ads on some of the school buses as a way of increasing revenue for our student programs and for teacher initiated programs.

gb #4-199 - Mr. O'Connell  
(July 14, 2014)

To implement a revised plan for expanded and improved Wi-Fi networking in the Worcester Public Schools, funded in part through the e-Rate program under the July 11, 2014 Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FCC- 14-99) of the Federal Communications Commission.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #4-200 - Mr. Monfredo  
(July 14, 2014)

To set a date to recognize:

- Sarah Kopka for winning the Heart of America READesign Grant for Worcester East Middle School
- representatives from Heart of America Foundation for transforming the library at Worcester East Middle School
- representatives from AbbVie for volunteer work of its employees in improving the library of Worcester East Middle School during AbbVie's "Week of Possibilities."

gb #4-201 - Mr. Monfredo  
(July 17, 2014)

Request that Administration consider having all schools participate in the October 3<sup>rd</sup> kick-off of the Worcester: the City that Reads campaign and the World Smile Day literacy event.

gb #4-202 - Miss Ramirez  
(July 21, 2014)

To set a date to recognize Jennifer Cordero, a student at Doherty Memorial High School, for being selected for the Hispanic Youth Research and Leadership program at the University of New Mexico.

gb #4-203 - Administration  
(July 21, 2014)

To approve the Miscellaneous Educational OM Account in the FY15 Budget to reflect the various statutory sub-accounts per the request of the City Auditor.

gb #4-204 - Mr. Foley  
(July 21, 2014)

To review the status of the FY15 Budget and make appropriate transfers as required.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #4-205 - Mr. O'Connell  
(July 22, 2014)

To inform parent groups, booster clubs, and other entities supportive of the Worcester Public Schools about Internal Revenue Service Form 1023-EZ, which, effective as of July 1, permits most such entities to file for Section 501(c)(3) tax exempt status on a simple and expedited basis, as detailed in IRS News Release 2014-77.

gb #4-206 - Mr. O'Connell  
(July 22, 2014)

To set a date to recognize the work of the Worcester Bravehearts, the Massachusetts Education Career Opportunities, Inc., and the Gear Up Green Energy Camp in instructing students of Worcester East Middle School in solar energy and STEM topics at National Grid's Sustainability Hub.

gb #4-207 - Administration  
(July 22, 2014)

To consider the appointment of a district representative to the Board of Directors to serve on the Central MA Special Education Collaborative.

gb #4-208 - Miss Biancheria  
(July 22, 2014)

Request that the Administration provide a report regarding the new policy on suspensions and expulsions that went into effect on July 1, 2014.

gb #4-209 - Miss Biancheria  
(July 22, 2014)

Request that the Administration indicate the role of the School Committee as a result of the passage of the policy voted into law regarding long-term suspension hearings.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #4-210 - Miss Biancheria  
(July 22, 2014)

Request that the Administration provide a report on the science laboratory at Worcester East Middle School and indicate the grant monies that supported this project.

gb #4-211 - Mr. Monfredo  
(July 22, 2014)

Request that the Administration review this year's data on chronic absenteeism to determine the impact of the awareness campaign and to schedule a meeting with the stakeholders prior to September in order to update the strategic plan.

gb #4-212 - Ms. Novick  
(July 22, 2014)

To set priorities regarding the state's reconsideration of the foundation formula.

gb #4-213 - Ms. Novick  
(July 22, 2014)

To discuss the city's FY15 capital budget.

gb #4-214 - Ms. Novick  
(July 22, 2014)

To consider the city's contribution to the Worcester Public Schools for FY16 and years following.

gb #4-215 - Ms. Novick  
(July 22, 2014)

To consider again the Worcester Public Schools' dress code and its enforcement.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #4-216 - Administration  
(July 23, 2014)

To consider approval of a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$4,166.75.

gb #4-217 - Administration  
(July 25, 2014)

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the governmental body, to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel, to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

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