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

AGENDA #32

on: Thursday September 17, 2020
at: 7:00 p.m. – Regular Session
6:00 p.m. - Executive Session
Virtually in: Room 410, at the Durkin Administration Building

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ACTION

I. CALL TO ORDER

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

NATIONAL ANTHEM

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #0-36 - Administration
(September 10, 2020)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Thursday, September 3, 2020.

IV. MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION – NONE

V. IMMEDIATE ACTION

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

ROS #0-8 - Administration
(September 10, 2020)

PARABOLA PROJECT UPDATE

VII. COMMUNICATION AND PETITION - NONEACTIONVIII. REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

The Standing Committee on Finance and Operations met virtually on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building.

The Standing Committee on School and Student Performance met virtually on Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building.

IX. PERSONNEL -NONEX. GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #0-229.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/
Mr. Foley/ Ms. McCullough/Ms. Novick
(September 10, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide an update on summer school learning and include the grade levels with the content covered and the number of students who participated.

gb #0-275.1 - Administration/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. McCullough
(September 10, 2020)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide monthly updates on the air quality and HVAC work being done in the schools beginning September 17, 2020.

gb #0-282 - Administration
(August 31, 2020)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$618.00 to Durham School Services for an afterschool route.

gb #0-283 - Administration
(August 31, 2020)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$105.00 to an employee.

gb #0-284 - Administration
(September 1, 2020)

To accept the CvRF Coronavirus Relief Fund School Reopening Grant in the amount of \$5,729,400.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #0-285 - Administration
(September 1, 2020)

To accept the High School Voter Registration and Pre-Registration Grant in the amount of \$5,714 for the School Year and \$6,286 for the Summer.

gb #0-286 - Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(September 8, 2020)

To provide a brief update on COVID-19 and remote learning and file all other outstanding items pertaining to these topics.

gb #0-287 - Ms. McCullough/Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/
Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick/Mayor Petty
(September 8, 2020)

To review the WPS policy regarding study halls and DESE regulations surrounding them.

gb #0-288 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020)

Request that the Administration outline in writing under what circumstances the Department of Children and Families is called regarding a family or child, particularly with regard to student attendance.

gb #0-289 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020)

Request that the Administration schedule a joint meeting with the Board of Health for discussion of the Worcester Public Schools 2020-21 school plan and benchmarks for changing the status of learning within them.

gb #0-290 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020)

Request that the Administration clarify under what circumstances students will be suspended during remote learning and what suspension will consist of during that time.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #0-291 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020)

Request that the Administration clarify for all Worcester Public Schools employees proper mask usage.

gb #0-292 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020)

Request that the Administration request high school principals submit student representatives to the statewide and regional student advisory councils.

gb #0-293 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020)

To ensure Worcester Public Schools remote learning policies ensure all Worcester Public Schools administrators, staff, and students behave as guests in each other's homes.

gb #0-294 - Administration
(September 9, 2020)

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$202.03 to Shred-It.

gb #0-295 - Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick/Mayor Petty
(September 9, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide a report on the site administrator's responsibilities relative to sports activities vis-à-vis COVID-19.

gb #0-296 - Miss Biancheria//Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(September 9, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide a report on the 20 sites that will provide meals and indicate the process of eligibility and for picking them up.

gb #0-297 - Administration
(September 10, 2020)

To select a voting delegate and an alternate voting delegate for the Annual Business Meeting of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, scheduled for November 7, 2020.

GENERAL BUSINESS (continued)

ACTION

gb #0-298 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 10, 2020)

To consider the resolutions before the MASC delegate assembly.

gb #0-299 - Mayor Petty/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 10, 2020)

Request that the Superintendent/Administration develop a Transition Plan to include HVAC upgrades to resume in-person educational services for high need special education students prior to the end of the first quarter.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

gb #0-300 - Administration
(September 10, 2020)

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 – Coronavirus/COVID-19 Related Issues – Educational Association of Worcester, Units A & B (Educators/Administrators); Aides to the Physically Handicapped, Monitors and Drivers; Instructional Assistants; Parent Liaisons; Tutors; and Therapy Assistants.

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 – Coronavirus/COVID-19 Related Issues – NAGE R1-16 Cafeteria Workers.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

AGENDA #31A

SUPPLEMENTAL

The School Committee will hold a regular meeting:

on: Thursday, September 3, 2020

at: 6:00 p.m. – Executive Session

7:00 p.m. – Regular Session

virtually in: Room 410 in the Durkin Administration Building

ORDER OF BUSINESS

ACTION

- | | |
|---|--|
| I. <u>CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR MEETING</u>
<u>INVOCATION</u>
<u>PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/NATIONAL ANTHEM</u> | |
| II. <u>ROLL CALL</u> | |
| III. <u>APPROVAL OF RECORDS</u> NONE | |
| IV. <u>MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION</u> - NONE | |
| V. <u>IMMEDIATE ACTION</u> - NONE | |
| VI. <u>REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT</u> – NONE | |
| VII. <u>COMMUNICATION AND PETITION</u> - NONE | |
| VIII. <u>REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES</u> | |

The Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues met virtually on Monday, September 10, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| IX. <u>PERSONNEL</u> - NONE | |
| X. <u>GENERAL BUSINESS</u> - 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 the Human Resource Manager, 20 Irving Street, Worcester, MA 01609. 508-799-3020.

III. APPROVAL OF RECORDS
Clerk
(September 10, 2020)

ITEM - aor #0-36
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Thursday, September 3, 2020.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

Annex A (9 pages) contains a copy of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Thursday, September 3, 2020.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE
 Worcester, Massachusetts
 Thursday, September 3, 2020
 Agenda #31

The School Committee of the Worcester Public Schools met virtually in Open Session at 6:00 p.m. in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building on Thursday, September 3, 2020.

There were present at the Call to Order:

Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo and Ms. Novick and Mayor Petty

Mayor Petty stated that the School Committee will recess into Executive Session to discuss the following items:

.1 EXECUTIVE SESSION Executive Session

gb #0-280 - Administration
 (August 27, 2020)

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 –
 Coronavirus/ COVID-19 Related Issues –
 Educational Association of Worcester, Units A & B (Educators/Administrators); Aides to the Physically Handicapped, Monitors and Drivers; Instructional Assistants; Parent Liaisons; Tutors; and Therapy Assistants.

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 –
 Coronavirus/COVID-19 Related Issues – NAGE R1-16 Cafeteria Workers.

On a roll call, the vote was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey,
 Mr. Foley, Miss McCullough,
 Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
 Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

There were present at the Call to Order:

The School Committee recessed to Executive Session from 6:03 p.m. to 7:10 p.m.

The School Committee reconvened in Open Session at 6:38 p.m.

There were present at the second Call to Order:

Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick and Mayor Petty

Grievance #19/20- 2.
 23

Pursuant to action taken in Executive Session on August 27, 2020, it was moved to deny Grievance #19/20-23.

On a roll call, the vote to deny Grievance #19/20-23 was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
 Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
 Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
 Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

Recognitions/
 Mark Berthiaume 3.
 and Dr. Mary
 Meade-Montaque/
 Keys to the City

Mayor Petty presented Mr. Mark Berthiaume and Dr. Mary Meade-Montaque with Keys to the City. He spoke to the accomplishments of each by stating that:

- Mr. Berthiaume has dedicated 43 years to the Worcester Public Schools' students, staff and families. He began his career as a Special Needs educator at Doherty Memorial High School and later worked with intermediate grade students with Special Needs at Gates Lane and Union Hill schools. He received the Worcester Public School Administrator of the Year Award in 2005 and was the district's first Communication and School Support Coordinator.
- Dr. Mary Meade-Montaque's has dedicated 30 years of service to the Worcester Public Schools. She has received the Young Careerist Award from the Worcester County Business Association. The NAACP and the City of Worcester have recognized her as a pioneer in education for being the first African-American elementary principal in the city. She also received one of America's highest awards presented to educators, the prestigious Milken Educator Award.

GENERAL BUSINESS

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gb #0-275 - Mr. Monfredo/Ms. McCullough
(August 25, 2020)

Air Quality and HVAC
Work/update on

Request that the Administration provide monthly updates on the air quality and HVAC work being done in the schools beginning September 17, 2020.

Mr. Monfredo stated that he would like the Administration to continue to keep the teachers and parents informed of the work being done with the HVAC systems in the schools.

Ms. Novick questioned what the timeline is for the completion of the work on the HVAC systems to which Mr. Allen stated that it is scheduled to be completed by the end of the calendar year.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Administration was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

Diocesan Student
Transportation/
report on

5. gb #0-276 - Miss Biancheria/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo
(August 25, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide a report on diocesan student transportation under the agreements and requirements set by the state to include the number of buses needed, the number of staff and the safety precautions provided due to COVID 19.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Administration was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

Nurses/report on

6. gb #0-277 - Miss Biancheria/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo
(August 25, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide a report regarding the role of nurses during the remote learning time to include a current list and their assignments.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the nurses will collect the students' medical forms and log them into the system for the first two weeks of the school year. On September 21st, September 23rd and October 2nd, the nurses and the Department of

Public Health will be providing families and staff members flu shots and COVID-19 testing at Burncoat Middle School and at the field near Worcester East Middle School. It will be a requirement for students to have a flu shot by December 2020.

Miss Biancheria asked if nurses will have the option to work from home and are they informed of any health issues that a teacher might have. She also asked if the previous open positions for the nurses were filled.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the nurses will have the option to work from home after the first few weeks of school and they are not informed of any teacher's health issues. They are there if a teacher does need their help. She also stated that three nurses were interviewed for the open positions but due to students not being in school and Budget constraints, the Administration delayed hiring them until after the first quarter.

On a roll call, the vote to refer the item to the Administration was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty	7
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Against the motion:	<u>0</u> 7
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The motion carried.

7. gb #0-278 - Administration
(August 26, 2020)

Prior Fiscal Year
Payments/
Instructional Assistants

To approve prior fiscal year payments in the total amount of \$8,400 to Instructional Assistants who served as substitute teachers.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
 Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
 Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
 Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

Prior Fiscal Year
 Payments/two
 retired teachers

8. gb #0-279 - Administration
 (August 27, 2020)

To approve prior fiscal year payments in the total amount of \$4,370 to two retired WPS teachers.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
 Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
 Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
 Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

Minutes/
 approval of

9. APPROVAL OF RECORDS

aor #0-35 - Clerk
 (August 31, 2020)

To consider approval of the Minutes of the School Committee Meeting on Thursday, August 27, 2020.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey,
 Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough,
 Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick,
 Mayor Petty 7

Against the motion: $\frac{0}{7}$

The motion carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS

10. gb #0-273.1 - Administration/Administration MIAA Athletic Guidance
(August 31, 2020)

To discuss the updates/challenges on athletic guidance from the MIAA.

Superintendent Binienda provided an overview of the updates on the new MIAA requirements for fall sports and stated that:

- Boys and girls soccer, field hockey, cross country and golf can be competitive sports.
- Football, volleyball and cheerleading can only be practices.
- Fifty fans will be allowed at each event.
- An onsite administrator will be hired to supervise the fans.

Mr. Shea, Athletic Director, stated that the information he received from the Central Massachusetts Athletic Directors Association was that Abby Kelley Foster Charter School has opted not to participate in Cross-country or Soccer until the Fall phase two. Under the EEA guidelines, the allotment of 50 fans at each game was discussed with other athletic directors. They considered whether to have either a pass or a lanyard designated to players from each team, in order to have one family member to attend a game. He also stated that the coaches' contract is being discussed and that they would get paid for their in-season practices and games. Anything that is outside the season would be on a voluntary basis and they would have to sign the volunteer form.

Mayor Petty commended Mr. Shea and the Superintendent for all their hard work to make sports possible and believed that it is very important for students to play sports.

Ms. Novick stated that given both the rates of infection in the City and what is still being researched about the long term impact of COVID-19, she is not in favor of students' participation in athletics.

Miss Biancheria asked what training was provided to the coaches to deal with a student or coach who tested positive for COVID-19.

Mr. Shea stated that he, the Superintendent and Mr. Pezzella will have protocols developed prior to September 18th. Mr. Pezzella and Mr. Bedard are the two COVID-19 Administrators for the district who will be providing information to the students and coaches.

Miss Biancheria questioned whether the PPE equipment would be included in the discussions with the coaches and students.

Mr. Shea stated that the coaches are able to obtain any type of PPE, hand sanitizer and/or wipes from the custodial crew at each of the high schools.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide an update in December on the successes and challenges that took place during the Fall Sports Season.

On a roll call of 6-1 (nay Ms. Novick) the motion was approved.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Mayor Petty	6
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Against the motion: Ms. Novick	$\frac{1}{7}$
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The motion carried.

Grant/Remote
Learning
Technology
Essentials

11. qb #0-281 - Administration
(August 31, 2020)

To accept the Remote Learning Technology Essentials Grant in the amount of \$2,253,313.

Ms. Novick asked for an update on the arrival time of the iPads that are on order and if the students in preschool and kindergarten will all have one.

Mrs. Kyriazis stated that 770 iPads were shipped early and will arrive on September 4th and the others will be shipped by September 16th. There were currently enough old iPads for each student to receive one until the new ones arrive and can be swapped out.

Miss Biancheria asked if the IAs have or will receive Chromebooks.

Mr. Walton stated that a survey went out to the 600 IAs asking if they were in need of a device or whether or not they could wait until the Chromebook order arrives. Thirty-five percent stated that they were in need of a device. There are 350 laptops on order, 120 laptops in the system and donors provided Chromebooks which will all be provided to the IAs.

Mayor Petty stated that he had already asked the Superintendent to provide a report at the first meeting of each month regarding the pandemic and remote learning and invite teachers, parents and students to attend. He requested that the Administration provide a brief update at the meeting of September 17th.

