

Lowell Public Schools



REPORT ON STATUS OF OUTSTANDING MOTIONS

Report on Motions: April 10, 2019

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

	DATE OF MOTION	MOTION	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE	STATUS
1. SUPT	04/04/18	<p><u>Policy on Service Animals</u></p> <p>[by Gerard Nutter]: School Committee work with Administration and School / City Attorney's developing a policy in regard to "Service Animals" for disabled versus "Comfort Animals" in Lowell Public Schools.</p>		Completed 04/10/19
2. SUPT	04/04/18	<p><u>MTEL Workshops</u></p> <p>[by Dominik Lay]: Request the Superintendent explore the feasibility of offering MTEL (Massachusetts Test for Educator Licensure) Workshops in order to increase qualified diverse teacher candidates.</p>	This was marked as completed by previous administration	Presented 03/20/19 Ongoing Will be presented 04/10/19
3. SUPT	07/25/18	<p><u>Committee Joining the Existing Law Suit</u></p> <p>[by Connie Martin]: Requesting that the Administration prepare a recommendation regarding the Lowell School Committee joining the existing law suit regarding the appropriate foundation formula funding with the existing litigants from Worcester and Brockton.</p>		



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4. SUPT	12/19/18	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Transportation for Public Education</u></p> <p>[by Gerard Nutter]: School Committee direct Atty. Jim Hall to work with DESE and provide School Committee with Legal opinion on who is responsible to fund transportation for public education, who is responsible by law to oversee public education transportation including routes and bidding and how much if any the City receives in Charter School Transportation reimbursement and why that doesn't go to the School Dept. if School Dept. has to take transportation from city's cash contribution.</p>		Will be presented 04/10/19
5. SUPT	12/19/18	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Legal Opinion</u></p> <p>[by Gerard Nutter]: School Committee request Atty. Hall to work with DESE to offer legal opinion on how City is able to charge \$1,500,000.00 in health personal cost against NET School Spending but then keep ALL Medicaid reimbursement when School Personal fill out all the required paperwork and if School Personal should cease to do that.</p>		
6. SUPT	03/06/19	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Public Participation</u></p> <p>[by Robert Hoey]: Move to change the time allowed for speakers from 3 minutes to 5 minutes at all school-related meetings.</p>		Completed 04/03/19
7. SUPT	04/03/19	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Pledge of Allegiance</u></p> <p>[by Andy Descoteaux]: Ask that the Superintendent check with all school principals to verify if all classroom teachers are reciting the Pledge of Allegiance every day, as required by Mass General Law.</p>		



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8. SUPT	04/03/19	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>City Auditor Attend School Committee</u></p> <p>[by Gerard Nutter]: Request Mayor invite City Auditor to attend the next School Committee meeting to address questions / finding stemming from the Fiscal Audit and best practice procedures. Among the issues to address:</p> <p>a. Use of School Facilities - The school department directed the City Auditor's office to reclassify \$180,000 of general fund operating expenditures to this fund. The only supporting documentation for this reclassification was a reference to the school budget. There was no direct correlation to the facilities use receipts. As a result, we consider the expenditure non-compliant with the MGL</p> <p>b. The school department charged the annual districtwide alarm system bills (\$46,197) and locker repairs (\$6,200) to the fund. We consider these expenditures non-compliant with the MGL as they are general operating expenditures.</p> <p>c. School Choice (Fund 1119) – per MGL, these funds are to be used for “expenses incurred in providing education for school choice students”. More than \$50,000 was reclassified to the school choice account from the state hurricane relief grant. The supporting documentation provided (explanation only) was that these costs related to transportation. As noted above, expenditure reclasses should have supporting documentation; otherwise they should not be approved by the City Auditor's Office.</p> <p>d. How the Auditor allowed the Superintendent to submit a full year budget that was never voted on by the Lowell School Committee and why he never notified the City Council, Mayor or City Manager?</p>		



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9. SUPT	04/03/19	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Policy BDF - Not Followed</u></p> <p>[by Gerard Nutter]: Request Mayor to explain why the existing Lowell School Committee Policy BDF - Advisory Committees to the School Committee was not followed when naming the Blue Ribbon Panel? Noting on the following last line of that policy.</p> <p>8-The school committee possesses certain legal powers and purgatives that cannot be delegated or surrendered to others. Therefore, all recommendations of an advisory committee must be submitted to the school committee. The committee will have the sole power to dissolve any of its advisory committees and will reserve the right to exercise this power at any time during the life of any committee.</p>		



