



**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

August 6, 2019

Called for 5:00 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: Ms. Bowman, Ms. Dexter, Mr. Fantini, Ms. Kelly, Mr. Kimbrough (Remotely), Ms. Nolan, Mayor McGovern

Also Present: Ms. Sophia Green, Student School Committee Representative

Mayor McGovern in the Chair

A quorum of the School Committee being present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. After reading the call of the meeting, the Chair announced the following:

Pursuant to the Open Meeting Law Regulations:

1. There is a quorum of the School Committee, including the Chair, physically present at the meeting location.
2. School Committee Member Mr. Laurance Kimbrough has, prior to the meeting, notified the Chair of his desire to participate remotely in the meeting and identified the reason for and facts supporting his request, and the Chair has determined in light of the information provided by the School Committee Member that the School Committee Member's physical attendance at the meeting is unreasonably difficult.
3. Mr. Kimbrough will remotely participate in the meeting and is in attendance at the meeting via telephone.
4. Mr. Kimbrough will state for the record that the proceedings are clearly audible.
5. All votes taken at the meeting must be by roll call vote.

Mr. Kimbrough confirmed that he was able to clearly hear everyone and all assembled clearly heard his response.

1. Public Comment:

The following individuals were heard:

- Robert Travers, on behalf of Dan Monahan, CEA President, read a statement re **#19-179** Social Media Policy, (on file in the School Committee office).
- Lisa Downing, Clay Street, re **#19-131** Dyslexia Screening, last she heard, the district is waiting for guidance from the state and it is late in coming; we will go through another year before we get the screening needed. We are ready to move forward on this now. She gets frustrated saying the same more than once.
- Mercedes Soto, Harvard Street, **C19-131**, acknowledged Dr. Morgan for building a regular monthly working group to move forward with awareness about dyslexia. She wants to encourage the School Committee to help with the progress. The guidelines will not be released until spring 2020 we can do better to serve the children.

- Tara Edelscheck was going to only talk about Level Up, now she also wants to talk about dyslexia. She found out her son has something that looks like dyslexia. Her daughter got all good grades in the CRLS and passed the MCAS but failed the Bunker Hill exam and had to pay for remedial classes. She loves the Level Up Program.

On a motion by Ms. Nolan, seconded by Ms. Bowman, on the following roll call vote at 6:00 p.m., public comment was closed: Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Mr. Kimbrough YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

2. Student School Committee Report: None

Ms. Green stated she is happy to be here and is looking forward to meeting everyone.

3. Presentation of the Records for Approval:

On a motion by School Committee Member Dexter, seconded by Vice Chair Kelly, on the following roll call, the following Minutes were accepted as presented: Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Mr. Kimbrough YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

- June 4, 2019 Regular Meeting
- June 18, 2019 Regular Meeting

4. Reconsiderations: None

Unfinished Business/Calendar: #19-179 Motion by the Communication Sub-Committee, Approval of Revisions to Cambridge Public Schools Policy Regarding the Personal Use of Social Media by CPS Employees (second reading).
https://www.cpsd.us/UserFiles/Servers/Server_3042785/File/school_committee/agenda/CPS_SocialMediaPolicy_05-30-19_draft.pdf (6/18/19, Nolan)

Discussion on **#19-179** followed.

Ms. Nolan stated there are some items that need to be changed, she believes this should be brought to a Sub-Committee and voiced concerns as to whether or not it would be best not to go through this document line by line.

Ms. Bowman stated that we have gone through this document for the past six months and we can keep going back and forth, she doesn't believe we will ever agree. We should move forward with putting a policy in place and then look at it again to update or modify.

Mr. Kimbrough wants to focus on student achievement and agrees with Ms. Bowman that this policy has been a long time in the making.

School Committee Member Dexter wants to have the Sub-Committee meet at least once more; it is hard to read unless it is a clean copy. She is looking for something related to educators posting themselves on social media. She agrees with Mr. Monahan regarding what is policy and what is guidance.

