



**C A M B R I D G E
S C H O O L C O M M I T T E E**

(Official Minutes)

Regular Meeting

May 4, 2021

Called for 6:00 pm in the Dr. Henrietta S. Attles Meeting Room, Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, 459 Broadway, Cambridge, for the purpose of discussing any and all business that may properly come before the Committee.

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

Also Present: Nuriel Vera DeGraff, Anais Killian, Student School Committee Representatives

Mayor Siddiqui in the Chair

A quorum of the School Committee being present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

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 a soundcheck:
Member

1. Public Hearing on State School Choice

The following individuals were heard:

- No individuals signed up for public comment for the public hearing.

On a motion by Member Rachel, seconded by Member Weinstein, on the following roll call vote, it was voted to close public hearing: Member Weinstein Yea; Member Wilson, Yes, Vice-Chair Bowman Yes, Member Fantini Yes, Member Rachel Yes, Member Rojas Yes, and Mayor Siddiqui, Yes. All should be YEA's with a semi-colon in-between.

On a motion by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Weinstein, it was voted to suspend the rules to bring forward recommendation #21-107:

Vice-Chair Bowman asked Superintendent Salim to speak to Recommendation #21-107

- Superintendent Salim began with the history of this annual vote and then explained the Cambridge Controlled Choice Program and its challenges. The recommendation is not to participate in the State's School Choice Program.

#21-107 Recommendation: SY2021/2022 State School Choice Program-Recommendation for Non-Participation

On a motion (by who), seconded (by who), it was voted, on a voice vote, not to adopt #21-107.

1. a. Public Comment
 - a. Dan Monahan, President of the CTA, spoke on various issues
 - b. The Honorable Marjorie Decker spoke on behalf of Motion #21-121

On a motion by Member Fantini, seconded by Member Rojas, it was voted to close public comment on a voice vote.

2. Student School Committee Report:

Student Member Vera-DeGraff reported on the expansion of in-person learning at CRLS. There are some concerns with too much instructional screen time. Very happy to be going back in person. He spoke about the misogynistic culture at CRLS and cited a recent event and the response. He wanted to acknowledge Teacher Appreciation week and what was done.

Student Member-Killian reported about the CRLS participatory budget process (May 11, deadline) and its scope. She regaled about the Student Council and the involvement of the School Committee and administration. Spoke about the creation of a new council at an upper school.

3. Presentation of the Records for Approval:

On a motion by Member Rachel, seconded by Member Weinstein, it was voted, on a voice vote, to accept the following minutes as presented:

- March 18, 2021, Special Meeting
- March 23, 2021, Special Meeting
- March 30, 2021, Special Meeting
- April 6, 2021, Regular Meeting
- April 13, 2021, Special Meeting
- April 15, 2021, Special Meeting

On a motion by Vice-Chair Bowman, seconded by Member Fantini, it was voted, on a voice vote, to suspend the rules and bring forward recommendations **#21-108** and **#21-109**.

#21-108 Approval of the Tentative Agreement between the Cambridge School Committee and the Cambridge Professional Safety Specialists Association for a Successor Collective Bargaining Agreement for the period of July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2024

#21-109 Approval of the Amendment to Memorandum of Agreement between the Cambridge Education Association Units A, B, C, D, and E and the Cambridge School Committee Regarding School Reopening Dated April 5, 2021

On a motion by Vice-Chair Bowman, seconded by Member Fantini on the following roll call vote, it was voted to adopt **#21-108** and **#21-109**:

Member Weinstein Yea; Member Wilson Yea; Vice-Chair Bowman Yea; Member Fantini Yea; Member Rachel Yea; Member Rojas Yea; and Mayor Siddiqui, Yea; and Sheila Keady Rawson for the City, Yea

4. Superintendent's Agenda:



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7a. Presentations:

Superintendent Salim closed the presentation and opened the floor for questions from the members.

Member Rachel wanted clarity on student surveillance testing and the number of students who have opted in?

- Tracey Rose Tynes answered that she does not have the percentages of students that are testing and answers that the number is increasing
- Jim Maloney will have the information placed on the CPSD dashboard.

Member Rojas wanted clarity on the language versions and to have them be consistent with their information.