On a roll call, the vote to approve the item was as follows:

For the motion: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey, Mr. Foley, Ms. McCullough, Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick, Mayor Petty	7
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Against the motion:	<u>0</u> 7
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The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

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

VI. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
Administration
(September 10, 2020)

ITEM - ros #0-8
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

PARABOLA PROJECT UPDATE

PRIOR ACTION:

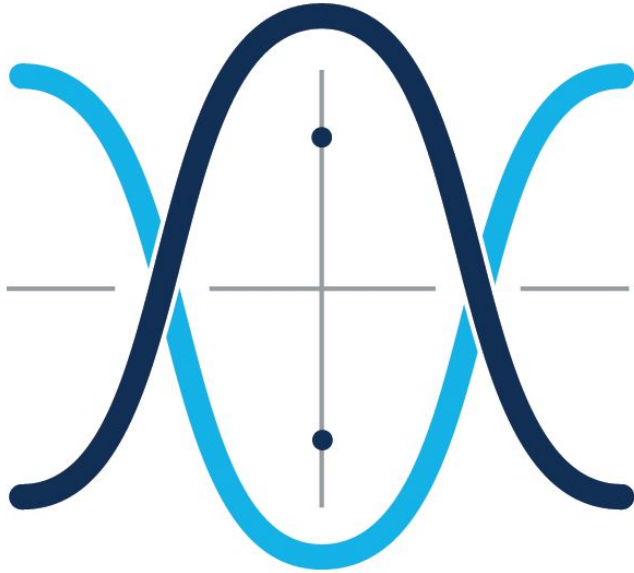
BACKUP:

Annex A (15 pages) contains a copy of the PowerPoint Presentation.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Accept and file.

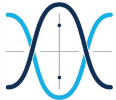


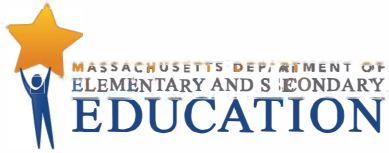
PARABOLA

P R O J E C T



HARVARD T.H. CHAN
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

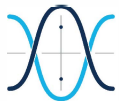
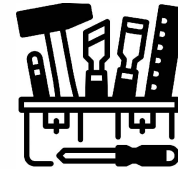
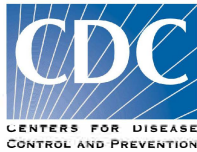




Emerging Guidance
and Policy

Medical and Education
Expertise to Coherently
Translate for Action

Set of Tools and
Innovative
Implementation
Options



A Balanced View of Risk

The decisions around the return to school must reflect a global view of risk. We must balance the risks of COVID-19 infection with in-school learning, with other significant risks to the overall health and well-being of our kids when they are out of school.

Loss of learning

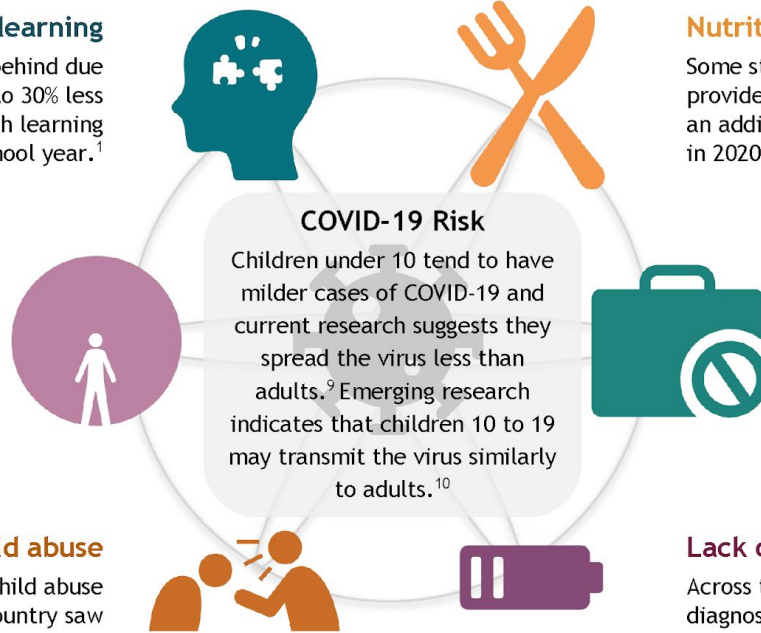
Students could return in the fall already behind due to lack of in-person education, with up to 30% less reading learning and up to 50% less math learning compared to gains during a typical school year.¹

Social & emotional impact

In a US survey, 29% of parents said their children's emotional and mental health were suffering due to social distancing and closures.² Additionally, 13% of adolescents in the US receive mental health care from their schools, with school being the only source of support for 35% of those children.³

Reduced detection of child abuse

Teachers serve as mandatory reporters of child abuse and neglect. Hospitals across the country saw increases in child abuse injuries and deaths that coincided with lockdown orders.⁴



Nutritional insecurity

Some students depend on free/reduced-price meals provided in schools. Estimates suggest there will be an additional 1.2 to 6.8 million food insecure children in 2020 than there were in 2018.⁵

Loss of parental employment

Parents may be unable to work if they can't find childcare options to replace school. Recent research suggests that if schools and daycares remain closed, 17.5 million workers, or 11% of the US workforce, may face major barriers to work.⁶

Lack of access to essential services

Across the US, about 1.5 million children have a diagnosed speech impairment⁷ and approximately 1 in 54 children have been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders.⁸ These children, and others that require specialized supports, may have missed speech therapy and critical development services they previously received at school.

Parabola Project's stance on four key areas



Masks: We believe everyone inside a school setting should be required to wear a mask/face covering, including pre-K-1 students.



Face-shields and barriers should not be used as a replacement for wearing masks/face coverings or physical distancing of 6 feet.



Distance: We believe a minimum of 6 feet should be the goal.



Cohort size: We believe a maximum of 25 people should be in a cohort, including both students and teachers.

Further rationale is provided on the subsequent slides.

Public Health Principle Definitions

Leadership and Culture

Promoting a leadership approach and culture around health that builds trust between leaders and the school community, makes agile data-driven decisions, takes a global view of health/education risks, and emphasizes resilience.

Risk Stratification and Prevention

Assessing individual and family risk for COVID-19 on a regular basis to decide who should not participate with in-person learning, emphasize the importance and facilitating access to key vaccines, and promoting other practices for strong immune systems. Of note, children (especially ages 5-12) appear to be at lower risk of severe COVID-19 than adults.

Screening and Triage

Daily review to screen for symptoms of COVID-19, staying home if any symptoms are present, and creating space within the school for children and staff to isolate before going home if they become sick during the school day.

Testing and Tracing

Coordinate with the local public health system for individuals with COVID-19 systems that need testing and quarantine, and having protocols that enable efficient public health system tracing especially if school-associated outbreaks occur.

Masks and PPE

All children and staff should have a cloth mask (or medical masks) at all times, and other PPE should be available for nurses and individuals treating a suspected case.

Hygiene (Personal and Space)

Cleaning hands, surfaces, and spaces to reduce exposure to COVID-19 droplets which includes handwashing, hand sanitizing, wiping down surfaces, and deep cleaning.

Density and Distance

Limit large numbers of people in an enclosed space and allow distance between people to reduce the risk of spreading and catching air droplets.

Space Layout and Air Quality

Assessing how the design and configuration of building and other spaces promote adequate airflow, ventilation, and movement within and between spaces.

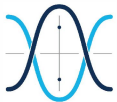
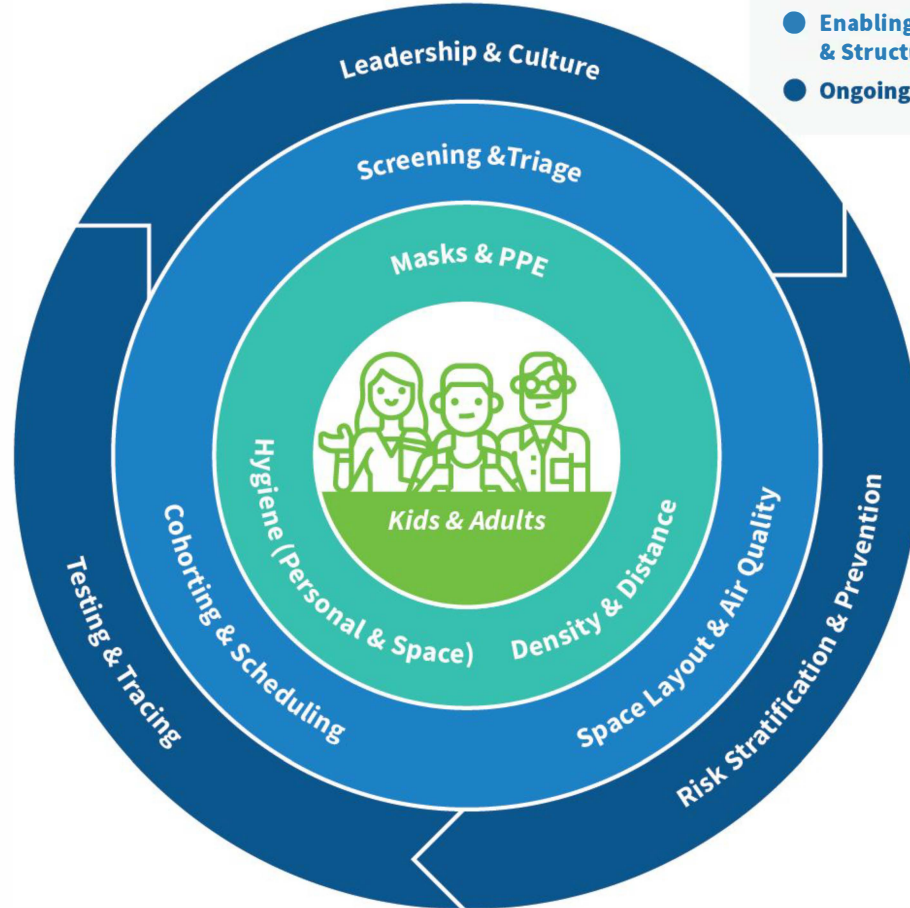
Cohorting

Grouping limited numbers of students and staff, keeping the group together, and limiting inter-group contact to reduce exposure to COVID-19.

Implementation Framework

Conditions

- Essential Supports
- Enabling Systems & Structures
- Ongoing Processes

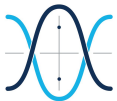




School Reopening Readiness Guide

(Version 1)

- Help district and school leaders identify effective health and safety measures that are feasible for and acceptable to all stakeholders.
- This guide provides implementation options and best practices to help build a shared understanding of school reopening challenges and strategies with a balanced view of risk.
- It is unlikely schools can implement all the ideas included in this guide given resources and context, nor is that necessary to create an effective reopening plan.





Principle 8: Hygiene (Personal and Space)

Clean hands (via hand-washing, sanitizing), clean and wipe down surfaces, and conduct deep cleaning of building spaces to reduce exposure to COVID-19 droplets.

Objectives:

[8.1 Develop a plan for hand-washing/sanitizing throughout the school day](#)

[8.2 Establish a plan for effective sanitization](#)

[8.3 Determine if each class has adequate supplies to minimize use of and properly sanitize high-touch and shared supplies](#)

8.1 Develop a plan for hand-washing/sanitizing throughout the school day

ANNEX A
ROS #0-8
Page 10

Likely Implementation Level DISTRICT

Status

NOT STARTED

IN PROGRESS

COMPLETE

Priority Level

LOW

MEDIUM

HIGH

NOTE: Update your school's or district's status and priority level in your progress tracker (link at the bottom of the [homepage](#)).

Key Recommendations for Consideration

- Prepare a schedule for hand-washing/sanitizing.
- Place hand sanitizer in key locations in the building (e.g., entryways, bathrooms, classrooms).
- For each school, determine the quantities needed of soap and hand sanitizers, paper towels, and automatic soap/sanitizer dispensing units.
- Identify and contact suppliers to order supplies.
- Train staff and students on proper hand-washing and hand sanitizing procedures.
 - Students under age 6 should only use hand sanitizer with adult supervision (Anon 2020).



Starting Point Tools

Sample schedule:

- Immediately Before: leaving home, leaving the classroom, eating, touching shared objects, touching one's face, and leaving school (Jones et al. 2020).
- Immediately After: arriving at school, when entering a new classroom during the day, finishing lunch, touching shared objects, using the bathroom, coughing, sneezing, blowing your nose, and arriving at home (Jones et al. 2020).

Determining quantities of supplies should be based on:

- The number of students and staff.
- The frequency of hand cleaning (hand-washing/sanitizing schedule).
- The mode of cleaning (soap vs sanitizer).
- Placement of automatic sanitizers.

It is estimated that $\frac{1}{3}$ gallon of hand sanitizer per classroom, per week at 100% attendance, is needed.

[CDC Printable Posters.](#)

Plain soap is preferable to antibacterial soap (Anon 2020)

IN DEVELOPMENT FROM THE PARABOLA PROJECT

- Hygiene Breaks Toolkit



Other Resources



Country/District Examples ^

[Tennessee](#): These guidelines all specifically focus on transportation.

[Wake County Public School Return to Campus Guide](#) (page 9)

[Maryland](#) (page 10 and 34)

[California](#) (page 7)

[Rhode Island](#) (page 16)



Ideas ^

- Send a survey to families to see who can make alternative transportation arrangements.



Guidelines ^

[EducationWeek Guidance for Social Distancing on School Buses](#)

Phase 1 Tools



How to Prepare and Care for Your Classroom



Communicating about Reopening Measures with Families



What to Do When There Is a Positive Case



Bathroom/Hygiene Breaks



Cohorting



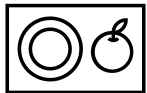
Learning Together in Socially Distanced Classrooms



Mask “Culture” and Protocols



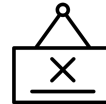
Diagnosing Incoming Individual Learning and SEL Needs



Step-by-Step for Meal Time



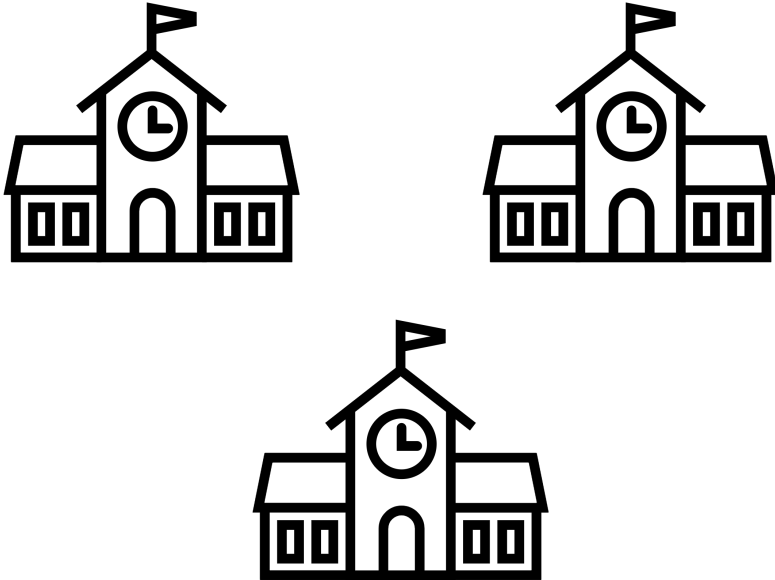
School Air Quality Assessment Guide



Indicators to Support Closure and Reopening



Bus Driver Support for Symptomatic Students



- **Partner** with Ariadne Labs and The Learning Accelerator **to develop, implement, and iterate on tools and innovative implementation options.**
- **Provide access to staff members** to participate in surveys, focus groups, 1:1 interviews, and/or design sessions.



