



CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

(Official Minutes)

Regular Meeting

September 20, 2022

Called for 6:00 p.m. 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: 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 6:04 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 Rojas PRESENT; Member Weinstein PRESENT; Member Wilson ~~ABSENT~~; Member Bhambi PRESENT; Member Fantini PRESENT; Vice-Chair Rachel PRESENT; Mayor Siddiqui PRESENT.

Member Wilson joined the meeting at 6:13 pm.

1. Public Comment:

The following individual(s) were heard:

- Anna Gosline spoke regarding #C22-230.

On a motion by Vice Chair Rachel, seconded by Member Wilson on a voice vote, public comment was closed.

2. Student School Committee Report:

Mayor Siddiqui introduced the new Student School Committee members for the 2022-23 school year - **Grace Clemente** and **Adelina Escamilla-Salomon**. Both **Student Member Clemente** and **Student Member Escamilla-Salomon** provided updates on the student perspectives at CRLS which included the reopening of Falcon Block, the implementation of ParentSquare, sports, extra-curricular activities, Title IX, and updated security measures recently implemented at the high school.

A brief discussion followed regarding strategies to ensure anti-bias practices with the implementation of the new safety measures at CRLS.

3. Presentation of the Records for Approval:

- August 23, 2022, Regular Meeting

On a motion by Member Rojas, seconded by Member Bhambi on a voice vote, the records were approved as written.

4. Reconsiderations: None

5. Unfinished Business/Calendar: None

6. Awaiting Reports:

#C22-230 Joint Motion by Vice Chair Rachel, Mayor Siddiqui, and Member Fantini

WHEREAS: The Superintendent and School Committee have been working with the Department of Human Services Programs to expand access to afterschool programs; and

WHEREAS: Cambridge Public Schools have increased access to space for programs within school buildings, and have recruited district staff to apply for DHSP afterschool positions; and

WHEREAS: A waiting list of over two hundred families remains for city-run after-school programs this school year; and

WHEREAS: Many students attend afterschool programs run by community partners; and

WHEREAS: The Cambridge Public Schools transportation policy has made extended considerations for students in grades 6-8 beyond the state requirement; and

WHEREAS: The School Committee requested a plan for transporting students to after-school programs last year (21-311, Members Wilson and Fantini); and

WHEREAS: Cambridge Public Schools provided additional funding to community partners last year to address the transportation needs of their participants; and

WHEREAS: The administration has examined options for bus routes and policies, including those outlined in the Student Transportation Assessment; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Cambridge Public Schools will work with the contracted transportation company to address student transportation to afterschool programs, including but not limited to allowing students to ride buses that have the capacity, and exploring adding stops along/near existing routes; be it further

RESOLVED: That the administration will provide the School Committee with an update on related efforts no later than October 31, 2022.

Dr. Greer provided an update on the awaiting report and the work the district has done to provide afterschool transportation for students based on the motion that was made at the August 9th meeting from Vice-Chair Rachel, Mayor Siddiqui, and Member Fantini. The district has identified a strategy for after-school transportation for students that are broken down into three priority levels.

- **Priority 1:** Students enrolled in a DHSP afterschool program at a school other than their home school.
- **Priority 2:** Students who live within the walk zone and live in public housing
- **Priority 3:** Students who enrolled in a DHSP after-school program and did not receive a spot are enrolled in another community after-school program that is within the walk zone of their school.

Vice Chair Rachel inquired about the timeline and the number of eligible students (available seats and numbers of students the district can accommodate) broken down at each priority level. Dr. Greer addressed that once the seats are filled, there aren't any more available.

Mayor Siddiqui mentioned that **#C22-230** should remain as an awaiting report until the district provides the Committee with additional information.

7. Superintendent's Agenda:

7a. Superintendent's Update:

7b. Presentations:

Mayor Siddiqui passed the floor to the administration for a presentation on the next steps in the District Plan implementation process. The full presentation can be found on the [website](#).

At the end of the presentation, Mayor Siddiqui opened the floor to the Committee members for questions and discussions based on the discussion prompts from the Superintendent's presentation.