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OFFICE OF THE ASST. SUPERINTENDENT – FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

	DATE OF MOTION	MOTION	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE	STATUS
1. FO	11/16/16	<p style="text-align: center;"><u><i>Establish Monthly Meeting Dates</i></u></p> <p>[by Jacqueline Doherty]: Respectfully request the Superintendent work with the School Committee and City Council Subcommittees on Facilities to establish monthly meeting dates to address the ongoing issues concerning maintenance of our school buildings.</p>		Ongoing Requested a Joint Meeting 10/09/18
2. FO	01/17/18	<p style="text-align: center;"><u><i>Special Task Force LHS Stipends</i></u></p> <p>[by Andre Descoteaux]: Request the superintendent to establish a Special Task Force to review and recommend updates to the current LHS stipends, including but not limited to: Athletic Coaching, Student clubs, Band, and Chorus.</p>		Task Force Established 09/28/18 Update provided 04/20/19
3. FO	02/14/18	<p style="text-align: center;"><u><i>New Maintenance of Effort Agreement</i></u></p> <p>[by Gerard Nutter]: Request the Superintendent to update the Committee on the status of New Maintenance of Effort Agreement with City and set March 1st to finalize and present to the Committee for approval at the March 7th meeting or Per Chap 603 CMR 10.00 we contact the Education Commissioner's Office and request designee to conduct hearing.</p>		Will be presented 04/10/19
4. FO	04/04/18	<p style="text-align: center;"><u><i>LPS Budget's Compliance with City Regulations</i></u></p> <p>[by Mayor William Samaras]: Request the City Auditor provides the School Committee with a report on all School Department Budget and Financial issues. Report shall include, but not be limited to, the entering of the FY2018 School Budget into the City's financial system and the school budget's compliance with all City financial regulations and the City Budget.</p>		Ongoing



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5. FO	04/04/18	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Salvaged Equipment</u></p> <p>[by Andre Descoteaux]: Ask the Superintendent to request an evaluation of all current useful and/or new equipment that is currently in the High School. That equipment should be salvaged by us and not the demolition company.</p>		Ongoing
6. FO	08/15/18	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Joint City & SC Finance Subcommittee</u></p> <p>[by Gerard Nutter]: Mayor convene "Special Meeting" between School and City Council Finance Subcommittee with the Superintendent and CITY MANGER the week of Sept. 10th to finalize the Maintenance of Effort Agreement for the 2018/2019 School Year and to discuss the need for the City of Lowell to properly fully fund transportation per MA. State Law and cease decreasing the city's total Cash contribution it provides the schools.</p>		
7. FO	08/15/18	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Joint Finance and Facility Subcommittee</u></p> <p>[by Gerard Nutter]: Request a Joint meeting of the Finance and Facility subcommittee's to review existing job descriptions for "custodians" and consider the need to privatize school building maintenance (painting, minor plumbing, ceiling tile replacements etc.) and look at potential cost versus adequately maintaining these buildings for our students.</p>		



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8. FO	10/07/18	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Laura Lee as Surplus City Property</u></p> <p>[by Gerard Nutter]: School Committee VOTE to keep open The Laura Lee Therapeutic Day School as a functioning, needed School building and request City Manager to formally remove it from the Surplus City property list and inform the City Council and residents of Lowell, Nullifying the Vote by the Lowell City Council of June 20th 2017.</p>		
9. FO	12/19/18	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Maintenance of Effort Agreement</u></p> <p>[by Gerard Nutter]: School Committee vote to formally abolish existing Maintenance of Effort Agreement with City and create a subcommittee of Asst. Supt. of Finance, Mayor and Finance Subcommittee Chair to begin negotiations for a new agreement for the 2019/2020 School Year for entire School Committee to approve.</p> <p>Mr. Nutter amended the motion to form a Subcommittee to work with the City to get a new Maintenance of Effort Agreement by March 1, 2018</p>		Will be presented 04/10/19
10. FO	12/19/18	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Exit Meeting Surveys</u></p> <p>[by Robert Hoey]: Request that the Superintendent direct Human Resources once the Human Resources Director is in place to conduct exit meeting surveys of teachers that request a transfer including the reasons why they requested a transfer.</p>		On going To be established when Chief Human Resource Officer is hired