Member Fantini wanted clarity on the child's quarantine and how it affects the family—asked about 3ft distancing and its longevity and asked about the transmissions rate?

- Dr. Dobberteen answered that answer is individualized. Different norms are depending on the age and need of the child. Social distancing will mitigate the three feet distancing when it comes to vaccines. It is differently lower. There is a higher percentage of younger children because of the vaccination rate. The burden of the disease is more significant in the younger population.

Vice-Chair Bowman wanted to explore a mask option to keep the health benefits that have been gained through the pandemic. Wanted clarity on the public health of schools moving forward? Have there been any conversations on the COVID vaccine for children?

- Dr. Dobberteen acknowledges the positive collateral from masks wearing. There is a reliance on the school nurse as well as the health background of the child. We want to be very encouraging on the need for vaccination. There has not been any conversation. She is not aware if there can be a mandate.

Member Wilson asked about surveillance testing and the possibility of mandating?

- Tracey Rose Tyne replied that she is a proponent of requiring surveillance testing and its benefits.

Member Fantini asked why there was greater remote participation at the CRLS—asked about RSTA?

- Superintendent Salim answered that there is a similar pattern in other districts. It could be a different scenario of their choice.
- Assistant Superintendent Gittens replied that it has to do with what has been in place and not disturbing. RSTA has been bringing students back since November. As an aside, the extension program would like to remain remote. There is an opportunity for in-person for some students.

Member Wilson wanted to know what is the success rate for the remote learners

- Assistant Gittens speaks to the scheduling of the Fall and the possibility of further remote options.

Member Vera-DeGraff reflected on the possibilities of remote for the future and could be a teacher based on not being in person. There is also a convenience aspect.

7b. CPS District Plan: None

7c. Consent Agenda:

Member Wilson removed #21- 115, 119, 120. **Member Fantini** removed #21- 112.

On the following roll call vote, items #21- 110, #21-111, #21-113, #21-114, #21-116, #21-117, #21-118- were adopted:

Member Weinstein Yea; Member Wilson Yea; Vice-Chair Bowman Yea; Member Fantini Yea; Member Rachel Yea; Member Rojas Yea; and Mayor Siddiqui, Yea;

#21-110 Recommendation: Approval of the Agreement between the Cambridge School Committee and the Cambridge Education Association Regarding an Adjustment to the School Calendar for the Start of the 2021/2022 School Year

#21-111, Day & Residential Program Services not available from the Cambridge School Department, be adopted as follows: that the School Committee award contracts to the institutions as detailed in the list in amounts not to exceed the shown rates, having been approved by the Operational Services Division of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, funds to be provided from the General Fund and/or Grand Fund Budget. School Department:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Day	2	\$61,464.75
Residential	0	
45 Day	<u>0</u>	
		<u>\$61,464.75</u>

#21-113, Contract Award, be adopted as follows: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor for Computer Software, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Apple, Inc., 5409 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino, CA, for the period, July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 in the amount of \$500,000.00.

#21-114, Contract Award, be adopted as follows: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor for Computer Software, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

PJ Systems d/b/a HiQ Computers, [477 Riverside Avenue, Medford](#), for the period July 1, 2021 through June 20, 2022 in the amount of \$407,865.00.

#21-116, Contract Award, be adopted as follows: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor for Computer Software, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

CDW Government LLC, 230 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Vernon Hills, IL, for the period May 7, 2021 to December 31, 2021, in the amount of \$175,000.00.

#21-117, Contract Award, be adopted as follows: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor for Computer Software, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Hobart Service-a division of ITW Food Service Equipment Group, LLC, 701 S. Ridge Ave., Troy, OH, for the periods April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022 in the amount of \$49,000.00, April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023, in the amount of \$49,965.00, April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024, in the amount of \$50,960.00. Total Contract Amount: \$149,925.00.

#21-118, Approval of Gifts to Cambridge Public Schools: that the School Committee accept and approve the following gifts and receipts as described.

122 Portuguese textbooks and a bibliographic collection of Portuguese juvenile

literature to encourage reading by Portuguese-speaking authors made by the Consul General of Portugal in Boston to the Ola' Program at the King Open School.

8. Non-Consent Agenda:

Discussion followed on **#21-112**.