Phase 2

Schools are reopening. How do we learn from schools that have reopened with an in person component?

Objectives:

1. To understand the feasibility and short-term consequences of the strategies used by districts and schools reopening with in-person instruction.
2. To create visibility into their reopening experience in a user-friendly format that can support other districts and schools in their reopening planning

Interview schools who have reopened and learn about their practices and collect artifacts.



Committee Members
 John Foley, Chairman
 Molly McCullough, Vice Chairman
 Dianna Biancheria

AGENDA #3
 F/O
 9-9-20
 Page 1

A C T I O N S

The Standing Committee on Finance and Operations met virtually at 5:06 p.m. on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at the Durkin Administration Building in Room 410.

There were present: Miss Biancheria, Ms. McCullough and Chairman Foley

Representing Administration were: Mr. Allen and Dr. Friel

gb #0-267 - Administration (August 17, 2020)

To review the status of the FY21 Budget and make appropriate transfers as required.

Mr. Allen spoke to the FY21 Revised Baseline Budget. He stated that on July 30, 2020, the Governor and the State Legislature provided revised baseline FY21 Chapter 70 Aid for school districts. The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education also provided an Administrative Update on Chapter 70 Aid and Net School Spending Requirements based on these revised budget baseline amounts. This state funding commitment included Chapter 70 increases for inflation and enrollment only, that while will keep all school districts at foundation, the new baseline budget does not include any of the funding for the phase-in of the Student Opportunity Act (**a \$15.5 million reduction for the Worcester Public Schools**).

According to DESE, updated charter tuition and reimbursement amounts were not included in the local aid resolution so the amounts listed below are based on final FY20 amounts pending any additional administrative updates or final passage of the budget per state guidance.

Revenue and Tuition Offset Category:	FY21 Adopted Budget (based on Governor's Budget)	FY21 Revised Baseline Budget	Change from Adopted Budget Amount
Chapter 70 State Aid & Reimbursement:			
Chapter 70 State Aid (Total)	293,503,420	277,395,997	-\$16,107,423
Charter School Reimbursement	\$4,490,822	\$2,763,726	-\$1,727,096
Total City Contribution	<u>\$123,327,975</u>	<u>\$123,327,975</u>	\$0
Total General Fund Revenues	<u>\$421,322,217</u>	<u>\$403,487,698</u>	-\$17,834,519
Less Tuition Assessments:			
Charter School Tuition Assessment	\$29,496,484	\$27,154,480	-\$2,342,004
School Choice Tuition Assessment	\$3,176,771	\$3,176,771	\$0

Special Education Revenue Offset	<u>\$193,758</u>	<u>\$193,758</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Total Tuition Assessments	<u>\$32,867,013</u>	<u>\$30,525,009</u>	<u>-\$2,342,004</u>
Total General Fund Revenue	<u>\$388,455,204</u>	<u>\$372,962,689</u>	<u>-\$15,492,515</u>

The Administration prepared and the School Committee approved a reduction of \$15.5 million. These actions preserved Worcester Public Schools' positions to ensure full continuity of instruction, support, and services during the full remote model of the first quarter. Final actions by the School Committee will not be taken until a final budget is adopted by the State Legislature as well as the Worcester City Council.

<u>Account</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
All Salary Accounts	Reduce 2% across all salary accounts. This reduction does not impact current salaries, step increases, or other existing contractual obligations.	\$4,859,362
Various Salary Accounts (Teachers, Instructional Assistants, School Nurses, and School Clerical)	Eliminate extended learning time (common planning time and additional instructional time) at four former Level 4 schools (Burncoat Prep, Chandler Elementary, Elm Park Community, and Union Hill School).	\$1,856,198
Various Salary Accounts	Actual and anticipated vacancy savings for positions through the end of September 2020.	\$391,378
500-91114 Teacher Substitutes	Reduce day-by-day substitutes for first quarter (full remote model).	\$285,000
500-91115 Instructional Assistants	Eliminate and reallocate selected Instructional Assistant positions due to full remote model.	\$111,396
500-91118 Supplemental Program Salaries	Line G. Student Afterschool Drop-Off Center Reduce afterschool student drop-off center for first quarter (based on full remote model).	\$7,500
500-91120 Maintenance Service Salaries	Eliminate 5 vacant positions (3 electricians and 2 carpenters).	\$271,809
500-91124 Crossing Guards	Reduce use of crossing guards (completely) for first quarter (full remote model).	\$183,781
540103-92000 Student Transportation	Reduce contracted student transportation for 10 additional staff development days (no longer student session days).	\$762,458
540103-92000 Student Transportation	Reduce contracted student transportation for Fridays (full year) due to remote learning model (32 days).	\$2,439,866
540103-92000 Student Transportation	Reduce contracted student transportation for big buses for first quarter (full remote model) (33 days, Friday dates are included in the above amount).	\$1,383,689
540103-92000 Student Transportation	Reduce contracted student transportation for mid-size or wheelchair buses for first quarter (full remote model) (33 days, Friday dates are included in the above amount)	\$1,132,421
540103-92000 Student Transportation	Reduce contracted student transportation for mid-size buses, wheelchair buses, and 7D vans during Summer 2020	\$336,822
540103-92000 Student Transportation	Reduce out-of-district special education and McKinney-Vento Transportation based estimated savings for in-district provided services and reduced transportation needs.	\$727,770
500123-96000 Health Insurance	Savings associated through vacancy factor and position reductions	\$168,610

500130-92000 Personal Services	Line I. Security Guards Reduce contracted security services (except for Durkin Administration Building) for first quarter (full remote model)	\$81,372
500-92204 Instructional Supplies	Line A. Instructional Materials Reduce \$10 per pupil instructional supply budget	\$245,780
500-92204 Instructional Supplies	Line D. Student Furniture Eliminate line item for student furniture purchases for this school year	\$153,000
500136-92000 Miscellaneous Educational OM	Line K. In State Travel Estimated savings for first quarter full remote model	\$5,000
500152-92000 Facilities Ordinary Maintenance	Line B. Trash Removal Lower trash removal costs based on first quarter full remote plan	\$89,303
TOTAL RECOMMENDED BUDGET REDUCTIONS		\$15,492,515

Some of these areas could be restored should a final state budget include Student Opportunity Act funds or through additional federal stimulus funds. However, should an all-remote model be continued during the second quarter of the school year, an additional savings totaling \$3.6 million may also be realized in several accounts listed above.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a listing of positions of former or retired Worcester Public Schools' employees without names currently working part-time in the system as mentors of in any other capacity.

On a roll call of 3-0, the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria questioned if it was already determined to eliminate IA positions and, if so, what school sites will be impacted. She also inquired as to the number of cafeteria workers that will be furloughed.

Mr. Allen stated that the Human Resources Office continues to work through the reallocation of the IA positions and the report will be finalized in approximately two weeks. The furlough process for the cafeteria workers will involve 240 of the 330 positions and the plan will be completed this week.

Miss Biancheria questioned if crossing guards will be furloughed and with they collect unemployment.

Mr. Allen stated that, as long as they meet the criteria, they can collect unemployment.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide, within two weeks, a complete list of all positions that will be furloughed.

On a roll call of 3-0, the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a complete list of all donations made to the Worcester Public Schools by individuals and different organizations.

On a roll call of 3-0, the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria questioned if there were any discussions with the WRTA regarding discounts on bus passes for students. She also asked if the Worcester Public Schools had purchased any bus passes and, if so, how many.

Mr. Allen stated that the WPS spent \$20,000 to purchase reduced WRTA bus passes for athletic transportation.

On a roll call of 3-0, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

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

Committee Members

Tracy O'Connell-Novick, Chairman
Dianna Biancheria, Vice-Chairman
Laura Clancey

AGENDA #2
SSP
9-10-20
Page 1

A C T I O N S

The Standing Committee on School and Student Performance met virtually at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 10, 2020 in Room 410 of the Durkin Administration Building.

There were present: Miss Biancheria, Mrs. Clancey and Chairman Novick

Representing Administration: Superintendent Binienda, Dr. Friel,
Ms. Kuriacose and Dr. O'Neil

Others in attendance: P. Matthews, T. Quinn, S. Kyriazis, B. Walton

gb #0-232 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Mr. Foley/Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo (July 7, 2020)

To consider the Worcester Regional Research Bureau's July 2020 report "[Broadening Broadband](#)".

Ms. Novick opened the meeting by introducing Paul Matthews, Executive Director and CEO and Thomas Quinn, Research Assistant from the Worcester Regional Research Bureau to present their report entitled "Broadening Broadband." Mr. Matthews indicated that the WRRB is a municipal 501C independent, non-partisan, non-profit organization. He stated that Charter/Spectrum is a monopoly in the City of Worcester as the sole provider of cable services in the city. Mr. Quinn pointed out that only two-thirds of Worcester residents have broadband. Mr. Matthews cited examples of other communities that have strengthened their broadband capacities.

Superintendent Binienda stated that there are still hotspots left over and the district is still distributing them. She stated that one million dollars was allotted in the CARES Act for hotspots and currently \$750,000 has been spent.

Miss Biancheria asked if this issue has been discussed with the City. Superintendent Binienda replied that the city has an Internet Committee and the Mayor has met with Charter/Spectrum and if an agreement is signed with Charter/Spectrum, the city may pick up the cost of Wi-Fi for the families that do not have it.

Mrs. Clancey voiced concern about the higher rates that may be incurred if the city went to a higher broadband.

ANNEX A

AGENDA #2

SSP

9-10-20

Page 2

Ms. Novick asked how the School Committee can work to provide greater impact on internet access for students and parents.

Ms. Novick opened the meeting for public comment to discuss the impact of Internet on k-12 access.

Two callers acknowledged that it is challenging to work from home and have your children learn remotely.

Miss Biancheria questioned the cost for a consultant for an estimate and if it was possible to look at partnering with Charter/Spectrum and expand what they already have.

Ms. Novick made the following motions:

Request that the Mayor interact with the City Council to take concrete steps to explore the possibility of municipal broadband by providing a cost estimate to meet the needs of students and faculty.

Communicate to the State and Federal Delegation the need for state and federal grant funding for communities both to explore and install municipal broadband networks.

Miss Biancheria made the following amendment to Ms. Novick's first motion:

-to include a detailed estimate analysis and compare costs with at least three comparable cities that presently have broadband.

On a roll call of 3-0, the motions were approved as amended.

Ms. Novick announced that the City's Standing Committee on Urban Technologies would be meeting on Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

On a roll call of 3-0, the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

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

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration/Mr. Monfredo/
Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/
Ms. McCullough/Ms. Novick
(September 10, 2020)

CURRENT ITEM - gb #0-229.1
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

1ST ITEM gb #0-229 S.C.MTG. 7-16-20
2ND ITEM gb #0-229.1 S.C.MTG. 9-17-20

ITEM:

Response of the Administration to the request provide an update on summer school learning and include the grade levels with the content covered and the number of students who participated.

ORIGINAL ITEM: Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/Ms. McCullough/
Ms. Novick (July 6, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide an update on summer school learning and include the grade levels with the content covered and the number of students who participated.

PRIOR ACTION:

7-16-20 - On a roll call of 7-0. the item was referred to the Administration for a report on August 27, 2020.

BACKUP:

Annex A (9 pages) contains a copy of the Administration's response to the item.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Accept and file.

Virtual Summer School 2020

Program	Curriculum	Enrollment															
<p>K/1 Virtual Summer Camp</p> <p>Available all summer asynchronously</p>	<p>This virtual summer camp was asynchronous and consisted of exciting and engaging tasks as well as skill based activities created around fifteen read aloud stories recorded by community members and school personnel. Students could view the pre recorded read alouds and complete the tasks/activities at their own pace.</p>	<p>3154 unique users on the website</p>															
<p>Elementary Virtual Summer School</p> <p>June 17-July 8</p> <p>9:00 am- 12 noon</p>	<p>The virtual summer school program housed 9 virtual elementary sites and included students from all 33 elementary schools. The program focused on the core content areas of ELA, Math and Science for students in grades 2-6. Each grade level focused on two to three essential standards from each content area weekly. Teachers used a gradual release of responsibility to provide direct instruction to students and assignment of relevant tasks. Additionally, School Adjustment Counselors provided on-going SEL and attendance support to Site Administrators.</p> <p>Below are logistics of the program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Half day sessions from 9am-12pm • Fifteen day program • Each day began with a Morning Meeting/SEL activity(15 min.) • Schedule consisted of two consecutive days of content in order to delve deeper into content • (Example schedule below) <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">M</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">T</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">W</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Th</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">F</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">ELA</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">ELA</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Math</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Math</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Scienc e</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Scienc e</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">ELA</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">ELA</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Math</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Math</td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instruction began with a Synchronous mini lesson(45 mins) • Teacher assigned tasks/activities related to mini lesson(90 mins) in Google Classroom 	M	T	W	Th	F	ELA	ELA	Math	Math	Scienc e	Scienc e	ELA	ELA	Math	Math	<p>Grade 2: 336 students Grade 3: 287 students Grade 4: 269 students Grade 5: 262 students Grade 6: 146 students</p> <p>TOTAL: 1300 students</p>
M	T	W	Th	F													
ELA	ELA	Math	Math	Scienc e													
Scienc e	ELA	ELA	Math	Math													

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers remained on line to answer questions and provide small group help. Classes came back together at the end of the session to review learning, do an engaging, fun activity and set the stage for the next day. (30 mins) <p>Teacher Supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum Google Classrooms created and supported by content liaisons to support lesson planning and instruction Training session facilitated by content liaisons Weekly drop in hours available for lesson planning support <p>Targets content support by content liaisons as needed</p>	
<p>21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC) Summer Program</p> <p>July 6, 2020-July 30, 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burncoat Middle School, Students Grade 7 and rising Grade 8 students Vernon Hill School, Incoming Kindergarteners and rising Grade 1-2 students Claremont Academy, Rising Grade 7-9 students Woodland Academy, 	<p><i>The Massachusetts 21st Century Community Learning Centers (CCLC)</i> is a grant funded program by the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education which provides after school and summer programs. During the Summer 2020 the Worcester Public Schools (WPS) 21st Century program served incoming and rising students from Burncoat Middle School, Vernon Hill School, Claremont and Woodland Academy. WPS teachers and community partners provided live virtual academic activities focused upon English Language Arts (ELA) skill development and enrichment activities such as art, music and science between the hours of 8:00 AM-3:00 PM from Monday through Thursday, July 6, 2020-July 30, 2020. In addition, pre-recorded activities provided by WPS staff and community partners were available for students to view at their leisure.</p> <p>Community partners varied at each site, but included Tumbao Latin Dance, Hobby Quest, Main IDEA, UMASS Extension Nutrition Extension, Drama Out of the Box, MA Audubon Broad Meadow Brook, Science from Scientists, Worcester Bravehearts, and the Worcester Art Museum. Many of the community partners mailed supplies to students homes including ukuleles and art supplies from Main IDEA, art supplies from the Worcester Art Museum, magic and aviation supplies from Hobby Quest, as well as baseballs and game tickets from the Worcester Bravehearts.</p>	<p>Student enrollment:</p> <p>Burncoat Middle School, 36 students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incoming Grade 7= 11 students Rising Grade 8= 25 students Served 55% Economically Disadvantaged (ED), 28% Special Education and 11% English Language Learners (ELs) students. Students attended an average of 37 hours. <p>Vernon Hill School, 36 students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incoming Kindergarteners: 1 student Rising Grade 1= 12 students Rising Grade 2= 23 students Served 81% ED, 39%

siblings of Claremont students enrolled in the 21st CCLC summer program who are entering Grades 3-6

- ELs and 25% Special Education students.
- Students attended an average of 45 hours

Claremont Academy, 29 students

- Incoming Grade 7= 7 students
- Rising Grade 8= 14 students
- Rising Grade 9= 8 students
- Served 66% ED, 38% ELs and 14% Special Education students.
- Students attended an average of 30 hours.

