



#26-042

CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
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March 17, 2026

WHEREAS: Ms. Fabiane Noronha has been a proud member of the King Open community since 2012, serving as a social studies educator in the Olá Portuguese Immersion Program, demonstrating a deep and enthusiastic commitment to civic education and social justice; and

WHEREAS: Ms. Noronha fosters thoughtful civic discourse in her classroom by encouraging students to share perspectives, analyze primary and secondary sources, evaluate the validity of information, and connect historical study to their own lived experiences; and

WHEREAS: During the 2021–2022 school year, Ms. Noronha piloted the Discovering Justice civics curriculum with her kindergarten students, guiding them through a hands-on civic engagement project focused on food justice and advocacy efforts that resulted in the successful return of a salad bar to the King Open School; and

WHEREAS: Beginning in the 2022–2023 school year, Ms. Noronha expanded her impact to third and fourth grade students, collaborating with Discovering Justice to develop lessons on regional justice advocates and translating the curricular resources into Portuguese so that students in dual language programs across the state could access the materials; and

WHEREAS: As a dual language immersion educator, Ms. Noronha is deeply committed to fostering global competence and civic agency in her students, as exemplified by her leadership of an educational and cultural immersion trip to the Azores for King Open School fifth graders in April 2025 during which they learned about the Portuguese and Azorean cultures, government, history, art, and geography through visits to cultural institutions and natural parks; and

WHEREAS: Ms. Noronha is a highly collegial educator who shares her expertise with colleagues within her school and across the district, and in 2022, she co-facilitated a webinar “Cultivating Civics Norms, Skills and Dispositions in the Elementary Classroom” for the Massachusetts Civic Learning Coalition; and

WHEREAS: Laura Brenner, Chief Program Office at Discovering Justice, proudly shared, “Fabiane does not just teach about civics; she engages her students as citizens of their community by bringing in local and global issues, fostering civic skills across all parts of the school day, and activating students as changemakers. Our world is in good hands with the future leaders that leave her classroom door.”; and

WHEREAS: Ms. Noronha was recently named the 2026 recipient of the of the Barbara Capron Award for Excellence in Teaching Elementary Social Studies presented each year by the Massachusetts Council fo the Social Studies to an exceptional teacher who promotes democratic ideals and active citizenship in the elementary classroom; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge School Committee congratulates Ms. Noronha on this recognition and expresses its gratitude to Ms. Noronha for her outstanding contributions to civic education, her dedication to equity and justice, and her lasting impact on students, caregivers and colleagues of the King Open School as well as the broader Cambridge Public Schools community; and be if further

RESOLVED: That a formal copy of this resolution be prepared by the Executive Secretary to the School Committee and presented to Ms. Noronha with profound appreciation and respect.