Member Fantini wanted a breakdown

- Dr. Turk spoke on the importance of keeping young people in a reading group. She wanted to make sure the students have access to different types of material. Library access is not readily available to all, and this will help. Children will be able to walk away from their school with a set of books (5) for their reading pleasure.
Vice-Chair Bowman wanted to know if there would be an activity component for these books?
- Dr. Turk answered that Scholastic does not provide that opportunity. However, that is something they can think of in the future.

On the following roll call vote, **#21- 112** was adopted: Member Weinstein Yea; Member Wilson Yea; Vice-Chair Bowman Yea; Member Fantini Yea; Member Rachel Yea; Member Rojas Yea; and Mayor Siddiqui, Yea;

#21-112, Contract Award, be adopted as follows: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor for, Instructional Materials, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Scholastic, Inc., 5 Broadway, New York, NY, for the period, May 7, 2021 to June 30, 2021 in the amount of \$116,136.35.

Discussion followed on **#21-115**.

Member Wilson wanted further information on this order. Is this for grades K to 8?

- Claire Spinner, Chief Financial Officer, spoke on the previous months of book collections, and it was not able to have them returned; this helps to have the books replenished.

Member Fantini asked about electronic books?

- Superintendent Salim answered that one of the expanded software was Raz Kids, which developed their digital library.

On the following roll call vote, **#21-115** recommendation was adopted:

#21-115, Contract Award, be adopted as follows: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor for Library Books, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Follett School Solution, 1340 Ridgeview Drive, McHenry, IL, for the period May 7, 2021 to June 30, 2021 in the amount of \$130,961.48.

Member Weinstein Yea; Member Wilson Yea; Vice-Chair Bowman Yea; Member Fantini Yea; Member Rachel Yea; Member Rojas Yea; and Mayor Siddiqui, Yea;

Discussion followed on **#21- 119, #21-120** Recommendations:

Member Wilson wanted more information for these awards

- Superintendent Salim answered that these awards span two fiscal years.

- Claire Spinner, this was a student-based grant which is a 30K planning grant. One for the current fiscal year and the upcoming one. The plan is the hopes to have additional grant money in the Fall.
- Assistant Superintendent Gittens, her expectation of this position, is for the neediest student to have help with an early college program. The job is on focusing on planning and is sustainable. The guidance counselor's roles support the scholars on the early college programs and fully understand the process.

On the following roll call vote, **#21-119, #21-120** recommendations were adopted:

#21-119, Grant Award, be adopted as follows:

that the School Committee accept and approve the grant award below in the amount and for the period indicated:

FY21 SOA Evidence Based Programs, State Trust/Competitive, for the period, April 21, 2021 to June 30, 2021 in the amount of \$15,000.00. Grant SC21170.

Description: This Student Opportunity Act/Evidence Based Programs (SOA/EBP) grant will support a 0.8 FTE position for an Early College Project Coordinator who will develop and coordinate the district's partnerships with Institutes of Higher Education (IHEs), assist with recruiting and registering students facing economic disadvantages in accessing college level courses, and connect them with supports to ensure their success. The grant includes the salary and benefits for the Coordinator, as well as \$2,300 in stipends for Guidance Counselors to further develop career exploration curriculum.

#21-120, Grant Award, be adopted as follows:

that the School Committee accept and approve the grant award below in the amount and for the period indicated:

FY22 SOA Evidence Based Programs, State Trust/Competitive, for the period July 1, 2021 to August 31, 2021, in the amount of \$15,000.00. Grant SC22170.

Description: This Student Opportunity Act/Evidence Based Programs (SOA/EBP) grant will support a 0.8 FTE position for an Early College Project Coordinator who will develop and coordinate the district's partnerships with Institutes of Higher Education (IHEs), assist with recruiting and registering students facing economic disadvantages in accessing college level courses, and connect them with supports to ensure their success. The grant includes the salary and benefits for the Coordinator, as well as \$2,300 in stipends for Guidance Counselors to further develop career exploration curriculum.