Mr. Fantini asked a question about guidelines in the policy; Mayor McGovern stated the guidelines do not need to be in the Social Media Policy. On the following roll call vote, item **#19-179** was referred to the Communication Sub-Committee: Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Mr. Kimbrough PRESENT; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman NAY; Mayor McGovern YEA.

5. Awaiting Reports:

C19-064 That the following be amended and referred to the Superintendent:
Whereas the School Committee worked to raise the level of instruction for all students through the Level Up initiative at CRLS; and

Whereas a recent Globe project on valedictorians documented a sobering and critically important question of whether high schools are preparing students for success: and
Whereas the recent report The Opportunity Myth by The New Teachers Project found that despite 71% of students in a national representative sample of audited classes met classroom expectations and succeeded on assignments, only 17% of those assignments were on grade level when evaluated; and
Whereas both the Valedictorian Project and The New Teachers Project identified the need for high expectations and intentional focus on rigorous curriculum, instruction and assignments as key to delivering on the promise of success in college and life; and
Whereas there were gaps by racial subgroups in performance on common assessment; and
Whereas nearly 1 in 3 CRLS students indicated that teachers do not have very high expectations of them;
Therefore, the School Committee directs the Administration to evaluate the Level Up ELA classes, to ensure that the initiative is as successful as possible. The School Committee requests the Superintendent submits a report no later than the August 6, 2019 Regular Summer Meeting.

Discussion on **C19-064** followed.

Ms. Nolan stated that the report submitted did not cover whether or not all tenth graders have taken a specific test or not. It was brought up that the School Committee Members want to know who is doing the evaluation.

Mr. Kimbrough stated this program received a national award and he would like to see data that validates and confirms our having received this award. The additional data is very necessary. This is not about Level Up, we are all in favor of the program, its about the data.

Ms. Nolan appreciates this part of the report but cannot find what she specifically asked for. She wants data on assessing. It was decided that **C19-064** remains on the agenda.

C19-131 That the following be adopted as amended:

Due to legislation passed by the State Legislature that requests early screenings of students to identify if they have dyslexia,

That the Superintendent take appropriate steps to ensure that students are screened and that students who are identified receive appropriate and timely supports and that training and support for teachers is in place. Superintendent will report back on how the district will comply with the present law.

Discussion on **C19-131** followed.

Vice Chair Kelly wants information on the progress so far.

Dr. Salim stated that Dr. Morgan is working on it and he has been in touch with Andover Public Schools on this issue.

Ms. Nolan and Ms. Bowman requested a date when School Committee will get a report.

Vice Chair Kelly would like the parents and students to feel like progress is being made.

Superintendent Salim stated that the working group will meet over the next couple of months, November should be fine.

On the following roll call vote it was voted to accept the amendment of **C19-131** to read **by the Regular meeting in November**. Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Mr. Kimbrough YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

On the following roll call vote, it was voted to adopt the Order as amended: Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Mr. Kimbrough YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

C19-131 That the following be adopted as amended:

Due to legislation passed by the State Legislature that requests early screenings of students to identify if they have dyslexia,

That the Superintendent take appropriate steps to ensure that students are screened and that students who are identified receive appropriate and timely supports and that training and support for teachers is in place. Superintendent will report back on how the district will comply with the present law **by the Regular meeting in November**.

C19-135 That the School Committee request an update on prior School Committee Orders related to building projects, C12-095 on space for hands-on programming including but not limited to Woodshop and Culinary Arts in the Upper Schools and C13-043 on appropriate athletic facilities available to all residents and high school teams.

Further, that all current enrollment projections be shared with the School Committee and the City to ensure adequate space for the growing district population in future building projects.

Discussion followed on **C19-135**.

Mr. Fantini asked for an update.

Mr. Maloney stated that this issue was answered in the weekly. He also indicated the two Orders from 2012 and 2013, stating if the Members look at the feasibility study that was done back in early October, late November they will find the results at that time. He also spoke on intramural programming. We are waiting for the Early Childhood Report and when he gets it he will pass it on to the School Committee.

