

Committee Members

Dianna Biancheria, Chairman
Donna Colorio, Vice-chairman
Brian A. O'Connell

AGENDA #1

ASA

4-26-16

Page 1

A C T I O N S

The Standing Committee on Accountability and Student Achievement met at 5:40 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26, 2016 in Room 410 at the Dr. John E. Durkin Administration Building.

There were present: Ms. Colorio, Mr. O'Connell and Chairman Biancheria

Representing Administration: Dr. Perda and Dr. Friel

Others in attendance: A. Gorham and R. Pezzella

c&p #2-9 - Clerk (August 3, 2012)

To consider a communication from a citizen regarding the findings of an ACLU/Citizens for Juvenile Justice report entitled "Arrested Futures."

Mr. O'Connell made the following motions:

Request that the Administration provide a report to the School Committee at the conclusion of the academic year regarding the implementation of the Agreement between the Worcester Public Schools and the Worcester Police Department for the past year and any recommendations that it wishes to raise in connection with safety issues emerging from the current Agreement.

Request that the Administration prepare recommendations, at Budget time or thereafter, regarding an appropriate training program for staff members including, but not limited to, training in school law topics with regard to safety

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

c&p #2-9 (continued)

Miss Biancheria made the following motions:

Request that the Administration consider conducting training for principals and assistant principals regarding safety.

Request that the Administration provide to the School Committee a weekly safety report in the Friday Letter to include not simply a checklist, but a description of all incidents that take place by school.

On a voice vote, the motions were approved.

FILE.

gb #4-298 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Novick/Miss Biancheria (October 28, 2014)

To work with the Council of Great City Schools in a review of all standardized testing which takes place in the Worcester Public Schools, to (1) "review the entire array of assessments administered... to determine alignment, appropriateness, and technical quality", (2) to "review the findings from the comprehensive survey of district testing and make recommendations for improvement, (3) to "streamline or eliminate assessments that are found to be of low quality, redundant, or inappropriately used", and (4) to "improve the use of assessment results to enhance classroom instruction, and curtail counterproductive 'test prep' practices", all as set forth in the October 15 "Commitments from the Council of Chief State School Officers and the Council of the Great City Schools on High-Quality Assessments."

Dr. Perda and Mrs. Gorham provided a summary of the Administration's responses to the item, as contained in the backup for the item.

Ms. Colorio made the following motion:

Request that the Administration review the amount of time that teachers are taking to prepare students for the district and statewide tests.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

gb #4-298 (continued)

Miss Biancheria made the following motion:

Request that the Administration provide a report regarding weight given, if any, to PARCC or MCAS student results as part of the Admission Policy at Worcester Technical High School.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

gb #5-25 - Administration (January 9, 2015)

To review the 2014-15 October 1st Student Enrollment Report.

Mr. O'Connell made the following motion:

Request that the Administration interact with principals as to the feasibility of expanding the magnet school model or, for some, changing the emphasis of their respective magnet school.

On a voice vote, the motion was approved.

FILE.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

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