ANNEX A

Committee Members
John F. Monfredo, Chairman
Dianna Biancheria, Vice-chairman
John Foley

AGENDA #6
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10-18-10
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A C T I O N S

The Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues met at 5:35 p.m. on Monday, October 18, 2010 in Room 410 at the Dr. John E. Durkin Administration Building.

There were present: Mr. Foley and Chairman Monfredo

There was absent: Miss Biancheria

Miss Biancheria arrived at 5:45 p.m.

Representing Administration: Mrs. Luster and Dr. Friel

Others in attendance: M. Berthiaume, M. Brophy, A. Ingrisano, K. Norton and R. Walton

gb #5-58 - Mr. O'Connell (March 1, 2005)

To consider modification of the current rule regarding student book bags and gym bags (2004-05 Policies Handbook, Page 38), by permitting students to utilize, during the school day, backpacks which are made of a mesh or transparent material.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motions:

Request that the School Committee approve a policy for the 2011-12 school year to use, during the school day, backpacks made of a mesh or transparent material at the secondary level.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

gb #8-78 - Administration (March 20, 2008)

To consider changing the minimum criteria for day by day substitutes for itinerant art, music and physical education.

FILE.

gb #8-187 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo (August 4, 2008)

To discuss with the College of the Holy Cross the possible participation of the Worcester Public Schools in the J.D. Power Internships.

FILE.

gb #9-62 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Bogigian (March 9, 2009)

Request that the Administration consider looking into a sponsorship and advertisement arrangement for the athletic programs in the Worcester Public Schools.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motions:

Request that the Worcester Public Schools Athletic Ad Hoc Committee investigate ways of sponsoring profit making events at the Commerce Bank Field at Foley Stadium such as a summer concert and additional rentals of Commerce Bank Field at Foley Stadium by other interested organizations.

Request that the Worcester Public Schools Athletic Ad Hoc Committee study the feasibility of determining the level of interest in sponsoring a fundraising campaign for the naming rights for school gymnasiums and sponsorship for signs and banners.

Request that the Administration interact with the colleges to secure additional equipment for the sports teams of the Worcester Public Schools.

Request that the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues receive an update in February 2011 regarding the progress of the above-mentioned motions.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

gb #9-107 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo (April 15, 2009)

To review the school improvement plans submitted by the individual schools on an annual basis, "in order to ensure consistency with the 3-year district improvement plan and the district annual action plan," pursuant to Chapter 69, Section 1I of the Massachusetts General Laws.

FILE.

gb #9-231 - Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Hargrove/Mr. Monfredo (November 18, 2009)

To review House Bill 383 - an act to prohibit students from bringing cellular video and camera phones into classrooms and to photograph anyone without their prior consent - and to make recommendations to the legislative delegation regarding it.

FILE.

gb #9-232 - Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Hargrove/Mr. Monfredo (November 18, 2009)

To review Senate Bill 245 - an act to raise the age at which a student may drop out of school from 16 to 18 - and to make recommendations to the legislative delegation regarding it.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the School Committee forward a letter to the local delegation in support of Senate Bill 245 and include it on the agenda for the joint meeting with the local delegation and the School Committee on November 19, 2010.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

FILE.

gb #9-234 - Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Hargrove/Mr. Monfredo (November 18, 2009)

To review Senate Bill 221 - an act establishing a grant program for the purpose of encouraging school districts to devise and implement programs to increase parental involvement in their children's education - and to make recommendations to the legislative delegation regarding it.

FILE.

gb #9-236 - Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Hargrove/Mr. Monfredo (November 18, 2009)

To review Senate Bill 261 - an act to require that students respect senior citizens who are teachers or substitute teachers pursuant to rules to be established by the superintendent of schools - and to make recommendations to the legislative delegation regarding it.

FILE.

gb #9-237 - Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Hargrove/Mr. Monfredo (November 18, 2009)

To review House Bill 380 - an act to impose a $1,000 fine and/or a 30-day incarceration on parents whose children have more than seven unexcused absences from school in a six-month period - and to make recommendations to the legislative delegation regarding it.

FILE.

gb #0-17 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (January 5, 2010)

To discuss the voluntary national certification program being developed for principals by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, for 2011, and to determine whether the program offers any benefit to the principals and the initiatives of the Worcester Public Schools.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration share the information regarding the National Board Certification for Principals as contained in the backup for the item with all principals and assistant principals.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Mr. Foley made the following motions:

Request that the Administration create opportunities for administrators and teachers by exposing them to the National Board certifications for both principals and teachers in order to prepare them to assume leadership roles in the Worcester Public Schools.

Request that the Administration consider offering financial incentives for teachers who pursue this certification.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

gb #0-68 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell (March 1, 2010)

Request that the Administration and the School Committee develop a priority list of issues based in part on the list submitted after the legislative tea to the legislators in order to prepare an agenda for the next legislative meeting in April.

gb #0-81 - Ms. Novick/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell (March 11, 2010)

Request that the Administration arrange for a meeting with Congressman James McGovern, Senator John Kerry, Senator Scott Brown and the local delegation, respectively, regarding the re-authorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

(These items were considered together).

gb #0-68

gb #0-81 (continued)

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration consider forwarding information regarding growth models and charter schools to the local delegation.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

FILE.

gb #0-82 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley/Ms. Novick/Mr. O'Connell/ Mayor O'Brien (March 12, 2010)

Request that the Administration discuss ideas with parents on how to best continue to make the Worcester Public Schools schools of choice.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motions:

Request that the Administration provide feedback on the student exit survey in December 2010.

Request that the Administration continue its efforts regarding customer service by:

- improving the welcoming of visitors to buildings in the Worcester Public Schools
- continuing to monitor the schools for cleanliness and safety and
- communicating to parents/guardians through the use of the web page, Connect-Ed and other possible outlets.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration seek feedback from the Site Councils in order to best continue to make the Worcester Public Schools schools of choice.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

gb #0-82 (continued)

Mr. Foley made the following motion:

Request that the Administration, for marketing purposes, consider:

- involving students from Worcester Polytechnic Institute to conduct an Interactive Qualifying Project (IQP) with students in the Worcester Public Schools
- providing extensive information on happenings in the Worcester Public Schools on the website
- meeting with representatives from Channel 3 to seek ways to promote the Worcester Public Schools
- creating a short video of 3-4 minutes to highlight activities taking place in the Worcester Public Schools and
- reviewing the timing of Open House events by targeting students in grade 5.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration promote filming of more activities on Channel 11 in both the academic and athletic areas.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Mr. Foley made the following motion:

Request that the Administration prepare a Public Relations Plan.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration take into consideration the limited resources available to create a Public Relations Plan.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

gb #0-117 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (April 9, 2009)

To formulate, prior to the July 1 deadline, any appropriate resolutions for consideration at the November 3 meeting of the Board of Delegates of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees.

FILE.

gb #0-201 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick (June 30, 2010)

To recognize the members of the Worcester public school staff who retired during the past year and to develop a process for making this recognition an annual occasion for the School Committee.

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the School Committee forward a letter of thanks and appreciation to all retirees and invite them to a School Committee meeting in May for recognition.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

motion (gb #8-169) Mr. Monfredo (August 21, 2008)

Request that the Administration review the enrollment in those schools that don't have classroom space for additional teachers and consider for FY10 a possible redistricting plan with neighboring schools.

FILE.

The meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

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