Member Weinstein Yea; Member Wilson Yea; Vice-Chair Bowman Yea; Member Fantini Yea; Member Rachel Yea; Member Rojas Yea; and Mayor Siddiqui, Yea;

9. School Committee Agenda (Policy Matters/Notifications/Requests for Information):

#21-121 Joint Motion by Member Rachel, Member Wilson, and Member Weinstein

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has made many students and families anxious about being in school buildings; and

Whereas the Cambridge School Committee and Cambridge Public Schools have worked hard to create safe in-person environments and to continue vital remote learning experiences; and

Whereas, while schools will welcome back most students to learn in-person by May 10, more than 30% of our students will complete this school year learning remotely, totaling more than 15 months of being largely at home; and

Whereas CPS families have requested opportunities for their children to connect with peers and school staff prior to the next school year; and

Whereas anxiety and depression amongst young people are at historically high levels nationally; and

Whereas the Cambridge School Committee and Cambridge Public Schools are committed to supporting students as they return to in-person learning this spring and in the Fall; now therefore be it Resolved that, in order to ease the return to in-person school in the Fall, elementary and upper schools will invite current remote learners to gather outside with their in-person peers and their fall 2021 teacher teams at least once before June 23, 2021, and at least twice by Labor Day; and be it further Resolved that Cambridge Rindge and Latin and the High School Extension Program will offer at least two in-person, outdoor opportunities to rising ninth graders and current remote learners by Labor Day.

Discussion followed on #21-121

Member Rachel takes the time to explain the methodology and history behind her motion. Members Wilson and Weinstein echo her thoughts and motivations.

Members Weinstein and Wilson echoed Member Rachel's sentiments and state their support for the motion.

Mayor Siddiqui brought up the listening sessions that were conducted and asked if this was brought up?

- Member Rachel answered in the affirmative that it was brought up repeatedly.
- Superintendent Salim replied that it was an interest to have scholars connect. He went to say having peers join outside of the school day and how the staff is being utilized. Not all schools have the same outdoor space capabilities. He reminded the panel that some teachers have remote accommodations and assignments, and there is a difference. Many students who are still partaking remotely are participating in city-based events.
- Dr. Gittens reflected on her visits to most of the upper school where in-person has begun. There is an overwhelming excitement to be together and connected. Anxiety has not been an issue and speaks to the scholar's resiliencies.
- Dr. Madera shared her thoughts on the elementary school observations; some outside meet-ups have worked out well. The anxiety is more so with the adults, cautions that the adults do not project on the scholars.

Member Fantini stated we need to focus on policy, not micromanaging the District.

Member Rojas brought up the "Friends of" that could help meet the school's families and peers.

- Superintendent Salim answered about flexibility, logistical concerns, and challenges with trying to facilitate this motion. Superintendent Salim's reminded the members that not all schools have similar spaces.

Vice-Chair Bowman would be concerned about the impact of learning time. Speaks to the opportunity of leveraging other staff and CBA nuances.

Member Rachel spoke to her concerns from the following year to have peers meet, and the intent of the School Committee was not followed. She amended the motion by striking the word "TEACHER" and replacing it with "SCHOOL."

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has made many students and families anxious about being in school buildings; and

Whereas the Cambridge School Committee and Cambridge Public Schools have worked hard to create safe in-person environments and to continue vital remote learning experiences; and

Whereas, while schools will welcome back most students to learn in-person by May 10, more than 30% of our students will complete this school year learning remotely, totaling more than 15 months of being largely at home; and

Whereas CPS families have requested opportunities for their children to connect with peers and school staff prior to the next school year; and

Whereas anxiety and depression amongst young people are at historically high levels nationally; and

Whereas the Cambridge School Committee and Cambridge Public Schools are committed to supporting students as they return to in-person learning this spring and in the Fall; now therefore be it

*Resolved that, in order to ease the return to in-person school in the Fall, elementary and upper schools will invite current remote learners to gather outside with their in-person peers and their fall 2021 **teacher SCHOOL** teams at least once before June 23, 2021, and at least twice by Labor Day;*

Resolved that Cambridge Rindge and Latin and the High School Extension Program will offer at least two in-person, outdoor opportunities to rising ninth graders and current remote learners by Labor Day.

*To be read as the following: Resolved that, in order to ease the return to in-person school in the Fall, elementary and upper schools will invite current remote learners to gather outside with their in-person peers and their fall 2021 **teacher SCHOOL** teams at least once before June 23, 2021, and at least twice by Labor Day;*

Member Weinstein spoke his support of the amended motion and praised Dr. Gitten's assessment of the children's resiliency.