Woodland Academy, 15 students

- Rising Grade 3= 2 students
- Rising Grade 4= 3 students
- Rising Grade 5= 7 students
- Rising Grade 6= 3 students
- Served 66% ED, 60% ELs and 6% Special Education students.

Students attended an average of 32 hours.

<p>North High School Jump Start Academy June 22,2020-July 16,2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incoming 9th Graders from Worcester East Middle School 	<p>North High School’s virtual Jump Start Academy summer program funded by the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education <i>Increased Access to After School, Out-of-School Time and Summer Learning programs grant</i> served incoming 9th Graders from feeder middle school Worcester East Middle.</p> <p>The Jump Start Academy allowed students to acclimate to the high school environment including classwork expectations and curriculum, establish relationships with teachers and begin their path to high academic achievement even before their first official school day.</p> <p>WPS staff and community partners offered live virtual academic and enrichment activities between the hours of 11:00 AM-2:00 PM from Monday through Thursday, June 22, 2020-July 16, 2020. In addition, pre-recorded activities provided by WPS staff and community partners were available for students to view at their leisure. Community partners included Tumbao Latin Dance, Main IDEA and the Worcester Art Museum.</p>	<p>Student enrollment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Served 14 students entering Grade 9 at North High School
<p>Secondary</p>	<p>High School The virtual high school summer school program was focused on high school students who needed to recover courses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> English, Math, and Science teachers provided synchronous instruction to students in need of credit recovery in these subject areas. PLATO teachers supported students in need of recovery in other subjects. ESL and Special Education teachers were available to support students with their learning. The summer school was held from June 17th to July 8th from 9 am - 12 pm Monday through Friday. There is no summer school Friday, July 3rd. Similar to the elementary structure teachers daily provided a standards-based mini lesson and then assigned tasks related to the lesson. While students completed assigned tasks teachers were available to answer questions and provide individual and small group support. Classes reconvened each day to review learning and close out the day. <p>Middle School The virtual middle school summer school program was focused on enrichment, intervention and/or course recovery for students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students rotated through English, Math, Science, and Physical Education. 	<p>BHS: 118 students CA: 55 students DHS: 39 students NHS: 36 students SHS: 64 students WTHS: 59 students FGMS: 78 students SMS: 126 students WEMS: 79 students</p> <p>TOTAL: 654 students</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar to both the elementary and high school structure teachers daily provided a standards-based mini lesson and then assigned tasks related to the lesson. While students completed assigned tasks teachers were available to answer questions and provide individual and small group support. In addition to English, Math and Science students participated in a variety of Physical Education activities • There was a social skills component in each of the programs provided by school adjustment counselors. • Special Education and ESL support were provided to students needing extra support. • The summer school was held from June 17th to July 8th from 9 am - 12 pm Monday through <p>Friday. There is no summer school Friday, July 3rd.</p> <p>Teacher Supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum Google Classrooms created and supported by content liaisons to support lesson planning and instruction • Training session facilitated by content liaisons • Weekly drop in hours available for lesson planning support <p>Targets content support by content liaisons as needed</p>	
<p>EL Summer Program</p>	<p>We had five EL specific summer programs this summer. These programs were grouped as one of our Multilingual Accelerated Summer Academies (MASA). Each program targeted a specific population of language learners. Programs had both synchronous and asynchronous instruction and focused primarily on language development. In all programs students began with a synchronous lesson with gradual release to independent work for a given amount of time. Students would then return for a second and sometimes third synchronous lesson under the same gradual release model. Based on their EPL level the WIDA standards guided the literacy and language instruction that teachers implemented. Apart from the programs below, ESL teachers were also employed in the elementary and secondary programs referenced above and were able to provide support to the English Learners in those programs.</p>	<p>English Learner Enrollment Breakdown:</p> <p>Elementary Program: 447</p> <p>Secondary Program: 272</p>

NCC MASA Summer Program

This program was for any student in one of the 3 NCC programs (Elementary, Secondary, Young Adult) and encompassed students ranging in grades 2-12. In addition to direct instruction in language and literacy development based on WIDA students also received numeracy and technology instruction. Social emotional learning was also blended into this instruction.

ESL Secondary MASA Program

This program was for middle or high school students (grades 7-12) and was open to all secondary schools in the district. ESL teachers provide literacy and language development based on WIDA standards. All language domains were targeted (reading, writing, speaking, and listening). Students engaged in a book study as means to have a relevant and contextualized language learning experience. The book included many themes that students could relate to including, but not limited to, gender inequality, discrimination, immigration, perseverance, etc. Additionally, this program incorporated guidance counselors who co-taught with the ESL teachers. The guidance counselors were able to provide direct instruction and engage students in deepening their understanding of college and career readiness and support them in drafting a vision board of their future beyond high school.

Dual Language MASA Program

The DL MASA program was open to any k-9th student currently enrolled in a Dual Language Program at either Woodland, Roosevelt, Chandler Magnet, Burncoat Middle or Burncoat High. This program included both English Learners in the Dual Language Program as well as native English Speakers (non-EL's) in the DL programs. Similarly, this program focused on language and literacy development but with instruction delivered in Spanish. This Spanish language instruction was contextualized under the theme of arts and culture.

TBE MASA Program

The TBE MASA program was open to any K -6th grade EL student already in the Transitional Bilingual Education Program at Chandler Magnet. Similar to the DL program this program focused on language and literacy development with instruction in Spanish. All for language domains were addressed and translanguaging encouraged. The content was contextualized and delivered through the theme of arts and culture.

MASA NCC: 38

MASA ESL Secondary: 41

Dual Language and TBE
 MASA: 73

Spanish Math Support: 29

**Total District Wide English
 Learner Enrollment for
 Summer Programs (June
 17th to July 8th): 900**

	<p>Spanish Math Support MASA Program This program was for middle or high school Spanish speaking students (grades 7-12) and was open to all secondary schools in the district. Unlike the other MASA programs that focused on language development this program focused on math competency skills based on the Massachusetts Mathematics Curriculum Frameworks to support student’s knowledge and command of grade level math. Instruction in this program was delivered in Spanish. In addition to math content the program also focused on developing math academic language and vocabulary.</p> <p>In sum, the five MASA programs listed above ran for a total of 3 hours per day from June 17th to July 8th with no school on July 3rd. While each program may have slightly varied in the breakdown of hours. Each incorporated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small group check ins/intervention as needed • 2-3 synchronous lessons which were followed by independent work for the students. • During the independent time the teacher was available for students to check back in with the teacher and/or the teacher met with small groups 	
<p>Special Education Extended School Year (ESY) Summer Individualized Educational Services</p>	<p>The virtual special education extended year summer services provided a blended approach to learning. The standards covered were based on each individual student’s IEP, for which Remote Learning Plan (RLP) Plans were developed to address IEP goals and objectives.</p> <p>Student Learning: Content and Delivery</p> <p>A blended approach to learning was utilized to include both synchronous and asynchronous instruction. Examples of synchronous instruction were live meetings involving Zoom and Google Meet, while asynchronous instruction included pre-recorded Screencastify video clips succinctly targeting specific skills and topic areas. Synchronous instruction allowed for opportunities for small group instruction using break out rooms. Break out rooms were also used as an opportunity for dysregulated students to practice social emotional learning competencies, such as self-management, self-awareness, and responsible decision-making. Teachers supported professional staff with the implementation of blended learning approaches through professional development and ongoing office hours.</p>	<p>Dates and Schedule:</p> <p>The dates of the SPED Extended School Year program were the following: Monday - Thursday (9:00- Noon)</p> <p>Session I: July 6th - July 16th</p> <p>Session II: July 27th - August 6th</p> <p>Enrollment numbers of students with disabilities registered = 384</p>

Virtual programming was via Zoom or Google Meet to reconnect with the student and family and review and build upon the routines, skills, or content being targeted. Preference was for providers in the team to co-teach and embed in tasks/activities that target skills. Interactive activities involved music and games (i.e. Kahoot, Boom Cards, Google Slides, etc.), which families could replicate to utilize as appropriate. In addition, on demand videos that reviewed the routines or skills being addressed were available for families to access with the student.

Blended instruction was also provided to address social emotional learning (SEL) competencies (self-management, self-awareness, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making). Therapeutic groups utilized curricula, such as Second Step, Zones of Regulation, Mind Up, Social Thinking, Brain Wise, and Strong Teens. The focus of SEL group meetings was to increase students' self-awareness of emotions, identification of coping strategies/ skills when experiencing negative emotions like anxiety and anger, and implementation of coping strategies to alleviate negative emotions and thoughts. In addition to synchronous Zoom meetings, students and families were provided with access to resources, which included links to hotlines, websites, You Tube videos, and articles.

Virtual learning also involved family engagement opportunities for parents/ guardians/ caretakers to engage in workshops (via Zoom) related to positive parenting strategies, including limit setting, creating a structured environment, and trauma-informed care. Pre-recorded parenting presentations will also be provided on topics, such as reinforcement, behavior change, and incidental teaching.

The standards covered were based on each individual student's IEP, for which Remote Learning Plan (RLP) Amendment Plans were completed. Given the complex and multi-needs of this student population, service providers will co-planned and co-presented virtually to support student engagement and families.

Social Emotional Learning Week (July 20th-July 23rd):

During Social Emotional Learning Week students were broken into six cohorts, which were provided with daily synchronous meetings and asynchronous SEL activities that are posted on the ESY Behavior Interventions and Supports Google Classroom. Synchronous meeting sessions were led by Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs) and Behavior Specialists. Some of the topics covered were: At- Home Social Activities

- Creative Activities
- Coping Items to Make At Home

Superflex Curriculum Information: Character Descriptions, Superflex Read Alouds

Participation numbers of students with disabilities engaged in remote learning activities =321

Special Education - Social Emotional Learning Week: July 20th -23rd

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mindfulness/ Yoga Activities ● Virtual Read Aloud Material <p>Family engagement professional development was also provided by the Special Education Department BCBA's and Behavioral Specialists. The following targeted workshops were presented to families given the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Incidental Teaching ● Remote Academic Engagement 	
<p>Elementary Camp Invention Connect</p> <p>August 3-7</p> <p>9:00 am - 3:00 pm</p>	<p>Camp Invention was a virtual, hands on STEM summer program that was grant funded for Worcester Public Schools. This was the fourth summer it has been offered and the first virtual session.</p> <p>Every student who participated was mailed a boxed Science project to complete during the week. Each day began with a "coach" (WPS teacher) check in and check out at the end of the day. Students had access to online science instruction as well as direct contact with teachers to help in project completion. Project sharing was done virtually on the last day. We thank ABBVIE and UNUM for sponsoring this program. Below are the logistics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *This program ran August 3 to 7 *This was an all day program. *This included students from many WPS schools *There was a planned routine where students work with teachers and independently to complete a project. *Five day attendance was mandatory. *This project was sponsored by ABBVIE and UNUM. 	<p>Grade 2: 24 Students</p> <p>Grade 3: 36 Students</p> <p>Grade 4: 20 Students</p> <p>Grade 5: 22 Students</p> <p>Grade 6: 6 Students</p> <p>WPS/Boys and Girls Club Partnership: 52 WPS students spanning grades K through 7 were all supplied kits, virtual "coaches" (WPS teachers) and on-site support were provided.</p> <p>Total: 160 students</p>

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration/Mr. Monfredo/
Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020)

CURRENT ITEM - gb #0-275.1
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

1ST ITEM gb #0-275 S.C.MTG. 9-3-20
2ND ITEM gb #0-275.1 S.C.MTG. 9-17-20

ITEM:

Response of the Administration to the request to provide monthly updates on the air quality and HVAC work being done in the schools beginning September 17, 2020.

ORIGINAL ITEM: Mr. Monfredo/Ms. McCullough (August 25, 2020)

Request that the Administration provide monthly updates on the air quality and HVAC work being done in the schools beginning September 17, 2020.

PRIOR ACTION:

9-3-20 - Mr. Monfredo stated that he would like the Administration to continue to keep the teachers and parents informed of the work being done with the HVAC systems in the schools.
Ms. Novick questioned what the timeline is for the completion of the work on the HVAC systems to which Mr. Allen stated that it is scheduled to be completed by the end of the calendar year.
On a roll call of 7-0, it was moved to refer the item to the Administration.

BACKUP:

Annex A (2 pages) contains a copy of the Administration's response to the item.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Accept and hold.

WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
VENTILATION MONTHLY REPORT
Report #1 for September 17, 2020

Summer Filter Replacement

Air handling unit filters replaced in each school with such equipment. Building custodians replaced all uninvent filters in buildings where applicable.

