



**SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

459 BROADWAY  
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

**Katherine M. Christo**

TEL: 617-349-6620 • FAX: 617-349-6624

kchristo@cpsd.us

**CHAIR**

MAYOR E. DENISE SIMMONS

**VICE CHAIR**

CAROLINE HUNTER

**MEMBERS**

RICHARD HARDING, JR.

ELIZABETH HUDSON

JOSÉ LUIS ROJAS

DAVID J. WEINSTEIN

RACHEL B. WEINSTEIN

October 15, 2024

**ORDERED:**

That the following be adopted as amended.

WHEREAS: The Cambridge Public Schools Controlled Choice Policy is designed to create “diverse, academically rigorous schools;” and

WHEREAS: We can learn a lot about the (perceived) quality of our programs by looking at how families “vote with their feet,” in labeling schools as their first, second and third choices, to educate their kids; and

WHEREAS: It’s been more than a decade since the School Committee formally reviewed the Control Choice Policy – including not only the schools for which families ask, but also comparing these data to actual school performance (overall achievement and ability to narrow achievement gaps), and looking at what types of families tend NOT to get their first, second, or third choice; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the School Committee request an updated but streamlined review of the current Controlled Choice Policy from the Superintendent, to include the following items: Which schools are the most frequently chosen, which schools the most oversubscribed (number of families who list a school as the first, second or third choice, but do not receive a seat); how those most frequently chosen schools perform (on the MCAS and any relevant internal assessments) relative to the least frequently chosen schools (in overall level of achievement and in narrowing of achievement gaps); any relevant patterns in school choice by family demographic (e.g., high vs. low income); a list of the schools that are the most frequently chosen by BOTH high and low income families; and desegregated data by socioeconomic status within the plus or minus 10 percent district spread.

A true copy:

Attest:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine Christo".

Katherine Christo

Executive Secretary to the Cambridge School Committee

Motion #24-260

c

Member Rojas

Member Weinstein

Member Harding

Member Hudson

Vice Chair Hunter

Member Rachel

Mayor Simmons

Superintendent