Member Wilson brought up Field Days and the potential to have remote learners be there.

- Superintendent appreciated the suggestion of the amendment. Spoke about the consistency of the continued planning of in-person learning and the impacts.

Vice-Chair Bowman appreciates the frustration that Member Rachel is feeling. We need to recognize the barriers that block us and acknowledge what we have done.

Mayor Siddiqui appreciated the motion and its intent. Speaks to having high-level updates for the members to have to be more informed.

On a motion Member Rachel seconded Member Weinstein it was voted, on a voice vote, to amend #21-121 by striking teacher and replacing it with school in the second Resolved

On a motion by Member Rachel, seconded by Member Weinstein, on a voice vote, #21-121 was adopted as amended.

#21-122 Motion by the Curriculum and Achievement Sub-Committee

Whereas the COVID-19 pandemic has made many students and families anxious about being in school buildings; and

Whereas the Cambridge School Committee and Cambridge Public Schools have worked hard to create safe in-person environments and to continue vital remote learning experiences; and

Whereas, while schools will welcome back most students to learn in-person by May 10, more than 30% of our students will complete this school year learning remotely, totaling more than 15 months of being largely at home; and

Whereas CPS families have requested opportunities for their children to connect with peers and school staff prior to the next school year; and

Whereas anxiety and depression amongst young people are at historically high levels nationally; and

Whereas the Cambridge School Committee and Cambridge Public Schools are committed to supporting students as they return to in-person learning this spring and in the Fall; now therefore be it

Resolved that, in order to ease the return to in-person school in the Fall, elementary and upper schools will invite current remote learners to gather outside with their in-person peers and their fall 2021 teacher teams at least once before June 23, 2021, and at least twice by Labor Day; and be it further

Resolved that Cambridge Rindge and Latin and the High School Extension Program will offer at least two in-person, outdoor opportunities to rising ninth graders and current remote learners by Labor Day.

Discussion followed on #21-122

Member Weinstein gave context to the motions and their history and explained the intent behind these motions to support the District.

- Dr. Turk further elaborated on the advantages of the three motions and spoke to the contributions of the working group. She went on to talk about the stakeholders and participants.

Members Rojas and Rachel thanked the motion makers and Dr. Turk for their hard work.

- Superintendent Salim would like to think of ways to support outdoor learning. There needs to be an assessment of tents and looking to continuing with them.
- Jim Maloney, COO, reminded me that there are currently 11 tents up. There needs to be a separate understanding between outdoor learning and tenting. Spoke of the money spent on the tenting. 400K this year. The District is looking forward to continuing what is in place.

Member Weinstein clarified that this does not need to utilize any new structures. Reminded this to be a pilot program.

Vice-Chair Bowman recommended that building leadership be part of the conversation and that it should be sent to the Superintendent.

Member Fantini supported outdoor learning and agreed with the Vice-Chair's thoughts to send it to the Superintendent for his review.

Member Rachel offered context to the motion and showed that the motion makers are open to referring to the Superintendent.

On a motion by Vice Chair Bowman, seconded by Member Rachel, on a voice vote, **#21-122** was referred to the Superintendent.

#21-123 Motion by the Curriculum and Achievement Sub-Committee

Whereas the CPSD Safety and Facilities manual recommends that in-person students eat outdoors whenever possible for increased safety; and
Whereas there is evidence of mental health benefits to increased time outdoors; and
Whereas CPSD schools were not designed to facilitate outdoor eating, particularly for the increased number of students returning to CPSD buildings this spring and in September of 2021; and
Whereas it is probable that many students will not be eligible for vaccination prior to SY21-22; and
Whereas the Outdoor Learning Working Group of the CPSD COVID-19 Task Force has presented the following recommendation to the Curriculum and Achievement Subcommittee; therefore be it
Resolved that CPSD will ensure there are outdoor spaces for eating at each school sufficient for the number of students attending in person as soon as possible for elementary and upper schools, but no later than May 10 2021, and by May 10 2021 for high school students; and be it further
Resolved that CPSD will ensure before the start of the 2021-22 school year there are ample outdoor spaces for all students to eat outdoors in the 2021-22 school year.