Status as of September 9, 2020: Substantially Complete

HVAC Assessment

The district is in the process of engaging a building architect and a mechanical engineering firm which specializes in the design and commissioning of HVAC equipment to determine the existing conditions of buildings and HVAC equipment as follows:

- Determine whether or not rooms have the code minimum natural ventilation.
- Calculate the existing natural ventilation for each room.
- Survey each building's current HVAC system(s)

The engineering survey will consist of the following:

- Identify ventilation type and capabilities
- Determine filtration capabilities of various system types
- Identify central heating plant control as it would relate to heating supply to support continuous or improved ventilation.
- Review of general ventilation control features where applicable.
- Sample of Temperature, Relative Humidity, CO and CO2 within representative samplings of spaces in schools as well as baseline outside of school.
- Review of existing HVAC plans, as made available, to ascertain original design intent regarding ventilation capacity.
- Review of current HVAC ventilation system controls and associated sequences with school facility personnel as well as the schools control provider where applicable. Review of control drawings, as applicable, for each school.

Status as of September 9, 2020: Contract Award Process

WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
VENTILATION MONTHLY REPORT
Report #1 for September 17, 2020
Page 2

Needlepoint Bipolar Ionization

In addition, the City of Worcester has a proposal from Honeywell to install needlepoint bipolar ionization upgrades in the ventilation systems of each school that is equipped with ventilation systems and standalone needlepoint bipolar ionization and filters for schools without mechanical systems.

This is a \$15 million investment in this upgrade to the district's HVAC equipment and air quality.

Needlepoint bipolar ionization is considered a very effective method of improving air quality. Ionization is used to absorb and neutralize pollutants. Volatile organic compounds, viruses, bacteria and mold are killed by ionization. Ionization is effective in managing disease control in buildings. Needlepoint bipolar ionization is used widely in hospitals. A long term benefit of this equipment reducing indoor air quality issues in schools – mold, virus, and other pollutants.

The work is currently being scheduled and will occur through the end of December 2020.

The district will be prioritizing buildings that would allow us to bring back Group C students at the end of the first quarter, if possible and other parameters allow.

Status as of September 9, 2020: Contract Award Process

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(August 31, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-282
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$618.00 to Durham School Services for an afterschool route.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP: The purchase order was not processed.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(August 31, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-283
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$105.00 to an employee.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP: There was an oversight in the Payroll Department and the timesheet did not go through before FY20 closed.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(September 1, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-284
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

To accept the CvRF Coronavirus Relief Fund School Reopening Grant in the amount of \$5,729,400.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

Annex A (7 pages) contains a copy of the Grant Acceptance Form.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

Grant Acceptance Form

Name of Grant: CvRF Coronavirus Relief Fund School Reopening Grant

Type of Funder: Federal funds through Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education State Trust

Awarded Amount: \$5,729,400

Grant Funding

Period: Upon approval through December 30, 2020

Project title: CvRF

Program coordinator: Brian Allen

Purpose: The purpose of the CvRF (Coronavirus Relief Fund) School Reopening Grant is to provide eligible school districts and charter schools with funding to support costs to reopen schools.

Description of the Program:

Funding is being used for custodial overtime to enhance the disinfection of buildings; contractors for ventilation, sanitation, spacing and training issues as well as the purchase of much needed PPE and supplies to be used for disinfecting, filtering and cleaning

Program location: District wide

Outcomes and Measures:

The District will have procedures and coordination of systems to improve preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19, along with other activities necessary to maintain district operation and services.

Re: [EXTERNAL] CvRF School Reopening Grants (Fund 102) - LEA 0348

1 message

Hanna, Robert (DOE) <robert.hanna2@state.ma.us>

Tue, Sep 1, 2020 at 5:44 PM

To: "Bares, Gregg" <baresg@worcesterschools.net>

Cc: "BiniendaM@worcesterschools.net" <BiniendaM@worcesterschools.net>

Thanks Gregg. It might take a few weeks to get through the full approval process.

Due to the unique nature of this grant, districts can set up an account and start charging expenses incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency before they start receiving funds.

-Rob

Robert Hanna, Senior Fiscal Analyst

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

75 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA 02148

781-338-6525 | robert.hanna@mass.gov | www.doe.mass.edu

Teachers have better work stories. Become an aMAzing educator!

SIGN AT THE BOTTOM. THEN, UPLOAD A SCANNED COPY OF THIS Page WITH THE DATE OF SUBMISSION TO EDGRANTS WITH THE BUDGET FOR THE CVRF SCHOOL REOPENING GRANT PROGRAM (FUND CODE 102)

District staff with the role of "control user" in EdGrants have been provided user log-in names and passwords and have been trained to submit a grant application via EdGrants. Provide all required application materials to your district control user with access to EdGrants in order to submit budget and attachments.
Applications are due by August 31, 2020 and funds are available to be obligated until December 30, 2020.

Select District from dropdown: Worcester District Code: 0348

Address: 20 Irving Street
Worcester, MA 01509

DISE Contact Email: cvrpf@wcc.edu

I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE THE AUTHORITY ON BEHALF OF THE MUNICIPALITY AND LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY TO REQUEST PAYMENT FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. AT THIS TIME, I AM REQUESTING PAYMENT FOR COSTS IN CONNECTION WITH SECTION 601 OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT, AS ADDED BY SECTION 5001 OF THE CORONAVIRUS AID, RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT, PUBLIC LAW NO. 116-136, DIV. A, TITLE V (MARCH 27, 2020) ("SECTION 601"). I UNDERSTAND THAT THE COMMONWEALTH WILL RELY ON THIS CERTIFICATION AS A MATERIAL REPRESENTATION IN MAKING A PAYMENT TO THE MUNICIPALITY OR LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY. AS REQUIRED BY FEDERAL LAW, THE MUNICIPALITY'S OR LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY'S PROPOSED USES OF THE FUNDS PROVIDED AS PAYMENT IN RESPONSE TO THIS REQUEST WILL BE USED ONLY TO COVER THOSE COSTS THAT 1) ARE NECESSARY EXPENDITURES INCURRED DUE TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19); 2) WERE NOT ACCOUNTED FOR IN THE BUDGET MOST RECENTLY APPROVED AS OF MARCH 27, 2020, AND 3) WERE INCURRED DURING THE PERIOD THAT BEGINS ON MARCH 1, 2020 AND ENDS ON DECEMBER 30, 2020. I WILL REPORT BIMONTHLY ON INCURRED EXPENSES IN A FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE, AND WILL COOPERATE WITH THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE IN CREATING AND RETAINING APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTATION TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE PROPOSED USES MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 601. I WILL COORDINATE WITH THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE IN OPTIMIZING FEDERAL FUNDS FROM SECTION 601 AND OTHER POTENTIALLY AVAILABLE FEDERAL SOURCES. IN PARTICULAR, I WILL PRIORITIZE AND COORDINATE APPLICATION FOR FEMA REIMBURSEMENT WHERE AVAILABLE. TO THE EXTENT ACTUAL EXPENDITURES ARE LESS THAN THE AMOUNT REQUESTED, I AGREE TO RETURN THE BALANCE OF UNSPENT FUNDS TO THE COMMONWEALTH. IF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY RECOUPS FUNDS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH BASED ON A DETERMINATION THEY WERE USED BY THE MUNICIPALITY OR LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY IN A MANNER NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 601, I AGREE THAT THE COMMONWEALTH MAY RECOVER FUNDS FROM THE CITY OR TOWN THROUGH AN ASSESSMENT OR DEDUCTION FROM THE CITY OR TOWN'S PERIODIC UNRESTRICTED LOCAL AID DISTRIBUTION. I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS APPLICATION IS CORRECT AND COMPLETE. THAT THE APPLICANT AGENCY HAS AUTHORIZED ME, AS ITS REPRESENTATIVE, TO FILE THIS APPLICATION; AND THAT I UNDERSTAND THAT FOR ANY FUNDS RECEIVED THROUGH THIS APPLICATION THE AGENCY AGREES TO COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL GRANT REQUIREMENTS COVERING BOTH THE PROGRAMMATIC AND FISCAL ADMINISTRATION OF GRANT FUNDS, INCLUDING USING THE GRANT FUNDS FOR ACTIVITIES ALLOWABLE UNDER SECTION 5001(B) OF THE CARES ACT OF 2020. IN ADDITION, THE APPLICANT AGENCY ACKNOWLEDGES AND AFFIRMS THAT ITS FY20 FEDERAL GRANT ASSURANCES (AS WELL AS ANY FUTURE ASSURANCES PROVIDED DURING THE GRANT PERIOD, INCLUDING THE FY21 FEDERAL GRANT ASSURANCES) APPLY TO THIS GRANT.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE:  TITLE: Superintendent

PRINTED NAME: Maureen F. Blinenda SUBMISSION DATE: 8-1-20

FY2021 Allocation	FEDERAL GRANT	PROJECT DURATION		TOTAL ALLOCATION
	CvRF School Reopening Grant Program Fund Code 102	FROM	TO	
		UPON APPROVAL	12/30/2020	\$5,729,400

UPLOAD A SCANNED, SIGNED COPY OF THIS Page WITH THE DATE OF SUBMISSION TO EDGRANTS WITH THE BUDGET FOR THIS GRANT BY AUGUST 31, 2020

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1	ADMINISTRATOR SALARIES:	# of staff	Total FTE	MTRS	Amount	Select from Drop Down List	Budget Detail
	Select One			<input type="checkbox"/>		Select One	

SUB-TOTAL 0 0.00 \$ -

2	INSTRUCTIONAL/PROF STAFF:	# of staff	Total FTE	MTRS	Amount	Select from Drop Down List	Budget Detail
	Select One			<input type="checkbox"/>		Select One	

SUB-TOTAL 0 0.00 \$ -

3	SUPPORT STAFF SALARIES:	# of staff	Total FTE	MTRS	Amount	Select from Drop Down List	Budget Detail
	Other			<input type="checkbox"/>		Select One	

SUB-TOTAL 0 0.00 \$ -

4	STIPENDS:	# of staff	Rate	Rate Type	MTRS	Amount	Select from Drop Down List	Budget Detail
	Support Staff	154	\$36	per hour	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	\$ 425,200	(Staff) Staff needed to serve students for conditions related to the public health emergency	Custodial overtime for enhanced disinfecting of buildings
	Select One			select	<input type="checkbox"/>		Select One	

SUB-TOTAL \$ 425,200

5	FRINGE BENEFITS:	Amount	Brief Description	Budget Detail
	5a MTRS (automatically calculated if MTRS box is checked above)	\$ -		
	5b Other	\$ -		
	Health Insurance			
	Other Retirement Systems			
	Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA)			

SUB-TOTAL \$ -

6	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES:	Rate	Rate Type	Amount	Select from Drop Down List	Budget Detail
	Other	\$150	per hour	\$ 100,000	(Building Services) Supplies and services to sanitize district facilities, including personal protective equipment (PPE)	HVAC Evaluation
	Other	\$150	per hour	\$ 250,000	(Building Services) Supplies and services to sanitize district facilities, including personal protective equipment (PPE)	HVAC Upgrades
	Other	\$75	per hour	\$ 200,000	(Building Services) Supplies and services to sanitize district facilities, including personal protective equipment (PPE)	Contract Cleaning Services
	Other	\$75	per hour	\$ 1,000,000	(Building Services) Supplies and services to sanitize district facilities, including personal protective equipment (PPE)	Installation of portable classroom filtration
	Other	\$75	per hour	\$ 25,000	(Building Services) Supplies and services to sanitize district facilities, including personal protective equipment (PPE)	Environmental Consulting

SUB-TOTAL \$ 1,576,000

7	SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS:	Amount	Select from Drop Down List	Budget Detail
	Other	\$ 3,643,612	(Building Services) Supplies and services to sanitize district facilities, including personal protective equipment (PPE)	PPE, disinfecting, filtering, and cleaning supplies

SUB-TOTAL \$ 3,643,612

8	TRAVEL: (mileage, conference registration, courses, hotels, etc.)	Amount	Select from Drop Down List	Budget Detail

SUB-TOTAL \$ -

9	OTHER COSTS:	Amount	Select from Drop Down List	Budget Detail
	Select One		Select One	

SUB-TOTAL \$ -

10	INDIRECT COSTS	(a) rate (%)	(b) eligible association fees included	Amount
		2.04%	\$4,193,812	\$ 85,588
		(a x b)	\$85,588	
			maximum allowed	

11	EQUIPMENT:	Amount	Select from Drop Down List	Budget Detail
	individually in Step 9.2. below (these expenditures are not eligible for recovery of indirect cost). Once listed below, the total for Equipment will automatically populate in the gray cell to the right.	\$ -		

SUB-TOTAL \$ -

TIP: The discrepancy boxes will indicate whether you budgeted too much or too little of your allocation or reservation. Positive numbers indicate you have budgeted too much by the indicated amount, (negative numbers) indicate that you have budgeted too little by the indicated amount.

TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED

\$ 5,729,400

DISCREPANCY: Difference between allocation and budgeted total, if an

FY2021: CvRF School Reopening Grant Program

Fund Code: 102

Purpose:

The purpose of the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CvRF) School Reopening Grants is to provide eligible school districts and charter schools with funding to support costs to reopen schools. This funding, \$225 per student based on FY21 foundation enrollment, is intended to supplement other resources that the Governor is providing to cities and towns for COVID-19 response efforts as well as funds made available by DESE through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) grants and the Remote Learning Technology Essentials (RLTE) grants.

The Coronavirus Relief Fund allows state and local governments to make payments for programs that:

1. are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19);
2. were not accounted for in the State or local budget most recently approved as of the date of enactment [March 27, 2020] of section 5001 of the CARES Act; and
3. were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020 and ends on December 30, 2020.

Allowable Uses:

This grant program is focused on providing schools and districts with funding needed in providing educational services and developing plans for the return to normal operations. Funds may be used for a wide variety of purposes, including but not limited those listed below.