The Committee led a robust discussion on the twelve-district plan focus initiatives. Key discussion points included (positive feedback, constructive feedback, and ongoing wonderings that members may still have regarding the presentation and the twelve-district plan focus initiatives.

Member Rojas inquired about universal pre-K and discussed the importance of highlighting the implementation of universal pre-k since it is currently an ongoing task that the City is working on.

Member Wilson also inquired about some of the focus initiatives that were highlighted in the presentation including the rollout of the initiatives including the four-starred initiatives and the phases the district will take to implement them. Dr. Greer mentioned that the goal is to have the four-starred and highlighted initiatives implemented by the end of the current school year.

Vice-Chair Rachel inquired about career-based education (i.e. RSTA) and how the district can ensure that internships will still be available for students in the current school year. Dr. Turk responded that the internships are and shared both summer college and career exploration experiences available for upper-level students.

Member Fantini discussed the importance and significance of career and college exploration readiness. Dr. Greer followed up on steps and goals the district has and is taking to accomplish the more career exploration

Mayor Siddiqui wrapped up the discussion by highlighting and summarizing the focus initiatives that were discussed by the committee and the next steps regarding the district plan. The next steps include a School Committee Retreat in the upcoming weeks to discuss target settings.

7b. CPS District Plan: None

7c. Consent Agenda:

Mayor Siddiqui pulled **#22-225**. **Member Weinstein** pulled **#22-231** and **#22-235**. **Member Bhambi** pulled **#22-237** and **#22-239**. **Member Rojas** pulled **#22-226** and **22-239**.

On a motion by Member Fantini, seconded by Member Bhambi, on the following roll call vote, items **#22-220** through **#22-224**, **#22-227** through **#22-230**, **#22-232** through **#22-234**, and **#22-238** were adopted: Member Rojas YEA; Member Weinstein YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Member Bhambi YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Vice-Chair Rachel YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

#22-220 Day & Residential Program Services not Available from the Cambridge School

Department be adopted as follows: that the School Committee contracts to the institutions as detailed in the list in amounts not to exceed the shown rates, funds to be provided from the General Fund and/or Grant Fund Budget, having been approved by the Operational Services Division of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Program	#	Amount
Day Program	6	\$465,508.07
Residential Program		
45 Day Program	1	\$27,607.52
Total	7	\$493,115.57

#22-221 Contract Award: Norton Staffing & Recruiting: Temporary Medical Services be adopted as follows: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Norton Staffing & Recruiting, 34 Elm Street, Cohasset, for the period of September 19, 2022, to June 30, 2023, in the amount of \$88,200.00.

#22-222 Contract Award: Cambridge Public Health: Nursing Services be adopted as follows: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Cambridge Public Health Department, 119 Windsor Street, Lower Level, Cambridge, for the period of September 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, in the amount of \$87,557.62.

#22-223 Contract Award: Norton Staffing: Special Education Temporary Staffing Services, be adopted as follows: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Norton Staffing & Recruiting, 34 Elm Street, Cohasset for the period of September 19, 2022, to June 30, 2023, in the amount of \$200,000.00.

#22-224 Contract Award: Public Consulting Reimbursement Claiming Services be adopted as follows: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Public Consulting Group, 148 State St, 10th Floor, Boston for the period of July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, in the amount of \$97,500.00.

#22-227 Contract Award: Newsela: Educational Computer Software be adopted as follows: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Newsela, 620 8th Avenue, New York, for the period of December 19, 2022, to December 18, 2022, in the amount of \$42,179.50.

#22-228 Contract Award: Interstate Food Equipment Service: Equipment Repair Service be adopted as follows: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Interstate Food Equipment Service, 43 Sharon St, Malden, for the periods of:

September 15, 2022, to June 30, 2023, in the amount of \$61,980.00.

July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, in the amount of \$64,730.00

July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, in the amount of \$67,480.00.

Total amount: \$194,190.00.

Description: This contract will provide on-call food service equipment and appliance repairs, as needed throughout the district. A formal bid process was conducted and Interstate Food Equipment Service was the sole bidder.