Member Weinstein gave context to the motion and their history and explained the intent behind these motions to support the District.

- Superintendent Salim brings up limited spacing issues at various schools. How does the District maximize some of the spaces? There have been safety measures in place for eating. There are scheduling logistics to think of.

- Jim Maloney, the district default, is to eat outdoors whenever possible.

Vice-Chair Bowman brought up the hard work and the doggedness of the food services workers and how they have succeeded in their jobs. Refers this motion to Superintendent

Member Weinstein echoed Vice-Chair Bowman's thoughts on their great work done by the food services workers.

Member Fantini spoke to another opportunity to review protocols and possibly purchase more outdoor furnishings to help with the motion's points.

On a motion by Vice-Chair Bowman, seconded by Member Rojas, on a voice vote, **#21-123** was referred to the Superintendent.

#21-124 Motion by the Curriculum and Achievement Sub-Committee

Whereas approximately 40 percent of CPSD students are learning remotely for the rest of the 2020-21 academic year, and

Whereas remote students may not have the opportunity to interact safely outdoors in person with other students and with CPSD staff and educators, and

Whereas social interaction is important to the social and emotional learning and health of children, and

Whereas CPSD has been safely providing free lunch pickup at schools since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, thanks to the hard work of CPSD staff and the support of the CPSD administration and the City of Cambridge, and

Whereas the expansion of in-person learning and the availability of COVID-19 vaccines has increased the in-person staffing at CPSD schools, making possible the consideration of programming during the school day that might not have been possible previously, and

Whereas the Outdoor Learning Working Group of the CPSD COVID-19 Task Force has presented a recommendation to the Curriculum and Achievement Subcommittee that in-person activities be offered to remote students during lunch pick-up; therefore be it

Resolved that CPSD will survey remote students and caregivers to assess interest in and need for in-person activity options for remote students during the lunch pick-up, and will report back with those findings to the School Committee at the May 18, 2021 School Committee meeting, and be it further Resolved that if there is sufficient interest and need among remote students and caregivers, at the May 18, 2021 School Committee meeting CPSD will present a proposal for in-person activity options during lunch pick-up time to be offered during the remainder of the 2020-21 school year.

Discussion on **#21-124** followed.

Member Weinstein gave context to the motions and their history and explained the intent behind these motions to support the District.

Vice-Chair Bowman wanted a point of information about where the DHSP is to give context to this motion?

- Mayor Siddiqui will follow up with specifics and references to the current DHSP programming.
- Superintendent Salim gave context to the scheduling and timing of lunch distribution considered who would be running this program? What does that supervision look like?

On a motion by Member Rachel, seconded by Member Fantini, on a voice vote, **#21-124** was referred to the Curriculum & Achievement Sub-Committee.

#21-125 Motion by Vice-Chair Bowman

Whereas: The finalists have been chosen for the Interim Superintendent Search, thus completing the work of the Ad-Hoc Superintendent Search Sub-Committee; now therefore be it Resolved: That the Ad-Hoc Superintendent Search Sub-Committee be dissolved.

Discussion followed on **#21-125**

Vice-Chair Bowman gave a brief history of the motion and thanked the committee members for their hard work.

Mayor Siddiqui thanked the district staff and School Committee Staff.

Member Fantini echoed the positive thoughts and experiences to the members.

Member Wilson asked would there be another ad hoc committee for the permanent search for Superintendent?

- Mayor Siddiqui answered that would be determined in time.
Motion adopted on a voice vote in the affirmative.

10. Resolutions (letters of congratulations, letters of condolence): None

11. Announcements:

Superintendent Salim announced that the DESE semifinalist for teacher of the year is Karen Engles. Member Weinstein echoes Superintendent Salim's praise and excitement for the award.

Member Fantini announced the following: an exciting event called See the World at the Kennedy Longfellow world. A Polaroid camera was used to illustrate the world and was co-founded by another Rindge alum.

Mayor Siddiqui echoed Member Fantini's sentiment on See the World: announced applications to the MSYEP opened on May 3.

Member Wilson wanted to announce that Harvard is having their third annual RISE (Re-Imaging Self and Excellence) contest. A reminder the May is mental health awareness month. Workforce seniors will have their banquet on May 5.

