

Committee Members

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

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A C T I O N S

The Standing Committee on Governance and Employee Issues met at 12:10 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 in Room 410 at the Dr. John E. Durkin Administration Building.

There were present: Miss Biancheria, Mr. Foley and Chairman Monfredo

Representing Administration: Ms. Boulais and Dr. Friel

Others in attendance: P. Bowler, K. Brenner, L. Dyer, W. Foley, R. Hall, J. Hennessey, L. Houlihan, S. O'Connell, J. Robertson, D. St. Louis and T. Whalen

gb #4-148 - Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Novick/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (May 7, 2014)

To file a "home rule petition" to permit the award of civil service appointment status to provisional custodians of the Worcester Public Schools, in light of the absence of a state appointment examination for these positions.

FILE.

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

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

Mr. Monfredo made the following motion:

Request that the Administration inform the schools and the CPPAC relative to Internal Revenue Service Form 1023-EZ, which permits entities to file for a Section 501(c)(3) tax exempt status on a simple and expedited basis.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

FILE.

gb #4-249.2 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Ramirez/Miss Biancheria (September 3, 2014)

Response of the Administration to the request to review with the School Committee members the policy and procedures for kindergarten students getting on and off of the school busses.

Mr. Hennessey spoke about the excellent policy and procedures for kindergarten students getting on and off busses.

FILE.

gb #5-291 - Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/Mr. Foley (October 19, 2015)

Request that the School Committee review the policy on cell phones and gather information from all secondary principals.

A group of secondary principals attended the meeting to discuss possible changes to the cell phone policy.

Some of the suggestions made included:

- creation of three separate policies for elementary, middle and secondary schools
- retention of cell phones in lockers for middle school students
- delineate ways to use cell phones in an appropriate way for 21<sup>st</sup> century learning at the high school level
- restrictions for video and audio
- access to well defined professional use of cell phones
- restrictions relative to computer watch use
- proper phone etiquette early, perhaps in 6<sup>th</sup> grade

Miss Biancheria indicated that the amended cell phone policy should be included in the 2016-17 Policies Handbook.

The following principals volunteered to serve on a committee to develop proposed elementary, middle and high school cell phone policies:

Mr. Peter Bowler  
Ms. Lisa Houlihan  
Mr. Timothy Whalen  
Mr. Ricci Hall  
Mr. William Foley  
Ms. Lisa Dyer

The committee should forward the proposed policies to the School Committee Office on or before, May 11, 2016 for presentation at the Standing Committee on Governance and Employee issue.

gb #6-36 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss McCullough (January 11, 2016)

To establish a Special Committee, consisting of at least three School Committee members, to continue the review of policies proposed for the Worcester Public Schools by the Massachusetts Association of School Committees.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Section AA – School District Legal Status.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Section AB – The People and Their School District.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Section AC – Nondiscrimination.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Section ACA – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Section ACAB – Sexual Harassment.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Section ACE – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Section AD – Educational Philosophy/School District Mission

It was moved and voice voted to approve Section ADC – Smoking on School Premises.

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gb #6-36 (continued)

It was moved and voice voted to approve Section ADDA – C.O.R.I. Requirement.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Section ADF – School District Wellness Program.

It was moved and voice voted to approve Section AE – Commitment to Achievement.

These approvals were voted contingent on alignment with the Policies Handbook of the Worcester Public Schools, affective for the 2017-18 academic year.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

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