- Staff
 - Staff needed to serve students for conditions related to the public health emergency
 - Training and professional development for district staff on topics such as effective remote learning strategies, hygiene, and minimizing the spread of infectious disease when in-person school resumes
- Student Services
 - Educational technology (internet connectivity, hardware, devices, software, technology support services, etc.) to facilitate remote learning in addition to Remote Learning Technology Essentials Program funding

- Mental health services and supports for those affected by the public health emergency
- Assessing learning gaps that occurred because of the public health emergency and implementing strategies to address these gaps
- Vendor Services
 - Food service for vulnerable populations during the public health emergency
 - Expanding transportation capacity because of the public health emergency
- Building Services/Temporary Facilities
 - Rental and installation costs for trailers or other modular space to allow social distancing
 - Partitions or other temporary changes to school spaces
 - Supplies and services to sanitize district facilities, including personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Central costs
 - Planning, procedures and coordination systems to improve district preparedness and response efforts to COVID-19
 - Planning and implementing of summer learning and supplemental afterschool programs as a result of the public health emergency
 - Supplies and services that enable remote learning (printing, telephonic support, translation services, etc.) during the public health emergency
 - IT hardware and software to facilitate distance learning
- Other innovative efforts to support the safe reopening of schools

Eligibility:

All school districts and charter schools in the Commonwealth are eligible, except for the Boston Public Schools, municipal school districts in Plymouth County, and students from Plymouth County communities attending regional school districts. The City of Boston and Plymouth County are administering CvRF funds separately.

Funding Type:

State Trust


(Funded by Federal CARES local governments funding (<https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/cares/state-and-local-governments>). CFDA 21.019)

Funding:

Eligible school districts and charter schools can receive \$225 per student based on their FY21 foundation enrollment. Note that in determining total grant awards, each school district's foundation

enrollment is reduced by the number of students from the district that attend charter schools; these students are assigned to the charter schools where they are enrolled.

Applicants will need to provide a budget detailing the types of COVID-19 response costs that will be supported by the grant. **All funding must be obligated by December 30, 2020.**

 FY21 CvRF School Reopening Grant Distribution/Allocations
(grant-allocations.xlsx)

Project Duration:

Upon Approval – 12/30/2020

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(September 1, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-285
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

To accept the High School Voter Registration and Pre-Registration Grant in the amount of \$5,714 for the School Year and \$6,286 for the Summer.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP: The purpose of this grant is to promote civic engagement of high school students through initiatives that encourage them to register or pre-register to vote.

Annex A (9 pages) contains a copy of the Grant Acceptance Form.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

*Worcester Public Schools
Office of Grants Management*

Grant Acceptance Form

Name of Grant: High School Voter Registration and Pre-Registration

Type of Funder: Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Awarded Amount: \$5,714.00 – School Year
\$6,286.00 - Summer

Grant Funding Period: April 14, 2020 – June 30, 2020 SY & July 1, 2020 – November 30, 2020 – Summer

Project title: High School Voter Registration and Pre-Registration

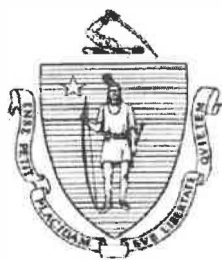
Program coordinator: O’Neil/Kelly

Purpose: To promote civic engagement of high school students through initiatives that encourage them to register or pre-register to vote.

Description of the program: To work with students within each of our seven high schools. The main focus of our efforts would be in building teams of students, teachers and administrators within each of the seven high schools who would work as a group within those schools to plan, initiate and implement voter pre-registration and registration activities at each one of our high school campuses.

Program location: Worcester Public School- Seven High Schools

Outcomes and Measures: To prepare students, morally and intellectually, for the duties of citizenship.



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133
(617) 725-4000

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

4/15/2020

Dear Susan O'Neil,

Congratulations! We are pleased to notify you that Worcester have been awarded a High School Voter Registration and Pre-Registration Grant of \$12,000.

We want to thank you for your commitment to promoting civic engagement through voter registration for high school students. Through this funding and your continued support, we hope to expand access to great educational opportunities in the Commonwealth.

You will be receiving further instructions from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education on next steps, and please feel free to contact Cecelia Spencer at Cecelia.T.Spencer@mass.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles Baker".

Governor Charles D. Baker

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karyn E. Polito".

Lt. Governor Karyn E. Polito

MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
 STANDARD CONTRACT FORM AND APPLICATION FOR PROGRAM GRANTS

PART I - GENERAL

A. APPLICANT: Worcester Public School s	Dist ct Code: 0 3 4 8
ADDRESS: 20 Irving Street Worcester, MA 01609	
TELEPHONE: (508) 799-3108	

B. APPLICATION FOR PROGRAM FUNDING				
FUND CODE	PROGRAM NAME	PROJECT DURATION		AMOUNT REQUESTED
		FROM	TO	
FY2021	Trust - COMPETITIVE administered by the PROGRAM UNIT NAME			\$12,000
575	High School Voter Registration and Pre-Registration Grant	Upon Approval	11/30/2020	

C. I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS APPLICATION IS CORRECT AND COMPLETE; THAT THE APPLICANT AGENCY HAS AUTHORIZED ME, AS ITS REPRESENTATIVE, TO FILE THIS APPLICATION; AND THAT I UNDERSTAND THAT FOR ANY FUNDS RECEIVED THROUGH THIS APPLICATION THE AGENCY AGREES TO COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE STATE AND FEDERAL GRANT REQUIREMENTS COVERING BOTH THE PROGRAMMATIC AND FISCAL ADMINISTRATION OF GRANT FUNDS.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY: <i>Maureen F. Binlenda</i>	TITLE: Superintendent
TYPED NAME: Maureen F. Binlenda	DATE: 6/4/2020

FY2021 Grant Award

Applicant Agency: Worcester Public Schools Applicant Number: 348
 Fiscal Year: 2021 Fund Code: 575
 Program Name: Voter Registration

Budget Line Item Category					Amount	
1 ADMINISTRATOR SALARIES:					Total Amount	COMMENTS
	# of staff	FTE	MTRS		\$ -	
			<input type="checkbox"/>		\$ -	
			<input type="checkbox"/>		\$ -	
			<input type="checkbox"/>		\$ -	
SUB-TOTAL					\$ -	
2 INSTRUCTIONAL/PROF STAFF SALARIES:					Total Amount	COMMENTS
	# of staff	FTE	MTRS		\$ -	
			<input type="checkbox"/>		\$ -	
			<input type="checkbox"/>		\$ -	
					\$ -	
					\$ -	
					\$ -	
SUB-TOTAL					\$ -	
3 SUPPORT STAFF SALARIES:					Total Amount	COMMENTS
	# of staff	FTE	MTRS		\$ -	
			<input type="checkbox"/>		\$ -	
					\$ -	
					\$ -	
SUB-TOTAL					\$ -	
4 STIPENDS:					Total Amount	COMMENTS
	# of Staff	Rate	Rate Type	MTRS		
Teacher Instructional/Professional Staff	14	\$35	per hour		\$ 6,200	for teachers to participate in program acti
Teacher Instructional/Professional Staff	10	\$40	per hour	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ 2,400	
					\$ -	
					\$ -	
SUB-TOTAL					\$ 8,600	
5 FRINGE BENEFITS:					Total Amount	COMMENTS
5-a MTRS (automatically calculates if MTRS box is checked)					\$ -	
5-b Other					\$ -	
Health Insurance					\$ -	
Other Retirement Systems					\$ -	
Federal Insurance Contributions (FICA)					\$ -	
SUB-TOTAL					\$ -	

Applicant Agency: Worcester Public Schools Applicant Number: 348
 Fiscal Year: 2021 Fund Code: 575

6 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES:		Rate	Rate Type	Total Amount	COMMENTS
				\$ -	
				\$ -	
				\$ -	
				\$ -	
				\$ -	
				\$ -	
SUB-TOTAL				\$ -	
7 SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS:				Total Amount	COMMENTS
Other (please describe)				\$ 1,400	supplies in support of voter registration
				\$ -	
				\$ -	
				\$ -	
SUB-TOTAL				\$ 1,400	
8 TRAVEL:				Total Amount	COMMENTS
				\$ -	
				\$ -	
				\$ -	
				\$ -	
SUB-TOTAL				\$ -	
9 OTHER COSTS:				Total Amount	COMMENTS
Student Transportation Services				\$ 1,760	transportation of students to/from voter registration
				\$ -	
				\$ -	
				\$ -	
SUB-TOTAL				\$ 1,760	
10 INDIRECT COSTS (use indirect costs calculator)		enter rate %		Total Amount	COMMENTS
		2.04%		\$ 5240	At agreed upon rate
11 EQUIPMENT:				Total Amount	COMMENTS
Items costing \$5,000+ per unit & having a useful life 1+ years				\$ -	
				\$ -	
SUB-TOTAL				\$ -	
TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED				\$ 12,000	

FY2020: High School Voter Registration and Pre-Registration

Fund Code: 575

Purpose:

The purpose of this competitive grant program is to promote civic engagement of high school students through initiatives that encourage them to register or pre-registering to vote. Chapter 296 of the Acts of 2018

(<https://malegislature.gov/laws/sessionlaws/acts/2018/chapter296>), *An Act to promote and enhance civic engagement*, states, "In all public schools, history of the United States of America and social science, including civics, shall be taught as required subjects to promote civic service and a greater knowledge thereof and to prepare students, morally and intellectually, for the duties of citizenship." This grant supports Local Education Agencies (LEAs), Collaboratives, and Approved Special Education School Programs to meet this charge by raising students' awareness of the importance of voting and supporting them to register or pre-register to vote.

Priorities:

The 2018 Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for History and Social Science (</frameworks/hss/2018-12.pdf>) includes "A Renewed Mission: Education for Civic Life in a Democracy." According to the Framework, "The primary purpose of a history and social science education is to prepare students to have the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to become thoughtful and active participants in a democratic society and a complex world." To achieve this purpose, the learning standards in the Framework include civic skills, knowledge, and dispositions for students at all grades. This grant is focused specifically on high schools and supports LEAs, Collaboratives, and Approved Special Education School Programs to connect civics instruction with informed participation in our democratic society, in this case the act of voting.

In Massachusetts, you may register or pre-register to vote if you are:

- A citizen of the United States,
- A Massachusetts resident, and
- At least 18 years old for registration or at least 16 years old for pre-registration

Chapter 296 of the Acts of 2018

(<https://malegislature.gov/laws/sessionlaws/acts/2018/chapter296>)

establishes a high school voter challenge to be organized by the Secretary of State's Office. In support of the challenge, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is administering this competitive grant program to catalyze and learn from local efforts to support high school students to become voters.

Grant applications will be scored with the following priorities in mind:

- **Appropriateness of proposed activities:** Grant funds may be used to host non-partisan voter registration events for students (in collaboration with city or town clerks), establish student leadership structures for students to help their peers register to vote, develop communications materials for students and families about the importance of voting and how to register, partner with voter registration and voter education organizations, develop leadership opportunities for teachers to connect voter registration activities with students' classroom instruction.
- **Scale of impact:** As noted below, proposals that reach multiple high schools, and thereby more students, are eligible for higher funding levels. In general, applications that describe a clear impact on the greatest number of students will be scored most favorably.
- **Coordination with city or town clerk:** Applications that demonstrate a commitment to and support for the proposed grant activities from the city or town clerk will be scored most favorably.
- **Evaluation:** DESE will be evaluating grant impact. Grant recipients will be required to share a description of the outcomes and any products created (e.g., communication materials). As noted above, DESE hopes to learn from grantees about effective mechanisms for supporting students to become voters. Grantees will be expected to quantify the impact of the grant, for example by specifying the number of students who registered or pre-registered to vote as a result of grant activities.
- **Appropriateness of budget:** DESE is interested in funding as many valuable projects as possible. Accurate and reasonable budgets that are specific about funding needs will be scored most favorably.

In addition, competitive priority in the scoring process will be given to the following applicants:

- Cross-LEA partnerships. With limited funding available, partnerships are attractive for maximizing the reach of the grant. LEAs that form a partnership should identify one LEA to apply for the grant as the fiscal agent for the group.
- LEAs or partnerships in which greater than 30% of the student population is designated as economically disadvantaged

Eligibility:

All Massachusetts Local Education Agencies (districts, charter schools, Collaboratives, and Approved Special Education School Programs) are eligible to apply.

Funding Type:

Trust

Funding:

Approximately \$80,000 is available through trust funds.

Maximum award size is determined by the number of high schools in the LEA (or group of LEAs in the case of partnerships).

- Size Tier 1: LEA with 1 high school may apply for up to \$3,000
- Size Tier 2: LEA(s) or partnerships with 2 to 5 high schools may apply for up to \$5,000
- Size Tier 3: LEA(s) or partnerships with 6 to 12 high schools may apply for up to \$12,000
- Size Tier 4: LEA(s) or partnerships with greater than 12 high schools may apply for up to \$20,000.

Funding is contingent upon availability. All dollar amounts listed are estimated/approximate and are subject to change.

Fund Use:

Fund use **must be consistent with the priorities described above**, and may include, but is not limited to:

- Stipends for teachers who will manage voter education and registration events for the school, including coordination of events with the city or town clerk
- Contracting with external partners who specialize in voter registration
- Costs associated with voter registration events
- Costs associated with running a student civic leadership group focused on student voter registration and education

Funding restrictions:

- No funds may be dedicated toward administrator salaries
- No funds may be used to purchase technology (e.g., Smart Boards, iPads)
- No funds may be used to provide payment or any form of remuneration to students to register or pre-register to vote.
- No funds may be used to support political candidates or campaigns.

Project Duration:

FY2020 - Upon Award through 6/30/2020

FY2021 - July 1, 2020 - November 30, 2020

Program Unit:

Center for Instructional Support

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Mayor Petty/Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/
Ms. McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(September 8,2020)

ITEM - gb #286
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

To provide a brief update on COVID-19 and remote learning and file all other outstanding items pertaining to these topics.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP: The Administration recommends that the items contained in the backup relative to COVID-19 and remote learning be filed. Going forward, the Administration will have all the monthly updates regarding both COVID-19 and remote learning under one item.

Annex A (4 pages) contains a copy of the outstanding items relative to COVID-19 and remote learning.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

File the items relative to COVID-19 and remote learning.