Member Vera-DeGraff mentioned that on May 8, the Amnesty Food Drive at CRLS would be happening and the benefits of the participatory budget.

Member-Killian announced the possibility of the senior prom.

Member Rojas reminded the panel that there would be another building and grounds subcommittee meeting.

12. Late Orders:

Late Motion by Member Weinstein, Member Weinstein, Member Rachel, Mayor Siddiqui in collaboration with Student Member Killian and Student Member Vera-DeGraff
MOTION:

Whereas the Cambridge School Committee unequivocally condemns misogyny and gender-based harassment and assault; and

Whereas students at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School have recently called attention to the need for CPSD to better address misogyny and gender-based harassment and assault, with the goals of better

supporting those impacted by it, better responding to specific incidents and to broader school culture and climate concerns, and ultimately eliminating it; and

Whereas for many years Cambridge Public School students have been leaders in calling upon CPSD to better prevent and address sexual harassment and assault; and

Whereas four years ago, Mayor Simmons stated in a May 17, 2016 official letter that "In light of the state-wide conversation surrounding gender-based harassment, in response to recent events at CRLS (such as the walkout that took place on April 13) and in recognition of the need to better address and prevent incidents of bullying, the City of Cambridge must take a new and more focused approach in addressing these concerns"; and

Whereas in that May 17, 2016 letter Mayor E. Denise Simmons announced that she would be "appointing a Special Committee on Gender-based Issues to better examine and monitor reports pertaining to sexual harassment, as well as to all forms of gender-based discrimination in our schools and in our wider community"; and

Whereas that committee drafted a set of "Sexual Harassment and Assault Prevention Action Plan Recommendations"; (see: https://www.cpsd.us/UserFiles/Servers/Server_3042785/File/school_committee/recommendation/17-80_Sexual_harassment_assault_prevention_action_plan_re.pdf); and

Whereas those recommendations were presented at the May 2, 2017 School Committee Meeting, as part of motion #17-80 (see: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WLN25JuFhZcoNAHxLu6WpgROVRzv6F_/view?usp=sharing) which passed unanimously; and

Whereas motion #17-80 included the following: "ORDERED: That the Superintendent of Schools be and hereby is requested to formally review the feasibility of all recommendations included in the aforementioned and attached systemic Action Plan which references CRLS and all the Cambridge Public Schools, and to solicit recommendations from stakeholders, including students, from each school as to what measures should be enacted; and be it further ORDERED: That the Superintendent of Schools hereby is requested to devise a timetable for the stages of a scaled implementation of these measures, devise plans for implementation, and report back to the School Committee in a timely manner on how, and how soon, this implementation can begin"; now therefore be it

Resolved that the Superintendent update the School Committee at the May 18, 2021 regular meeting on the history and current status of the implementation of these recommendations, and of any other district initiatives or plans currently in place related to the issue of fighting misogyny, gender-based discrimination, sexual harassment, and sexual assault within CPSD.

Mayor Siddiqui gave context to this late order and yielded the floor to Member Killion.

Member Killian read the motion and spoke on the merits and previous history of this motion.

Member Weinstein thanked the student members and gave more historical context to this motion than specific previous incidents. A special committee on gender-based issues was established, and then an action plan was determined and presented on May 2, 2017.

Vice-Chair Bowman spoke to the gravitas of the conversation and motion offers to place on the calendar for the next meeting. She is a proponent of this resolution but would have wanted more time to read it and have others be part of the conversation.

Member Rachel remarked that there is a sense of urgency to this motion, and there is a need to answer quickly.

Member Wilson asked about what was presented in 2017 and what may have come from that?

- Superintendent Salim answered a city-wide committee that did meet. However, he does not have the information currently. He will have the information for the next regular meeting.

On a motion by Member Weinstein, seconded by Member Rachel, on the following roll call vote, the late motion was adopted:

Member Weinstein Yea; Member Wilson Yea; Vice-Chair Bowman Yea; Member Fantini Yea; Member Rachel Yea; Member Rojas Yea; and Mayor Siddiqui, Yea;

On a motion by Member Fantini, seconded by Member Rojas, it was voted to adjourn the meeting on a voice.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 pm

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Dever Wood". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large loop at the end.

Jennifer Dever Wood
Cambridge School Committee