Ms. Nolan has the Early Childhood Report with her and noted that it says "including but not limited to Culinary and Carpentry Arts". She wants to know how we ensure that the School Committee be involved in all discussions to make sure that School Committee desires are met. The leaders of building projects don't always know what is expected in the School Committee Orders.

Ms. Bowman believes this issue should go to the Buildings and Grounds Sub-Committee and that it be a standing agenda item that will always reside in Buildings and Grounds Sub-Committee.

Mr. Fantini stated vocational education needs to be given more thought.

After the discussion **C19-135** was passed over.

C19-181 That the following be adopted as amended:

That whereas bottled water is environmentally devastating, and
Whereas bottled water costs approximately 50 times more than city water, and
Whereas Cambridge's water routinely exceeds health and safety standards, and
Whereas the school district and the city have sought to reduce waste and encourage city water consumption over bottled water, and
Whereas the City Council passed an order recognizing this issue on January 28, 2019, be it ordered
That the district establish a policy that no district funds, unless necessary, may be used to purchase bottled water, and
That this policy be referred to the Superintendent for a report by the summer meeting, and
That this policy be communicated to all schools.

C19-181 was passed over without discussion.

6. Superintendent's Agenda:

7a. Presentations: None

7b. CPS District Plan: None

7c. Consent Agenda:

On a motion by Ms. Dexter, seconded by Mr. Fantini, on the following roll call vote, the Superintendent's Agenda was brought forward for discussion and adoption: Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Mr. Kimbrough YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

Mr. Fantini removed **19-181, 19-183 and 19-193**. Ms. Nolan removed **19-187 and 19-197**. Ms. Bowman removed **19-198 and 19-199**.

On the following roll call, items **#19-182, 19-184, 19-185, 19-186, 19-188, to 19-192, 19-194, 19-195, and 19-196** were adopted: Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Mr. Kimbrough YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

#19-182, Revolving Fund for Lost/Damaged Textbooks, Materials, or Electronic Devices, authorize the establishment of a revolving fund in accordance with provisions of M.G.L. c.44, section 53 to use money received for lost and damaged school books, materials, electronic devices, or other leaning aids for the replacement or repair of these items.

#19-184. Special Needs Contracts for Day and Residential Program Services not Available from the Cambridge School Department, 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 Budget and/or Grant Fund Budget.

	#	Amount
Day Program Tuition Contracts	16	\$1,366,399.51
Residential Program Tuition Contracts	4	524,145.74
45 Day Program Contracts	2	<u>168,796.80</u>
Total	22	\$2,059,342.05

#19-185, Contract Award, to the following vendor for translation services, funds to be provided from the General Fund, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Cross Cultural Communication Systems, 227 Garfield Ave., Suite B, Woburn, for the period July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020 in the amount of \$45,451.50.

#19-186, Contract Award, to the following vendor for Educational Support Services, funds to be provided from the Grant Fund, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Center for Youth & Community Leadership in Education (CYCLE), for the period July 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019, in the amount of \$26,366.00.

#19-188, Contract Award, to the following vendor for interactive hardware, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

CCS Presentation Systems, 132 Northeastern Blvd., Nashua, NH, for the period July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in the amount of \$100,000.00.

#19-189, Contract Award, to the following vendor for a student information system, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Follett/X2 Development Corp, 75 Sargent William B Terry Drive, Suite 220, Hingham, for the period July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in the amount of \$61,916.00.

#19-190 Contract Award, approve the amendment of the lease with the following vendor for rental of 159 Thorndike Street, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Roman Catholic Archbishop of Boston, 49 Sixth Street, Cambridge, for the period: November 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019 in the amount of \$31,014.46.

#19-191, Contract Award, to the following vendor for fresh produce, funds to be provided from the Revolving Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

A. Russo and Sons, Inc., 560 Pleasant Street, Watertown, for the period July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in the amount of \$160,000.00.

#19-192, Contract Award, to the following vendor for groceries for Food Service, funds to be provided from the Food Service Revolving Fund, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Thurston Foods, Inc., 30 Thurston Drive, Wallingford, CT, for the period July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in the amount of \$650,000.00.