3-5-20	gb #0-89	Miss Biancheria Mr. Foley Mr. Monfredo Ms. McCullough	<p>ITEM Request that the Administration forward to the School Committee all the information it receives relative to the coronavirus.</p> <p>MOTION Miss Biancheria Request that the Administration keep the School Committee apprised of all the information it receives on the coronavirus and indicate how the system is dealing with students not feeling well and student planned field trips.</p> <p>MOTION Mayor Petty Request that the Administration provide a report, at the School Committee Meeting to be held on Thursday, March 26, 2020, on the course of action the system is taking relative to out of state field trips for students.</p>
4-2-20	gb #0-121	Miss Biancheria	<p>ITEM Request that the Administration consider a pass or fail system for third quarter grades.</p> <p>MOTION Miss Biancheria Request that the Administration provide a response on whether students will be graded for the fourth quarter marking period and indicate what the end results would be for students' grades. RESPONDED TO ON JULY 16, 2020</p>
4-2-20	gb #0-133	Mrs. Clancey	<p>ITEM Request that the Administration provide a report on ongoing efforts to engage students in learning during the shutdown. RESPONDED TO ON JUNE 4, 2020.</p>
4-16-20	gb #0-139	Mr. Monfredo Mr. Foley	<p>ITEM Request that the Administration reach out to the community and corporate partners to raise funds for the purchase of Chromebooks for families to use during the pandemic. RESPONDED TO ON JUNE 4, 2020.</p>
4-16-20	gb #0-145	Ms. Novick Mrs. Clancey Mr. Foley Ms. McCullough Mr. Monfredo	<p>ITEM Request that the Administration report weekly on the number of students in the Worcester Public Schools contacted during the closure, due to the pandemic and on the efforts made to reach those as yet unreachable. RESPONDED TO ON MAY 7, 2020.</p>
4-16-20	gb #0-146	Ms. Novick Mrs. Clancey Mr. Foley Ms. McCullough	<p>ITEM Request that the Administration report on the number of families that have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no internet access in their homes - no electronic device for accessing the internet besides cell phones <p>and report back to the Committee with a plan to eliminate this gap in access. RESPONDED TO ON JULY 16, 2020.</p>

4-16-20	gb #0-149	Ms. McCullough Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey Mr. Foley Mr. Monfredo Ms. Novick	<p>ITEM To hold a live town hall meeting with the Superintendent and the Administration for students, parents and teachers to ask questions around remote learning and to get a general update from the district. Questions could possibly be asked through an online chat or submission feature. FORUMS HELD ON 7/20, 7/22, 7/29, 8/6 and 8/13.</p>
5-7-20	<u>gb #0-157</u>	<p>Mr. Monfredo Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey Mr. Foley Ms. McCullough</p> <p>Mr. Monfredo Ms. Novick</p>	<p>ITEM To consider the feasibility of creating an online Summer School Program, utilizing chromebooks, at various grade levels in the areas of math and English Language Arts, subject to funding and updates on the Coronavirus.</p> <p>MOTIONS Request that the Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - consider reallocating some funds from the FY21 Budget for online summer learning - recruit students that are most at risk to sign up for summer school learning - reach out to social agencies and churches for their assistance and - make students in K-3 the top priority <p>SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAMS HELD Request that the Administration compile a suggested summer reading list and a summer math activity calendar for students.</p>
6-4-20	gb #0-190 and gb #0-194 (considered together)	<p>Ms. McCullough Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey Mr. Foley Ms. Novick</p> <p>Ms. Novick Mrs. Clancey Mr. Foley Ms. McCullough</p>	<p>ITEM To provide a Report of the Superintendent with anticipated plans of possible options of what the return of school will look like in preparation for the 2020-21 academic year to include the following options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - full return - hybrid - full remote and - any other scenarios being considered by Administration <p>ITEM Request administration report on management for planning for the 2020-21 school year to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - who is involved in the planning (by position and representation) - timelines for planning - family and student outreach - interaction with FY21 budgeting <p>RESPONDED TO ON JULY 20, 2020.</p>

	gb #0-190 and gb #0-194 (continued)		<p>MOTION</p> <p>Request that the Administration provide a report at the June 18, 2020 meeting on the approximate amount of monies needed with the different scenarios and who is involved in the planning process to begin the 2020-21 school year.</p> <p>Miss Biancheria would like to know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - how the system would be handing the Chapter 74 students with their internships which is counted as part of their grade and provides them with the experience they need to graduate. - what the Administration is doing to prepare a safe environment for students if a student or teacher does become sick. - how this will impact the Nutrition Department in terms of state reimbursements. - how the system is prepared to deal with employees that are not comfortable returning to school. - if the system is prepared for more parents requesting to homeschool their child/ren and does the system have the capacity to handle the number of people that may be interested in homeschooling and what the system is doing for the preparation for school opening in terms of cleaning and safety supplies. RESPONDED TO ON JUNE 18, 2020.
6-4-20	gb #0-195	Ms. Novick Mrs. Clancey Mr. Foley Ms. McCullough	<p>ITEM</p> <p>Request administration report on student involvement in remote learning, including breakdown by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - race/ethnicity - EL status and language spoken at home - school and grade level - online access, including source of access
6-18-20	<u>gb #0-207</u>	Miss Biancheria Mr. Foley Ms. McCullough Mr. Monfredo Ms. Novick	<p>ITEM</p> <p>Request that the Administration review the process specifically for opening of school buildings vis à vis the COVID 19 pandemic. RESPONDED TO ON JULY 2, 2020.</p>
6-18-20	<u>gb #0-209</u>	Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey Mr. Foley Ms. McCullough Mr. Monfredo	<p>ITEM</p> <p>Request that the Administration review the process for enrollment of new students and the necessary steps to make certain, if needed, that the necessary services and evaluation of services are provided relative to COVID 19 limits.</p>
7-16-20	<u>gb #0-222</u>	Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey Mr. Foley Ms. McCullough Mr. Monfredo Ms. Novick	<p>ITEM</p> <p>Request that the Administration provide a report on the process for the public voting for elections in September and November in school buildings to include security measures, COVID 19 precautions and cleaning processes.</p>

7-16-20	<u>gb #0-225</u>	Mrs. Clancey Miss Biancheria Mr. Foley Ms. McCullough Mr. Monfredo Ms. Novick	ITEM Request that the Administration provide an update on the distribution of Chromebooks, hotspots and iPads and indicate how they will be distributed. RESPONDED TO ON JULY 16 and AUGUST 27, 2020.
7-16-20	<u>gb #0-226</u>	Mrs. Clancey Miss Biancheria Mr. Foley Ms. McCullough Mr. Monfredo Ms. Novick	ITEM Request that the Administration study the feasibility of implementing Google Classroom Trainings for parents/guardians prior to the start of the school year. RESPONDED TO ON AUGUST 27, 2020.
7-16-20	<u>gb #0-231</u>	Ms. Novick Mrs. Clancey Mr. Foley Ms. McCullough Mr. Monfredo	ITEM Request Administration consider the World Health Organization's review of evidence of airborne transmission of COVID-19 and ASHRAE [American Society for Heating, Refrigeration, and Air-Conditioning Engineers] guidance and resources regarding air circulation in planning for the 2020-21 school year.
7-16-20	gb #0-234	Mayor Petty	MOTION Request that the Administration provide a report in August on the technology the district is using for remote and online learning, the additional cost associated with it and what the future fiscal year estimate cost would look like.
8-27-20	gb #0-250	Mrs. Clancey Ms. McCullough Ms. Novick	ITEM Request that the Administration study the feasibility of collaborating with community partners to set up in person learning laboratories for parents/guardians to bring their child/ren on remote learning days.
8-27-20	gb #0-268	Miss Biancheria Mrs. Clancey Ms. McCullough Ms. Novick	ITEM Request that the Administration provide an update on the free COVID-19 testing in Worcester to include WPS sites.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. McCullough/Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/
Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick/Mayor Petty
(September 8, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-287
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

To review the WPS policy regarding study halls and DESE regulations surrounding them.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. Novick/Ms. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-288
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

Request that the Administration outline in writing under what circumstances the Department of Children and Families is called regarding a family or child, particularly with regard to student attendance.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration for a report back on October 1, 2020.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. Novick/Ms. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-289
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

Request that the Administration schedule a joint meeting with the Board of Health for discussion of the Worcester Public Schools 2020-21 school plan and benchmarks for changing the status of learning within them.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration for scheduling.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-290
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

Request that the Administration clarify under what circumstances students will be suspended during remote learning and what suspension will consist of during that time.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration for a report back on October 1, 2020.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. Novick/Ms. Clancey/Ms. McCulough
(September 9, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-291
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

Request that the Administration clarify for all Worcester Public Schools employees proper mask usage.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. Novick/Ms. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-292
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

Request that the Administration request high school principals submit student representatives to the statewide and regional student advisory councils.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 9, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-293
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

To ensure Worcester Public Schools remote learning policies ensure all Worcester Public Schools administrators, staff, and students behave as guests in each other's homes.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues to take up with the pandemic policies.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(September 9, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-294
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

To approve a prior fiscal year payment in the amount of \$202.03 to Shred-It.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Approve on a roll call.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick/Mayor Petty
(September 9, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-295
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

Request that the Administration provide a report on the site administrator's responsibilities relative to sports activities vis-à-vis COVID-19.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Miss Biancheria/Mrs. Claney/Ms. McCullough/
Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick
(September 9, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-296
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

Request that the Administration provide a report on the 20 sites that will provide meals and indicate the process of eligibility and for picking them up.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Administration
(September 10, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-297
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

To select a voting delegate and an alternate voting delegate for the Annual Business Meeting of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, scheduled for November 7, 2020.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Select a voting delegate and an alternate voting delegate.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 10, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-298
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

To consider the resolutions before the MASC delegate assembly.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

Annex A (8 pages) contains a copy of the Report from the Resolutions Committee.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Discuss.

REPORT OF THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The members of the Resolutions Committee met virtually on June 25, 2020 to consider resolutions proposed by member districts and the MASC Board of Directors for consideration at the 2020 Annual Meeting of the Association. Members present were: Ellen Holmes, Chair, Ex-Officio, Ashburnham-Westminster Regional; Deborah Davis, Northeast Metropolitan Voc. Tech.; Barbara Davis, Holbrook; Margaret Hughes, Narragansett Regional; Laura Fallon, Northampton; Irene Feliciano-Sims, Holyoke; William Fonseca, East Longmeadow; Jason Fraser, Silver Lake Regional; Beverly Hugo, Framingham; Mildred Lefebvre, Holyoke; Stacey Rizzo, Revere; Wendy Rua, Agawam; Lynn Ryan Assabet Voc. Tech.; Paul Schlichtman, Arlington; and Robert Swartz, Gardner.

The following resolutions were moved forward by the Resolutions Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.

RESOLUTION 1: MCAS AND HIGH STAKES TESTING *(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)*

WHEREAS the MASC Membership and MASC Board of Directors have previously and repeatedly taken the position of opposing high stakes testing including the MCAS; and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 Remote Learning Model has negatively and disproportionately affected students with learning disabilities, students of lower socioeconomic status, ELL students and students who identify as minorities; and

WHEREAS the social and emotional trauma both individually and collectively has yet to be truly realized in the students who have experienced the shutdown of their local school buildings and separations from their peers and supportive adults; and

WHEREAS the students of the Commonwealth have already missed valuable face to face instructional opportunities with their teachers and would benefit from focusing on those important instructional opportunities and social emotional supports;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that MASC rejects the calls for the students of 2022 who missed their tenth grade MCAS testing to be required to make it up during the 2020-2021 school year or ever. We demand those students be held harmless for not taking the MCAS and that their graduation requirements shall be determined by locally controlled voices of the School Committee and School Administration within the remaining graduation requirements of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Additionally, we reiterate our call for a moratorium on all high stakes testing for the 2020-2021 school year so all students can benefit from their time being focused on direct instruction and we urge the legislature to enact a moratorium on high stakes testing of three years.

RESOLUTION 2: COVID-19 STATE FUNDING

(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

WHEREAS if schools are to re-open this fall in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is the responsibility of each school district to do so safely and responsibly; and

WHEREAS it is the responsibility of the state to ensure that each school district is able to pay for the enormous additional staffing, transportation and material expenses required to do this; and

WHEREAS the state cannot expect mandatory COVID-19 safety guidelines to be followed without also ensuring that each school district has the funds required to implement these guidelines;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the state must guarantee every school district full reimbursement for whatever COVID-19 expenses are required to follow state mandates. We must ensure a statewide school re-opening that is safe, responsible and equitable. There can be no unfunded mandates for COVID-19.

RESOLUTION 3: SCHOOL COMMITTEE ANTI-RACISM RESOLUTION

(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

WHEREAS as schools have the responsibility to equip students with their civil right of obtaining a free and appropriate public education, it is the responsibility of each school to ensure we create a welcoming community for ALL students; and

WHEREAS it is the responsibility that every district provide to all district staff, including School Committee members, annual professional development on diversity, equity and inclusion; and

WHEREAS every district will commit to recruiting and retaining a diverse and culturally responsive teaching workforce; and

WHEREAS every district will examine their policies for institutional and systemic racialized practices and implement change with sustainable policies that are evidence based; and

WHEREAS every district will incorporate into their curriculum the history of racial oppression and works by black authors and works from diverse perspectives; and

WHEREAS we as school district leaders can no longer remain silent to the issues of racism and hate that continue to plague our public and private institutions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that all the school districts in the Commonwealth should guarantee that racist practices are eradicated, and diversity, equity and inclusion is embedded and practiced for our students, families, faculty and staff.

School Committee members should ensure our that school culture and that of every district in the Commonwealth is an- ti-racist, and that acknowledges that all lives cannot matter until black lives matter.

RESOLUTION 4: LOWERING THE VOTING AGE FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

WHEREAS the right to vote is elemental to democracy and that right should be protected and guaranteed to all qualified citizen; and

WHEREAS sixteen and seventeen-year-olds possess the same critical analytic intelligence as eighteen-year-olds; and

WHEREAS in Massachusetts, sixteen-year-olds have been deemed able to consent to sexual intercourse, obtain a learner's permit and driver's license, get married with parental consent, work a full-time job and pay taxes, and be tried as an adult in a court of law; and

WHEREAS the 2018 Act to Promote Civics Engagement mandated an increased emphasis on civics education in Massachusetts Public Schools; and

WHEREAS studies conducted in places with a voting age of 16 have demonstrated that, when partnered with a strong civics education, a lowered voting age results in higher overall civic engagement and voter turnout and higher propensi- ty to develop a lifelong voting habit; and

WHEREAS early voter engagement increases civic participation later in life, which is vital to a democracy; and

WHEREAS turnout among all voters in the United States is decreasing, and a push to vote is much needed for younger citizens; and

WHEREAS 16-year-olds may now pre-register to vote in Massachusetts, which may provide a logistical framework for their local participation; and

WHEREAS the rules of local voting should be a local issue; and

WHEREAS Representative Andy Vargas and Senator Harriet Chandler have introduced the EMPOWER Act (H.720/S.389), which would give municipalities the ability to lower their municipal voting age on local authority;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the sponsors call upon the Massachusetts Legislature to pass the EMPOWER Act and take other means necessary to allow cities and towns to establish a minimum voting age of sixteen years for all municipal elections.