#22-229 Contract Award: Nasiff Fruit Company: Fresh Produce be adopted as follows: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Nasiff Fruit Company, 538 Plymouth Avenue, Fall River, for the period of September 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, in the amount of \$200,000.00.

#22-230 Contract Award: Somerville Live Poultry dba Mayflower Poultry Company, be adopted as follows: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Somerville Live Poultry dba Mayflower Poultry Company, 139 Newmarket Square, Boston for the periods of:

September 15, 2022, to June 30, 2023, in the amount of \$127,679.89

July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, in the amount of \$136,817.71

July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, in the amount of \$146,180.71

Total amount: \$410,478.08

Description: This contract is for the supply and delivery of fresh meat for the CPS school lunch program. A formal bid process was conducted for this contract, and Mayflower Poultry Company was the sole bidder.

#22-232 Gifts/Miscellaneous Receipts approval of Gifts to the Cambridge Public Schools, be adopted as follows: that the School Committee accept and approve the following donations as described:

1. A gift of \$552.31 was made by the Microsoft Workplace Giving Program as a match for employee volunteers' time in the TEALS programs at CRLS to support computer science programs at CRLS.
2. \$444.35 to the Morse School made from Shutterfly, as commission for student portraits. Funds will be used for the general support of the school.

#22-233 Grant Award: GY23 Broad Institute of MIT & Harvard (SC23153), be adopted as follows: that the School Committee accept and approve the grant award below in the amount and for the period indicated:

FY23 Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard for the period of September 1, 2022, to December 30, 2022, in the increased amount of \$1500.00. Grant SC23153.

Description: The Broad Institute will partner with the Amigos School to host an after-school coding club for upper school students. This grant will provide a stipend for the upper school

#22-234 Grant Award: FY23 Donation from JBurdie Fitness (SC23175) be adopted as follows: that the School Committee accept and approve the grant award below in the amount and for the period indicated:

FY23 Donations from JBurdie Fitness, for the period of September 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, in the increased amount of \$22,800.00. Grant SC23175.

Description: \$22,800 has been donated for CRLS students with autism and other neurodivergencies in the School to Work program for the purpose of accessing exercise and fitness-related activities from funding raised for autism acceptance at a JBurdie Fitness event. Fundraising for the previous year was \$7,025.

#22-238 Grant Award: FY23 Special Education Early Childhood (SC23607) be adopted as follows: that the School Committee accept and approve the grant award below in the amount and for the period indicated:

FY23 Special Education Early Childhood Allocation, for the period of September 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, in the amount of \$62,029.00. Grant SC23607.

Description: The SPED Early Childhood Allocation grant will be used for instructional supplies, family engagement materials, assessment and data collection tools, and professional learning on inclusive and culturally responsive practices in early childhood.

8.) Non-Consent Agenda:

#22-225 Contract Award: Baystate Interpreters: Translation Services be adopted as follows: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Baystate Interpreters, 55 Lake St, Gardner for the period of May 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, in the amount of \$64,149.27.

A brief discussion followed on **#22-225**.

Mayor Siddiqui inquired about translation services regarding hardship appeal waivers for English Language Learner students. **Member Weinstein** also shared the importance of doing a comprehensive review to ensure that all school forms are translated for families who need them.

On a motion by Member Wilson, seconded by Vice Chair Rachel on the following roll call vote, **#22-225** was adopted: Member Rojas YEA; Member Weinstein YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Member Bhambi YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Vice-Chair Rachel YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

#22-226 Contract Award: Cambridge Public Health: Nursing Services, be adopted as follows: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Cambridge Public Health Department, 119 Windsor St, Lower Level, Cambridge for the period of October 15, 2021, to June 30, 2022, in the amount of \$54,411.97.

A brief discussion followed on **#22-226**.

Member Rojas inquired about the reasoning for the contract as he was aware that school nurses aren't paid additionally. Ms. Spinner provided context about the contract and clarifies that the contract is for the payment for nurse assistants due to the additional workload for covid testing last school year.