#19-194, Gifts, accept and approve the following gifts and receipts as described.

1. \$2,000 to CRLS made from Friends of Cambridge Rindge & Latin School for Unsung Heroes.
2. \$600.00 to the Morse School made from MIT on behalf of the work of two teachers providing coordination for a screening event to be used for the general support of the school.

#19-195, Grant Award, accept and approve the grant award in the amount and for the period indicated: Food Services Program Appropriation, for the period July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in the amount of \$1,400,000.00. Project/Grant SC00402.

Description: Food Services revenue is generated throughout the year from school breakfast and lunch programs, including Federal and State school lunch program reimbursements, as well as receipts from paid meals. Revenue is deposited to the Food Services Revolving Fund, which supports expenditures related to providing a breakfast and lunch program for students throughout the school year. At the beginning of each year, to enable the department to conduct business seamlessly from the start of the year, a recommendation is put forth to the School Committee to initially appropriate the Food Services Revolving Fund to reflect approximately 90% of Federal and State revenues received in the prior year.

#19-196, Grant Award, accept and approve the grant award in the amount and for the period indicated: FY20 Special Education IDEA Allocation (SC20605) in the amount of \$2,585,046.00 for the period September 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

Description: The purpose of this Federal Entitlement Grant Program is to provide funds to ensure that eligible students with disabilities receive a free and appropriate public education that includes special education and related services designed to meet their individual needs. The temporary salaries line is an offset for the Proportionate Share of services provided to private school students. The remainder will be used for out-of-district tuition for students. (Note: amount indicated is \$3,000 less than the full state allocation as a membership fee of \$3,000 to Mass Urban Project is paid directly by DESE).

***19-206 Approval of Request from the School Committee to the Election Commission for Mailing Addresses.** On the following roll call vote, **#19-206** was adopted: Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Mr. Kimbrough YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

8. Non-Consent Agenda:

19-181 Increase Maximum Balance for Student Activity Accounts authorize the increase of the maximum balance for Elementary and Upper School Student Activity Checking Accounts by \$25,000, and that the maximum balance for the High School Checking Accounts be \$350,000.

Mr. Fantini asked how this was implemented.

Ms. Spinner responded that inside the procedures manual there is a small section on student trust fund procedures. When a school wants to spend those funds, there is process in place that involves a checkbook and also involves the city vendor system. The point is to make sure there is no inappropriate spending. When the School Committee accepted the policy several years ago, it was unknown what the

levels would be, what was set back then is no longer high enough; therefore the recommendation presented before the Committee today is just to increase the levels.

Mr. Kimbrough asked what procedure is followed at the HSEP. Ms. Spinner stated they didn't ask for a student activity account. On the following roll call vote, item **#19-181** was adopted: Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Mr. Kimbrough YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

#19-183, Approval of Student Breakfast and Lunch Prices for SY 2019-2020

	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>Change from SY18-19</u>
PreK-8 th Grade Paid Lunch	2.85	.00
High School Paid Lunch	3.00	.00
Ala Carte Milk	.50	.00
Student Qualified for Reduced Price	.00	.00
Student Breakfast (All Students)	.00	.00
Adult Lunch-Elementary	4.00	.00
Adult Lunch-High School	4.50	.00

Mr. Fantini just wants to acknowledge and thank the Mayor for the fact that our kids don't have to pay for breakfast.

Mayor McGovern asked what outreach is being done to let families know whether they fall in the category to receive a free breakfast.

Mr. Maloney stated that a letter goes out to all families to let them know. There cannot be a conversation inside of the FRC about personal finances.

#19-187, Contract Award, 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:

McGraw Hill Education, P.O. Box 182605, Columbus, OH, for the period July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in the amount of \$68,329.11.

Ms. Nolan wants to know how much this is tied into the classrooms.