RESOLUTION 5: SUPPORTING INCREASED FEDERAL SUPPORT AND STIMULUS FUNDING FOR PUBLIC K-12 EDUCATION

(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic is a monumental and unprecedented challenge, emerging quickly and demanding an immediate overhaul of the instructional plans and strategies of school systems across the country; and

WHEREAS the nation's public schools remain committed to delivering high-quality instruction while ensuring the health and safety of our students and staff; and

WHEREAS to date, the employees of the Massachusetts Public Schools have worked around the clock to continue to provide our students and families with access to educational needs such as Chromebooks; and

WHEREAS the Massachusetts Public Schools has maintained payroll for full and part-time district employees, providing stability to our community during economic uncertainty; and

WHEREAS Massachusetts Public Schools have continued to provide daily lunches to students despite a projected short- fall of revenue from the Federal Meals Program; and

WHEREAS these challenges will persist and likely grow as COVID-19 affects our economy and destabilizes funding for public school;, and

WHEREAS revenue shortfalls may result in budget cuts and personnel reductions; and

WHEREAS federal legislation has been approved to provide urgently needed funding to underwrite the recovery of the American economy and to support critical public programs, including public education with such examples as American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, additional funding for the Education Jobs Fund to help school districts retain existing employees, recall former employees, and hire new ones, and the recent Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) and other measures to stabilize public education and other public programs; and

WHEREAS public education is one of the largest employment bases of any field or industry; and

WHEREAS research has repeatedly found a strong causal relationship between levels of schooling and wages that individuals earn over a lifetime; and

WHEREAS for public schools to thrive and for our students to realize a bright and productive future, the federal government needs to make a substantial new investment in our well-being; and

WHEREAS it is likely that further emergency legislation will be required to underwrite the cost of public safety supplies, technology, and personnel to maintain the status of public schools; and

WHEREAS this level of funding is the minimum needed by the nation's public schools to sustain and accelerate their academic achievement trends over the past decade, including gains in reading and math achievement that outpace the national average; and

WHEREAS the governor and General Court may be able to access additional state revenues through use of accumulated reserves or through the implementation of progressive tax legislation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that MASC align with state superintendents of schools and urge the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation and state legislators to advocate for and approve additional education funding for our nation's public schools through the enactment of progressive tax legislation.

RESOLUTION 6: RETENTION OF MEDICAID REVENUE

(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

WHEREAS the Affordable Care Act expanded access for health care to millions of Americans, including thousands of Massachusetts families who have been without health insurance; and

WHEREAS through the expansion of the Medicaid program, more families in economic distress gained access to health insurance and, subsequently, affordable health care; and

WHEREAS the Medicaid program reimburses public school districts for certain clinical services provided to students who may be clients of special education or who experience disabilities, and this revenue provides critical support to the districts and municipalities where they are based; and

WHEREAS the restriction of Medicaid eligibility and reduction of funding would require the Commonwealth to choose between extraordinary state budget increases to fill the gap or absorb the cost of caring for families who could lose health insurance;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that MASC urges the General Court to require that 100% of Medicaid reimbursements to cities and towns be provided in full amount to the public schools of each municipality, through a school district revolving account, to underwrite the cost of providing an adequate education.

RESOLUTION 7: ATTEMPTS BY US DOE TO DIRECT FUNDING TO PRIVATE SCHOOLS

(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

WHEREAS a recent "advisory" issued by the United States Secretary of Education has inappropriately interpreted language in the recently enacted COVID-19 relief legislation to benefit private schools disproportionately in the distribution of federal funding for economically disadvantaged students; and

WHEREAS in recognition of this executive branch attempt to overreach in the interpretation of a federal statute in devising a formula for the distribution of funds under Title I and other provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as revised and reauthorized; and

WHEREAS the commissioner of Education in Connecticut, in citing the Secretary for such a misrepresentation of the law, has advised officials of that state to follow the language of the law rather than the interpretation issued in the "advisory," and thus save thousands of dollars for economically disadvantaged students in the public schools of that state

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that MASC petition the Attorney General of Massachusetts to review and recommend to the Executive Office of Education and the MA Department of Elementary Education to review the formal language of such statutes that determine the distribution of federal funds to benefit economically disadvantaged students and, further that the Attorney General provide legal guidance to state agencies in Massachusetts to implement such formulas based on the actual language and legislative intent of the statute should that be in variance with any "advisory" issued by the United States Secretary of Education.

RESOLUTION 8: MEMBERSHIP OF A SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBER ON THE BOARD OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

WHEREAS the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) is established to oversee and implement policy related to public education; and

WHEREAS most boards and commissions in Massachusetts appropriately include representatives of constituent groups subject to the jurisdiction of those boards and commission; and

WHEREAS a glaring omission among members of the BESE is a representative of the people elected to oversee public policy making among the many city, town and regional school district school committees;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that MASC submit to the General Court proposed legislation that MGL Chapter 15, Section 1E be revised as follows:

Section 1E. There shall be in the department a board of elementary and secondary education, in this chapter called the board, which shall consist of the chairman of the student advisory council established under this section, the secretary of education, in this chapter called the secretary, or her designee, and 9 members appointed by the governor. The 9 members appointed by the governor shall consist of 1 representative of a labor organization selected by the governor from a list of 3 nominees provided by the Massachusetts State Labor Council, AFL-CIO; 1 representative of business or industry selected by the governor with a demonstrated

commitment to education; 1 representative of parents of school children selected by the governor from a list of 3 nominees provided by the Massachusetts Parent Teachers Association; 1 representative from a school committee from a list of three nominees provided by the Massachusetts Association of School Committees and 5 additional members.

RESOLUTION 9: PROVIDING EQUITY FOR SEXUAL ORIENTATION - LGBTQ+ STUDENTS, TEACHERS AND STAFF

(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

WHEREAS gender identity is not listed as a protected class in federal laws; and

WHEREAS LGBTQ+ students, teachers and staff are victims of discrimination, harassment, and at-risk behaviors at rates alarmingly higher than non-LGBTQ+ persons;

WHEREAS the social and emotional wellness of our students has a direct relationship with their academic and future success and that schools have the moral and ethical responsibility to address the whole child so that they may experience success in school and in society; and

WHEREAS school districts that respect and support their teachers and staff by providing an inclusive culture where all can thrive, irrespective of gender identity, are more successful and in turn, are supporting a thriving school climate; and

WHEREAS the Commonwealth of Massachusetts currently recognizes in state law LGBTQ+ as a protected class;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that MASC file legislation and petition our federal legislative delegation to also file legislation which would have the effect of adding sexual orientation and gender identity to the list of protected classes in order to provide equity and support to our LGBTQ+ students, teachers and staff and petition our legislative delegation.

RESOLUTION 10: RELATIVE TO THE MONITORING OF ATTENDANCE OF STUDENTS DURING THE PANDEMIC

(Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

WHEREAS districts are required to have special but comprehensive plans for educating students during the pandemic crisis; and

WHEREAS student attendance is an important element of a district plan for returning-to-school, and school committees apply local policies for student attendance; and

WHEREAS the emergency nature of the pandemic requires that students may need to be educated in such venues as schools, home, institutions or other remote locations; and

WHEREAS circumstances may require that students be absent from school for reasons that may include extended illness, exposure to illness including COVID-19, or the judgment of parents or guardians determining that it is not safe for their children to return to a school building or other learning venue;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that MASC advocate for legislation and regulation that protect the rights of parents to withhold their children from school for reasons of their health status or health risk and, further,

- That MASC advocate for regulations that hold districts accountable for the attendance of students provide appropriate exemptions for students who experience or require extended absences from school due to health-related issues or concerns due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and further,
- That MASC petition the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to waive all accountability requirements regarding attendance for the 2020-2021 school year, and
- That such regulations exempt districts from sanction status on the basis of attendance when such absences are related to a public health crisis, including COVID-19.

X. GENERAL BUSINESS
Mayor Petty/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough
(September 10, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-299
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

Request that the Superintendent/Administration develop a Transition Plan to include HVAC upgrades to resume in-person educational services for high need special education students prior to the end of the first quarter.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Refer to the Administration for implementation.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION
Administration
(September 10, 2020)

ITEM - gb #0-300
S.C. MEETING - 9-17-20

ITEM:

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 – Coronavirus/COVID-19 Related Issues – Educational Association of Worcester, Units A & B (Educators/Administrators); Aides to the Physically Handicapped, Monitors and Drivers; Instructional Assistants; Parent Liaisons; Tutors; and Therapy Assistants.

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 – Coronavirus/COVID-19 Related Issues – NAGE R1-16 Cafeteria Workers.

PRIOR ACTION:

BACKUP:

RECOMMENDATION OF MAKER:

RECOMMENDATION OF ADMINISTRATION:

Discuss.

Committee Members
Laura Clancey, Chairman
John Monfredo, Vice-chairman
Tracy O'Connell-Novick

AGENDA #3
G/EI
9-14-20
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A C T I O N S

The Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues met virtually at 4:03 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2020 at the Durkin Administration Building in Room 410.

There were present: Mr. Monfredo, Ms. Novick and Chairman Clancey

Representing Administration: Ms. Boulais, Dr. O'Neil, Superintendent Binienda and Dr. Friel

gb #0-264 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough (August 17, 2020)

Consider and redraft as necessary the policies and associated sections of the student handbook considered by "Pandemic Policy Specific for Back to School."

Ms. Novick made the following motions:

Request that the School Calendar and File IC/ICA - School Year/School Calendar of the Policy Manual be amended to read **170 days** not 180 days.

Request that the Administration amend the Immunization Schedule in the Student Handbook on page 4 by adding the influenza vaccine.

On a roll call of 3-0, the motions were approved.

Mrs. Clancey asked the Administration how it plans to take into account the attendance for students during power outages, internet problems and other situations that might render a student unable to log in for their class. She also asked for an update on how attendance will be taken at the elementary and secondary levels on synchronous and asynchronous days.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the Attendance Policy will not change. Attendance will be taken every morning and during every class Monday through Thursday for synchronous remote learning. If a student comes in tardy they will be marked as tardy. If they miss more than half the day, it will be considered an absence. If a student is present for the first two periods, but not the rest of the day that will be considered a dismissal. She also stated that the State guidelines for attendance were very specific as to what the district has to record for both hybrid and remote learning.

Ms. Novick questioned how the student's attendance will be done on Fridays for the asynchronous learning.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the state requires attendance to be taken on Friday which is the asynchronous learning day. Every school will have an assigned teacher to take attendance during the hours between 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. She further stated that if a student has an appointment or is having trouble logging in during the check in-time, the parent or student should notify the Assistant Principal via email or phone of the situation.

Ms. Novick stated that the idea of having every secondary school student on their computer at a specific hour is not in line with the State's intention. She feels that there needs to be a backstop created for students who are having problems with connectivity and that the language for the Attendance Policy in the Student Handbook needs to be redrafted. She suggested the following language for synchronous learning be added to the policy:

- If a student cannot be reached and has not turned in any work, then that student will be marked absent from school.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the State and the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education Riley were very clear that attendance has to be taken in every class because "this is a school day, and we ought to take attendance like a regular day." As far as the asynchronous day on Friday, there has to be a set time to take attendance because teachers are involved in common planning and/or staff development. If a student's Wi-Fi goes down, it is the principals and teachers who will handle the situation and they will be very understanding of what's happening with the student during the remote learning time.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the reporting required by the state is very specific on how the system has to record attendance, dismissals and tardiness and the data that is provided back to the state is what the plan was based on.

Mr. Monfredo stated that he feels that the asynchronous learning day is a normal school day and that the Superintendent has made the right decision regarding the time for students to check in for their attendance to be taken. He also stated that there needs to be only one set of rules and that student attendance is very important.

Ms. Novick questioned the need to take attendance at a specific time every morning when the States guidelines may allow for other ways to monitor students like reviewing their work on the Google classroom accounts.

Superintendent Binienda stated that discussions took place with all principals in the system regarding the asynchronous learning day and taking attendance during the morning was the best scenario for everyone involved. The Commissioner stated that a student must be in attendance during the school day to be registered as present. She further stated that the system needs an organized process of doing attendance and believes that the Administration has provided the best option.

Mrs. Clancey stated that she would like to see a clear Attendance Policy in writing with a statement that, when a student is absent during the time the attendance was taken, the student or parent must email the Assistant Principal or the teacher with the reason for their absence.

Ms. Novick voiced her concern regarding the issue of connectivity and every student on the Wi-Fi at the same time. She doesn't think it is an equitable system and is not a good policy. The policy needs to be thoughtful and sensitive to the families that the system serves. She further stated that the hotspots do not have the capacity to sustain Zoom for families with multiple children.

Superintendent Binienda stated that the system needs to have high expectations of the students and attendance is a very important part of that. As far as the backstop, if a student doesn't show up, the teachers will call his/her home to inquire why that student was not in class. Every Monday, the first teacher of the day will be doing a check-in survey and every Thursday, the last teacher of the day will be doing an SEL survey asking how students are doing. She stated that there was a test run done for the hotspots where an individual, who has 4 children in the system, took one home to use. All 4 students were streaming at the same time for a long period of time with no issues.

Mr. Monfredo suggested that the attendance time change from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. on Fridays and reconvene in a month to evaluate if any more changes that need to be made.

Mrs. Clancey asked the Administration to provide options for students and families to notify the schools if connectivity is lost. She would like to have the current policy of Friday check-in adopted for the start of the remote learning quarter and revisit the policy going further. She would like the item held in the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues for further follow-up of the Attendance Policy.

Ms. Clancey made the following motions:

Request that the Administration draft a proposed Attendance Policy for synchronous and asynchronous remote learning.

Request that the item be held at the Standing Committee level for further review and discussion.

On a roll call of 2-1 (nay Ms. Novick), the motion was approved.

gb #0-272 - Ms. Novick/Mrs. Clancey/Ms. McCullough (August 19, 2020)

To consider proposed policy EBCFA regarding face coverings.

Mrs. Clancey stated that she would like to make two changes to the proposed policy. She believes that students in K-2 should be wearing masks which most have been doing since the pandemic hit.

Mr. Monfredo stated that K-2 students should be required to wear masks.

Superintendent Binienda stated that pre-k – Kindergarten teachers would really like to see all students wearing masks.

Mrs. Clancey made the following motions:

Request that the last line in paragraph two be deleted from the proposed policy EBCFA as follows:

“Exempted from this policy are students in Grade 1 and below.”

Request that the following sentence be added to the first line in paragraph two under the proposed policy EBCFA:

“A face covering that fully covers the nose and mouth must be worn.”

On a roll call of 3-0, the motions were approved.

On a roll call of 3-0, it was moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:10 p.m.