On a motion by Member Rojas, seconded by Member Fantini, on the following roll call vote, **#22-226** was adopted: Member Rojas YEA; Member Weinstein YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Member Bhambi YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Vice-Chair Rachel YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

#22-231 Contract Award: Teaching & Learning Alliance Inc.: Professional Development is adopted as follows: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Teaching & Learning Alliance, Inc. 800 W Cummings Park, Suite 5900, Woburn, for the period of September 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023, in the amount of \$113,300.00.

A brief discussion followed on **#22-231**.

Member Weinstein inquired about additional context and clarity regarding the recommendation that included why is the contract award only representing some of the district's elementary schools and how this contract award assists in some of the ongoing literacy work in the district. Dr. Edwards responded by providing more clarification on the contract. Last year, the district paid for the Teaching and Learning Alliance (TLA), however, this year, this contract will allow instructors to utilize the platform without out-of-pocket expenses.

On a motion by Member Wilson, seconded by Vice Chair Rachel on the following roll call vote, **#22-231** was adopted: Member Rojas YEA; Member Weinstein YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Member Bhambi YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Vice-Chair Rachel YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

#22-235 Grant Award: FY23 Accelerating Math/Mind Research be adopted as follows:

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

FY23 Accelerating Math/Mind Research for the period of September 1, 2022, to August 30, 2023, in the amount of \$91,000.00.

Description: Through a competitive process, the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is providing software licenses and professional development for a DESE-approved and district-selected online supplemental mathematics program. CPS has selected the STMath program from Mind Research as a supplementary program for all 12 elementary schools. Having a value of \$91,000, the STMath product and services will be purchased directly by DESR, so this is an in-kind award.

A brief discussion followed on **#22-235**.

Member Weinstein inquired about clarification on the grant regarding reimbursement costs. Dr. Greer confirmed that **#22-235** is a grant and there will be no reimbursement expenses.

On a motion by Member Weinstein, seconded by Member Bhambi on the following roll call vote, **#22-235** was adopted: Member Rojas YEA; Member Weinstein YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Member Bhambi YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Vice-Chair Rachel YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

#22-236 Grant Award: FY23 Title III: Support for English Learners (SC23737) be adopted as follows:

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

FY23 Title III: Support for English Language Learners, for the period of August 31, 2022, to June 30, 2023, in the amount of \$71,841.00. Grant SC23737.

Description: This grant will fund a four-week supplemental summer enrichment program for English Language Learners (ELLs) at the elementary and upper school levels. The programs will improve educational performance by assisting these students to learn English and meet state academic content standards. It will also provide support for Elevation (a software data and professional learning program), Parent ESL classes in collaboration with the Cambridge Community Learning Center, online professional learning, and registration fees for Sheltered

English Immersion (SEI) teachers to attend the annual MA conference for Teachers of Speakers of Other Languages Conference (MATSOL). ELLs at a private school who are assessed for eligibility will receive tutoring services on a proportional basis.

A brief discussion followed on **#22-236**.

Member Rojas inquired about how this grant will support multi-language learners across the district. Dr. Greer responded that when incoming students take the home-language survey, the district can determine what languages the students' families speak at home. The survey also determines whether the student qualifies for EEL and other services. These same steps are also used for multi-language learners.

On a motion by Member Rojas, seconded by Member Wilson, on the following roll call vote, **#22-236** was adopted: Member Rojas YEA; Member Weinstein YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Member Bhambi YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Vice-Chair Rachel YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

#22-237 Grant Award: FY23 McKinney Vento Homeless Students (SC23707) be adopted as follows: that the School Committee accept and approve the grant award below in the amount and for the period indicated:

FY23 McKinney Vento Homeless Students, for the period of September 8, 2022, to August 31, 2023, in the amount of \$10,000.00. Grant SC23707.

Description: This grant provides referral services for homeless children and their families through the services of a Homeless Outreach Worker who connects families with resources and services throughout the school year and summer. It will also provide training on domestic violence issues for school and community staff, as well as the translation, printing, and dissemination of public information materials on services available to homeless students. Title I and two FY22 ARP Homeless grants will provide additional funds for supporting homeless students and their families.

A brief discussion followed on **#22-237**.

Member Bhambi asked for clarification on the grant and inquired about a better sensibility for resources for families with unsecured housing and ways the School Committee can assist with these efforts.