Dr. Morgan stated this is for students with significant cognitive impairments; they cannot function in society at their present level. Some require one on one instruction, some require group instruction. With this contract they will be able to move to a higher level. There will also be a consultant with Dr. Adams and the Principals. There will be training on how the data is collected. On the following roll call vote, **#19-187** was adopted: Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Mr. Kimbrough YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

#19-193, Contract Award, approves an agreement with the following community partner for educational services, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

uAspire, 31 Milk Street, Suite 900, Boston, for the period
September 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, in the amount of \$50,000.00.

Discussion followed on **#19-193**.

Mr. Fantini wants to know if Biogen will provide the funding. Mr. Fantini stated that he is impressed with uAspire, he itemized what they do well. We are lucky to have them as partners. On the following roll call, **#19-193** was adopted: Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Mr. Kimbrough YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

The rules were suspended to allow **#19-197**, **#19-198** and **#19-199** to be discussed together. On the following roll call vote, the rules were suspended for the reason stated: Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Mr. Kimbrough YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

#19-197, Grant Award, accept and approve the grant award in the amount and for the period indicated: FY20 Title I Distribution (SC20604) in the amount of \$1,328,198.00 for the period September 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

Description: The FY20 Title I grant will fund additional teaching staff at four elementary and two upper schools. Intervention teachers allocated to the Kennedy Longfellow, King Open, Morse, and Fletcher Maynard Academy will provide ELA and Math intervention and targeted support to at-risk students. At Cambridge Street Upper School, the Title I grant will fund a .5 Reading Interventionist, and at Putnam Ave, the Title I grant will fund a .5 Math Interventionist and 1.0 Literacy Interventionist. In addition, the grant will fund two half-time Reading Recovery lead teachers who will provide professional development for all district early literacy interventionists, a .75 family liaison, a .6 clerk and the Title I Coordinator. The grant budget also provides stipends for after school and summer school programs, funding for services for homeless students, professional development, parent involvement, printing and supplies, as well as services to eligible students in private schools.

Ms. Nolan wants to know how the schools are chosen and how the money is distributed, she understands if there is no answer now.

Dr. Salim stated that the answer will provided.

#19-198, Grant Award, accept and approve the grant award in the amount and for the period indicated: FY20 Title IIA/Teacher Quality (SC20731) in the amount of \$210,708.00 for the period September 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

Description: As part of a comprehensive district initiative that focuses on the preparation, training, recruitment, and retention of highly qualified educators, Title IIA funds in FY20 will support a new .5 Instructional Coach for history/social studies teachers in grades K-5; the temporary salaries line will fund teacher stipends for mentoring (to be supplemented by FY19 IIA carryover funds); other expenses include professional development contracts for Math, conference registrations, and the required allocation to participating private schools.

#19-199, Grant Award, Committee accept and approve the grant award in the amount and for the period indicated: FY20 Coordinated Family & Community Engagement (SC20851) in the amount of \$263,815.00 for the period July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

Description: This CFCE grant supports pre-school-aged children and their families through a collaboration between CPS and the City of Cambridge DHSP's Center for Families. Together they provide a seamless network of programs that are responsive to diverse families, including: conducting ongoing outreach, information, and referrals: providing family literacy-based play groups and community-wide activities; partnering with public schools and community-based programs to support Kindergarten registration and screening; providing family education and support services; and engaging families in supporting early childhood development through utilization of the ASQ screening tool and follow-up activities and referrals to address challenges early. In CPS, the grant funds the 0.2 FTE Early Childhood Specialist who co-facilitates mother support groups and other family support programs. The majority of the grant funding is subcontracted to the Center for Families, supporting many types of specialist positions. On the following roll call vote, items **#19-179**, **#19-198** and **#19-199** were adopted: Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Mr. Kimbrough YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

9. School Committee Agenda

On a motion by Ms. Dexter, seconded by Mr. Fantini, on the following roll call vote, the School Committee Agenda was brought forward for discussion and adoption: Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Mr. Kimbrough YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

#19-200, Joint Motion Ms. Bowman & Mr. Fantini, whereas the Cambridge Public School District seeks to ensure that staff, children and families who use our facilities during the summer months have adequate access to safety and security in our buildings,
Therefore be it resolved that the CPSD administration review building staffing and security protocols and procedures for CPSD and Health and Human Services programming as well as all sublease vendors during the summer months to ensure safety in CPSD facilities,
Be it further resolved that the CPSD administration provide the School Committee with a plan to address these concerns by February 1, 2020, in preparation for 2020 summer usage of all CPSD facilities.