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11. FO	12/19/18	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Formal List of Recruiting Sources</u></p> <p>[by Robert Hoey]: Request that the Superintendent direct Human Resources to develop once the Human Resources Director is in place a formal list of recruiting sources that work with minorities, female, the disabled, and veterans. Also provide a report on how many employees do we have in each bargaining unit and not affiliated that are minority, disabled, veteran and reservists and guardsmen.</p>		
12. FO	01/16/19	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Unaffiliated Staff</u></p> <p>[by Robert Hoey]: Move to pay all unaffiliated staff the same amount the Unions receive.</p>		Will be presented 04/10/19
13. FO	01/16/19	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>In District Transfers and Departures</u></p> <p>[by Robert Hoey]: Once the HR is hired, a Report on how many in district transfers, and departures out of the district. A list from each individual school for the past five years.</p>		On going To be established when Chief Human Resource Officer is hired
14. FO	01/16/19	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Current Technology and Anticipated Needs</u></p> <p>[by Dominik Lay]: Schedule a Technology Subcommittee meeting to review the district's current technology and assess anticipated needs for current and additional technology.</p>		
15. FO	03/20/19	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Salary Trends</u></p> <p>[by Jacqueline Doherty]: Request the Superintendent provide the Committee with a report that examines salary trends in the Lowell Public Schools over the last five years and how we compare with similar and nearby school districts in MA.</p>		Will be presented 04/10/19



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16. FO	04/03/19	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Assistant from Greater Lowell Technical</u></p> <p>[by Andy Descoteaux]: Ask the Superintendent to work with the City Manager to try and obtain the use of some of the Greater Lowell Technical students to help alleviate some of the open work orders that are overwhelming our city workers.</p>		
17. FO	04/03/19	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Next Maintenance of Effort Agreement</u></p> <p>[by Gerard Nutter]: School Committee vote to request City provide minimum 42% of their NET School spending requirement in the form of a cash contribution to the Lowell Public School System in the next Maintenance of Effort Agreement.</p>		
18. FO	04/03/19	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>City CFO Attend SC Meeting</u></p> <p>[by Gerard Nutter]: School Committee request in the next Maintenance of Effort Agreement that the City CFO or their representative attend the 2nd School Committee meeting every January with a detailed report on Maintenance of Effort charges year to date and October with a detailed report on Maintenance of Effort charges for the previous school year.</p>		
19. FO	04/03/19	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Finance Subcommittee</u></p> <p>[by Gerard Nutter]: Request for a Finance Subcommittee before the next School Committee meeting and have Assistant Superintendent Turner present a list of policy and procedures that have been put in place that address many of the oversight and accounting issues raised in the Fiscal Audit.</p>		Meeting scheduled 05/01/19



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OFFICE OF THE ASST. SUPERINTENDENT – CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT

	DATE OF MOTION	MOTION	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE	STATUS
1. CIA	03/20/19	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Dual Enrollment Program</u></p> <p>[by Jacqueline Doherty]: Request the Superintendent provide the committee with an update report on the Dual Enrollment Program including number of students involved with UML and MCC, courses offered at LHS and at the colleges, and other pertinent information about the program.</p>		Completed 04/03/19



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OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT – STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

	DATE OF MOTION	MOTION	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE	STATUS
1. SSS	12/19/19	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Allocates Funds to Support Citywide</u></p> <p>[by Jacqueline Doherty]: Lowell School Committee allocates funds to support Citywide Family Council per recommendations from Administration, beginning with 2019-2020 budget.</p>		
2. SSS	02/06/19	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Cell Phones Usage at LHS</u></p> <p>[by Robert Hoey]: Request the Superintendent works with Lowell High School administration to develop a report regarding the usage of cell phones at LHS.</p>		Completed 04/03/19
3. SSS	03/06/19	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Pre-School and Kindergarten Admission Policies</u></p> <p>[by Connie Martin]: Request that the Administration prepare a report on the current Pre-School and Kindergarten admission policies and address any potential for offering readiness assessments for students not meeting the established birthday deadlines.</p>		Will be presented on 04/10/19



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CITY COUNCIL MOTIONS

	DATE OF MOTION	MOTION	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE	STATUS
1. cc				