On a motion by Member Bhambi, seconded by Vice Chair Rachel, on the following roll call vote, **#22-237** was adopted: Member Rojas YEA; Member Weinstein YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Member Bhambi YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Vice-Chair Rachel YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

#22-239 Grant Award: FY23 Title I Distribution (SC23604) be adopted as follows: that the School Committee accept and approve the grant award below in the amount and for the period indicated:

FY23 Title I Distribution, for the period of August 31, 2022, to June 30, 2023, in the amount of \$1,256,650.00. Grant SC23604.

Description: The FY22 Title I grant will fund the program coordinator plus additional teaching staff at four elementary and two upper schools. Intervention teachers in math or ELA will

serve at-risk students at the Kennedy Longfellow, King Open, Morse, and Fletcher Maynard Academy. At Cambridge Street Upper School, the grant will fund a 1.0 reading interventionist, and at Putnam Ave, the Title I grant will fund a 1.0 math interventionist. In addition, the grant will fund two half-time reading recovery teacher leaders who will provide professional development for all district early literacy interventionists, a .33 social worker to serve homeless families, a 1.0 family liaison, and a .75 clerk. The grant budget also provides funding for summer school, community partners, parent involvement, supplies, as well as services to eligible students in private schools.

A brief discussion followed on **#22-239**.

Member Bhambi asked for clarification regarding the language in the description in the grant and asked if the language regarding “at-risk students” can be modified. Dr. Greer responded that the language modification requested is the language of the grant, not of the district.

On a motion by Member Bhambi, seconded by Member Weinstein, on the following roll call vote, **#22-237** was adopted: Member Rojas YEA; Member Weinstein YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Member Bhambi YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Vice-Chair Rachel YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

9. School Committee Agenda (Policy Matters/Notifications/Requests for Information): None

10. Resolutions (letters of congratulations, letters of condolence):

#22-240 Motion by Member Fantini

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education convenes a Principal and Teacher Advisory Cabinet and;

WHEREAS: the cabinet each year recognizes excellent educators, elevates teacher and principal voices at the state level, and provides opportunities for leadership;

WHEREAS: This year, Cabinet members will serve as key advisors to the Commissioner for updates to the educator preparation program formal review process, teacher evaluation, and update process to center anti-racist practice and deepen instructional programming in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

WHEREAS: Bobby Travers, a Peabody School paraprofessional and CEA Treasurer has been selected by DESE to serve on the Advisory Cabinet for the 2022-2024 school years; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That School Committee congratulate Bobby on being selected and be it further

RESOLVED: that the Executive Secretary to the School Committee be and hereby is requested to forward a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution to Bobby Travers on behalf of the entire School Committee.

A brief discussion followed on **#22-240**.

Member Fantini discussed the resolution honoring Bobby Travers for his appointment to the Principal and Teacher Advisory Council.

A motion by Member Fantini, seconded by Member Rojas **#22-240** was adopted via voice vote.

11. Announcements:

Mayor Siddiqui announced that several School Committee members will be attending the NSBA CUBE Conference from September 28 – October 1 in Miami, Florida. **Mayor Siddiqui** and **Member Wilson** will be presenting Early College at the conference.

Member Wilson announced that Innovators for Purpose is recruiting for its flagship program. Registration closes on Thursday, September 22nd. **Member Wilson** also gave a shout-out to the staff and community members who assisted with the three-day ninth-grade orientation earlier in the month.

Member Rojas announced that Bob Moses MathTrail will open up on October 1st. He also announces that The Foundry will have a grand opening and parade on October 8th.