#19-201, Joint Motion Ms. Nolan & Mr. Kimbrough, whereas the School Committee passed an order related to reviewing school building namesakes relation to the slave trade; and
Whereas the School Committee also wishes to understand if any school buildings are named for people who sought to oppress women;
Now therefore the School Committee ask that the historical review of ties to slavery include a review of ties of namesakes to the oppression of women.

Discussion followed on **#19-201**.

Ms. Bowman stated she doesn't know whether or not to support this motion. Are we including white women into a motion about slavery? It implies that Black women were not oppressed or that Black women were not included.

Mr. Kimbrough stated that the purpose of this motion is not to undermine Black women but to include all women.

Ms. Nolan does not want to undermine any Black women.

Vice Chair Kelly stated that mixing the slave trade with the overall oppression of women, especially women alone usually defines white women, she thinks it would be better if it were two separate motions.

Mayor stated that the city has asked the Historical Commission to look into this. The School Committee doesn't have the authority to ask the Historical Commission to do anything. He suggested that it be referred to the Mayor's office.

Ms. Bowman doesn't want it referred in this fashion. She doesn't want this motion to be looked at from an intersectionality perspective.

Committee Member Dexter supports Ms. Bowman and Vice Chair Kelly's statements.

Mr. Mayor reminded the Committee that the initial motion on slavery has already passed, then exercised his Charter Rights and placed **#19-201** on the Calendar.

#19-202, Approval of MASC Invoice, that the invoice in the amount of \$7,519.00 from the Mass Association of School Committees (MASC) for 2019-2020 annual dues be approved. On the following roll call vote, **#19-202** was adopted: Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly ABSTAIN; Mr. Kimbrough YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

#19-203 Approval of NSBA Invoice, that the invoice in the amount of \$5,206.25 from the National School Board Association (NSBA) for 2019-2020 annual dues be approved. On the following roll call vote, **#19-203** was adopted: Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly ABSTAIN; Mr. Kimbrough YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

Moved by Mayor McGovern, seconded by Vice Chair Kelly, to suspend the rules for the purpose of voting on the two Sub-Committee Reports, the rules were suspended for the reason stated. On the following roll call vote, it was voted to accept the Reports of the June 13, 2019 Athletic Ad-Hoc Sub-Committee Meeting and the Report of the June 13, 2019 Community Relations Sub-Committee Meeting: Ms. Dexter

YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Mr. Kimbrough YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

#19-204, The **Report of the June 13, 2019 Athletic Ad-Hoc Sub-Committee** was accepted as presented:

Athletic Ad-Hoc Sub-Committee
5:00 PM School Committee Conference Room

Called for the purpose of discussing the new policy to be rolled out in the Spring and any other business that may come before the Sub-Committee.

Present: Mr. Kimbrough, Ms. Nolan, Mr. Fantini

Also Present: Mr. Maloney, Principal. Smith, Mr. Arria, Mr. Dottin, Mr. Cody, Superintendent's Intern Mr. Sissel, Mr. David asst. basketball coach, Mr. George Rodrigues basketball coach, Mr. Jim Coleman, Girls JV softball coach, Mr. Chris Coleman girls' softball, Mr. Jalen Bernard girls track, Ms. Chloe Smith-Sohol and Ms. Grace Austin recent CRLS graduates, Ms. Jennifer Miles parent, Ms. Tashia Anderson, Ms. Laura McGaffigan, Ms. Kathy Hickey, Ms. Kimberly Simonsen, Mr. Maurice Taylor, Mr. Michael Daniliuk, Mr. Trevor Daniliuk, Mr. Alex Steinberg, Mr. Matt Meyersohn

A quorum being present, Mr. Kimbrough called the meeting to order at 5:04 P.M. and read the call of the meeting.

