

CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

(Official Minutes)

Special Meeting

June 30, 2022

Called for 12:00 p.m. broadcast from the Media Arts Studio, 454 Broadway, for the purpose of discussing and voting on Superintendent Recommendations and any business that may properly come before the Committee.

Members Present: Vice-Chair Rachel, Member Bhambi, Member Fantini, Member Rojas, Member Weinstein, Member Wilson, Mayor Siddiqui

Also Present: Dr. Greer, Superintendent of Schools; Dr. Turk, Deputy Superintendent;

Mayor Siddiqui in the Chair.

A quorum of the School Committee being present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

The Chair provided a statement to the public regarding Governor Charlie Baker's Executive Order on guidelines for remote participation and then read the call of the meeting.

The meeting proceeded to the first order of business with a roll call vote for the purpose of a soundcheck: Member Wilson PRESENT; Member Bhambi ABSENT; Member Fantini PRESENT; Vice-Chair Rachel PRESENT; Member Rojas PRESENT; Member Weinstein PRESENT; Mayor Siddiqui PRESENT. Member Bhambi joined the meeting at 12:03 p.m.

1. Public Comment:

The following individuals were heard:

• Dan Monahan, Lexington Avenue, spoke about **#22-166**

On a motion by Member Fantini, seconded by Vice-Chair Rachel on the following roll call vote, public comment was closed: Member Wilson YEA; Member Bhambi ABSENT; Member Fantini YEA; Vice-Chair Rachel YEA; Member Rojas YEA; Member Weinstein YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

3. Superintendent's Agenda

- 7a. Presentations: None
- 7b. CPS District Plan: None

7c. Consent Agenda:

#22-166 Recommendation: Approval of Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the Cambridge School Committee and the Cambridge Education Association Units A & B for a Two-year Period of September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2023

A discussion followed on **#22-166.**

Contract Negotiations co-chairs, **Vice-Chair Rachel** and **Member Fantini** provided context and background on the tentative collective bargaining agreement between the School Committee and the CEA Units A & B. They both expressed gratitude to the teachers and administrative bargaining team for their efforts in collaborating and coming to an agreement by the end of the school year.

On the following roll call vote, **#22-166** was adopted; Member Weinstein YEA; Member Bhambi YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Vice-Chair Rachel YEA; Member Rojas YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Sheila Keady-Rawson (on behalf of the City Manager) YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

#22-167 Recommendation: Approval of the City of Cambridge Election Commission's Request for the use of Six District School Buildings as Polling Locations Through November 2024

A brief discussion followed on #22-167.

Mayor Siddiqui provided context on the recommendation and the timeline of the Election Commission to ensure approval of using six school buildings as polling locations through November 2024.

Member Wilson inquired about the goals of the district and the election commission and if there were any long terms plans for collaboration. Dr. Greer responded that currently, the recommendation sets a plan through the end of 2024 for the use of buildings, however, in long-term planning, she will collaborate with the election commission, safety officers, and school officials for longer-term plans.

Member Weinstein asked about professional days on election days and if this would be the case for the upcoming special election in September. Dr. Greer responded that the election date in September falls on the first day of school so that day would not be a professional development day, however for election dates in the future, it will be a professional day. She also reiterated that the administration will work with safety officials and school staff to ensure safety for students and staff for the September polling. **Mayor Siddiqui** added that the election committee is seeking consistency for voters so they are aware of polling locations that are not constantly changing.

Member Rojas inquired about the number of schools that were used before and after covid and if the number of schools requested changed because of covid social distancing. Charles Marquardt and Ethridge King of the Election Commission provided clarity on the number of schools that were used before and after covid and the reasoning for the additional schools which were created to replace two voting precincts at a nursing home and Woodrow Wilson. The two additional schools are the Putnam Ave Upper School and the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School.

On the following roll call vote, **#22-167** was adopted: Member Weinstein YEA; Member Bhambi YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Vice-Chair Rachel YEA; Member Rojas YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

On a motion by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Rojas, on the following roll call vote, it was voted, to adjourn the meeting: Member Weinstein YEA; Member Bhambi YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Vice-Chair Rachel YEA; Member Rojas YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA (12:32 p.m.).

Attest: Ariel B.Kennebrew

Ariel B. Kennebrew Executive Secretary to the School Committee