12. Late Orders:

Motion by Member Wilson and Member Bhambi

WHEREAS: the Cambridge Public School District (CPS) has a number of policies that support the fundamental practice within CPS, and;

WHEREAS: School Committee members are working towards reviewing and/or updating CPS policies, and;

WHEREAS: on September 14, 2022, educators and scholars at Cambridge Rindge and Latin (CRLS) received an email regarding the CPS “Substance Abuse/Drugs” policy; and;

WHEREAS: scholars shared their concerns about the potential of being targeted due to how the policy is written, now, therefore, be it;

RESOLVED: that there be an anonymized report shared with the school committee within one month of this order’s adoption on the number of scholars and their demographics, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, and age, who have been disciplined by the policy over the last five years, and be it further

RESOLVED: that upon passage of this order there be an anonymized annual report shared with the school committee by the school committee’s first yearly summer meeting on the number of scholars and their demographics, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, and age, who are disciplined by the policy, and be it further

RESOLVED: that the policy be referred to the School Climate subcommittee for a review of the policy language with support from educators and scholars, and be it further

RESOLVED: that no scholar is disciplined during the school committee’s review of the policy pursuant to this order.

A discussion followed on the late order. **Member Wilson** read the late order and provided background and context on the reasoning for the late order. The reasoning for the late order is that the email was received by Member Wilson on Friday afternoon. **Member Bhambi** also highlighted the significance of the reasoning for the later order regarding the substance abuse policy. She mentioned that is not necessary the policy that is the issue, it’s the enforcement of the policy that can cause issues.

A robust discussion followed on the late order which included additional background context on the late order, possible implications if the late order is adopted, modifications to the late order, the urgency of late order, and reasoning for the change

Member Rojas mentioned the importance of having public comment for the community to be able to comment on the issue. **Member Siddiqui** acknowledged Member Rojas's comments and also added that this late order will be referred to the School Climate Sub-Committee for further review and discussion where public comment will be also to address and discuss the policy. mentioned the importance

Based on the Committee's discussion and comments, **Member Wilson** and **Member Bhambi** proposed adding additional language to read "RESOLVED: that no scholar is disciplined during the school committee's review of the policy pursuant to this order, with the exception of the scholar's relative violation of a civil or criminal statute, and be it further

RESOLVED: that no scholar should be precluded from accessing or being directed to counseling or other necessary help while the policy is being reviewed.

On a motion by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Bhambi, on a voice vote, the later order was amended.

WHEREAS: the Cambridge Public School District (CPS) has a number of policies that support the fundamental practice within CPS, and;

WHEREAS: School Committee members are working towards reviewing and/or updating CPS policies, and;

WHEREAS: on September 14, 2022, educators and scholars at Cambridge Rindge and Latin (CRLS) received an email regarding the CPS "Substance Abuse/Drugs" policy; and;

WHEREAS: scholars shared their concerns about the potential of being targeted due to how the policy is written, now, therefore, be it;

RESOLVED: that there be an anonymized report shared with the school committee within one month of this order's adoption on the number of scholars and their demographics, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, and age, who have been disciplined by the policy over the last five years, and be it further

RESOLVED: that upon passage of this order there be an anonymized annual report shared with the school committee by the school committee's first yearly summer meeting on the number of scholars and their demographics, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, and age, who are disciplined by the policy, and be it further

RESOLVED: that the policy be referred to the School Climate subcommittee for a review of the policy language with support from educators and scholars, and be it further

RESOLVED: that no scholar is disciplined during the school committee's review of the policy pursuant to this order, with the exception of the scholar's relative violation of a civil or criminal statute, and be it further

RESOLVED: that no scholar should be precluded from accessing or being directed to counseling or other necessary help while the policy is being reviewed.

On a motion by Member Bhambi, seconded by Wilson, on a voice vote the late order was adopted as amended on the affirmative vote of (6-1) and referred to the School Climate Sub-committee.

13. Communications from City Officers: None

Email communications:

- ✓ Dan Monahan
- ✓ Lilly Havstad
- ✓ Jessica O'Leary
- ✓ John Carman

On a motion by Member Wilson, seconded by Vice-Chair Rachel on a voice vote, the School Committee entertained a motion to enter into an executive session for the purpose of discussing strategy for collective bargaining (CEA Units A&B) as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining and negotiating positions of the School Committee. No votes will be taken, and the Committee will not reconvene in open session upon completion of the Executive Session.

On a motion by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Weinstein, it was voted, on a voice vote to adjourn the open meeting and enter an executive session (9:15 p.m.).

Attest:

Ariel B. Kennebrew

Ariel B. Kennebrew
Executive Secretary to the School Committee