Athletic Eligibility Policy Changes and its Impact:

Mr. Kimbrough gave an overview of the Agenda and set some ground rules. He expects everyone to speak through the chair about the program not calling anyone out specifically and wants all views to be heard. Kids put their hearts into sports and we all want the athletes experience to come first. The new Athletic Policy was rolled out for the Spring season. We have many opportunities for the kids. We are here to speak about the systems and structures in athletics that are working well. Remember our school motto. We want to have a respectful conversation. He did introductions and turned the meeting over to the administrators.

Principal Smith passed around copies of the presentation (on file in the School Committee office) and went thru it. His understanding is that this meeting is about the Athletic Program that we want to talk about. Turn to Page 4 Academic Probation 2018-2019 School Year which indicates the number of students identified as at risk of academic probation and the number of students affected. Students maintain 70 as a GPA to be able to play. The number at risk is around 100. Ms. Nolan requested a point of information, her understanding for probation is between 60-70. Mr. Arria responded that was the former number we were looking at. Ms. Nolan asked so these 14 kids would not be on the team? Mr. Arria, yes, after the cut process it was around 8 students for an average.

Mr. Fantini asked Principal Smith what the challenge is? Principal Smith answered his concern about changing the probation policy was it is still not the grade that the students will need to see success in post high school/career. We have challenges around how much of a grade is skill demonstration vs participation vs method that makes up the grade. The Athletic Homework Center is not comprehensive and not the focus we want to have. We are limited by the amount of funding and time we have. It is hard for the coaches to monitor and check in with kids during and after the season, particularly with the size of our athletic program.

Mr. Kimbrough asked how kids are identified to be able to participate with the new change in the policy? Mr. Arria responded students are being identified for the Fall season right now. The process is the academic advisor will send information to the coaches listing students at risk or on probation asking for help with the after school program. We have different time periods during the year for help, late is a concern. We have worked out with coaches if the kids are late we track them down to ensure they are going to show up at study hall. Including kids that are not eligible for sports I encourage them to work

with Mr. Saulnier, the academic advisor, to create a plan for after school. Principal Smith added students are encouraged to attend the Fall athletics meeting. It is not just a grade based indicator of a student being able to participate in playing a sport; there is more to student eligibility to be able to participate.

Mr. Kimbrough asked how many times per week is help offered? Mr. Arria responded three days a week in the Fall, in the Winter we added three evenings, and in the Spring we did three afternoons. The Academic Advisors work with teachers and Cambridge School Volunteer tutors to get the grade where it needs to be.

Mr. Dottin's concern is how effective has this program been since implementation? I was part of the group that started the discussion and asked the School Committee for \$20,000. Kids that are academically ineligible need to be required to attend the homework center to hold them accountable. If they don't, what are the consequences of the at risk kids? Some of his baseball kids did not attend the program. What is the attendance and effectiveness of it? Do we check to be sure they are going? For 20 years we did our own study halls. It would have been nice when the money was allotted if all the coaches were able to sit down and talk about what they thought would be most effective and ask questions regarding at risk kids.

Mr. Kimbrough questioned Mr. Arria about his information, it says in the Spring 2019 an average of 25 students per week were attending study hall. Mr. Arria responded yes that is a low number, and in terms of holding students accountable to be there how do we force the kids to attend after school time? The consequence is that they don't get to play. We hope that will motivate them, but the coaches need to encourage them to attend.

Principal Smith asked Mr. Dottin for clarification, are you saying the students in the 69.3 or 4 should be mandated to go to study hall in and out of season? Mr. Dottin responded that has always been our practice with the basketball team. We wanted to make sure they maintained meeting the high standards. It has to do with their behaviors as well. 60 students per week attending study hall seems to be high. In basketball when a kid entered the basketball program we prepare a folder with report cards, progress reports and meetings with staff members. At intake we make sure we are connecting students to the teachers and communicating with the home. How is the \$20,000 being spent/used? From my experience those are big numbers. Mr. Kimbrough stated that the financial piece needs to be addressed at another time. We want to ensure student participation and are looking to see if the values of our school motto are working effectively.

