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C20-234

--In School Committee--
08/04/2020

Ordered:

Whereas the global pandemic and correlated economic recession have resulted in significant loss of household income for many Cambridge Public Schools families; and

Whereas the Cambridge Public Schools recognize that scholars' learning happens both inside and outside of the classroom, and significantly through their work experiences; and

Whereas many of our Cambridge Rindge and Latin School and High School Extension Program scholars have taken on jobs as essential workers during the 2019-20 school year in order to provide financial resources for their families; and

Whereas the Cambridge Public Schools believe that scholars should not have to choose between their education and supporting their families; and

Whereas the district and its partners offer programs that provide stipends to scholars; now therefore be it

Resolved that district-run programs, such as First Work, that pay or stipend scholars will give priority enrollment to scholars who qualify for free or reduced lunch, other income-based programs such as SNAP, and/or have expressed financial stress to a school staff member; and be it further

Resolved that the Cambridge Public Schools will work in collaboration with other City departments as well as out of school time partners to publicize this opportunity to scholars and to document which young people are engaged in specific programs through a shared case management system; and be it further Resolved that RSTA, CRLS and the City of Cambridge will look into additional opportunities for providing stipends to scholars (such as serving on boards and commissions or mentoring younger children), as well as how to cover expenses for scholars acquiring credentials related to employment, such as Red Cross Babysitting and First Aid courses.

A true copy:


Dosha E. Beard

Executive Secretary to the School Committee

C:

Member Rachel

Mayor Siddiqui, Member Wilson

Motion # 20-206