Principal Smith interrupted if I am understanding Mr. Dottin correctly, regarding our academic eligibility, we have a homework center for student athletes to be effective making sure they are still participating in any season. If Mr. Dottin's basketball program is running a study hall, that provides resources and opportunities for students to stay involved, I was not aware of that. We aren't talking about kids being eligible to participate during the season, if that is the will of the department, we need to have a more robust platform for students in and out of season that is monitored and reported. After the season the teachers say the kids lose interest/motivation. We need to magnify that practice. We want them all to play, graduate and do other things. \$20,000 is not a position level of funding.

Coach Coleman asked Mr. Dottin what is the most effective way to get student information? I have tried and constantly got redirected and nothing would happen until March 17. Mr. Kimbrough directed the question to Mr. Arria. Mr. Arria answered I think you were reaching out to Teachers and Deans. Mrs. Powers can give you that information.

Mr. Dottin added we had a dedicated staff person for 15 years, Janet O'Reilly, that worked with the kids as a teacher and ran our study hall and did a great job. She stayed late and made sure the kids got what they needed. If the students were working with her they were excused from practice. I would like to see some of her practices used as far as the basketball team.

Mr. Cody stated if it is voluntary for kids to attend they aren't going to take advantage of it. To do that during off season would be hard for a coach. Mr. Kimbrough asked Mr. Arria if students fall between the

60-70 range are they required to attend? Mr. Arria responded we ask for the cooperation of the coaches. If the students stop going some coaches have said they can't play and then they go for help. We had success in the Spring when we added a couple of people. We can say its mandatory but can't drag the kid into study hall all we can really do is tell them either they can or cannot play. Principal Smith stated we need a team of folks when it is outside of the season to monitor over 1,000 student's progress. We need to take a look at the basketball model. There is still the issue of social emotional wellness and responsibilities outside of school however if the dept. wants to meet I am open to that.

Ms. Nolan stated it sounds like coaches should have access to student performance information. There needs to be more coordination school wide. There are also kids that don't play but need additional help. How can the rest of the staff help? Can teammates help? If students don't want to go it is hard to get them to go. How much outreach have we done with surrounding districts? We have tremendous supports in Cambridge, how do we best practice?

Mr. Kimbrough we have a lot of programs students are involved in like Breakthrough and Workforce. How many athletes are involved in those outside activities? Are we able to utilize the adults to work with our students? Mr. Dottin responded bring it back to coordination from the athletic center to the Dean of Students and guidance dept. At try outs is unacceptable. It is not about force it is encouragement; I have had kids excel. We told them if you are going to play you are required to go to study hall, attend classes and we worked with parents. When we had Tutoring Plus the cafeteria was full of students in the evening and we provided food. However, this was done without input from coaches or Mr. Cody who has 20 years' experience. We asked the School Committee for \$10,000 and received \$20,000.

Mr. Kimbrough asked Mr. Arria or Principal Smith has there been any changes in the lines of communication; what level of communication and who is coordinating this? If a student performs poorly on an exam how does that get communicated to the coaches? Is there a system? Mr. Smith responded access to Aspen is not set by me, it is a district policy. How much access do community members have? If a student has a problem, it is not just the athletic dept. I take people's attendance here that they are here to support students. Mr. Dottin talks to students out of season in the neighborhood. We should have a common way to reach the students and work with them. There are some teachers that will immediately email coaches when work isn't turned in and some won't. Not everyone understands what the function of a village is. Mr. Dottin said if you are in the athletic program you are in the study hall and I think that is great. Are star players going to have to go to the homework center? The coaches, teachers, guidance counselors, Dean of Students, etc. all need to be on board; but we have a long way to get there.

Mr. Fantini wants parent notification as part of the system so no student or family is caught short that their child is not playing. The infrastructure is with the Deans of Students. We have academic and athletic students and need to treat all students the same. With \$20,000 you're not going to be able to do it without everyone being involved. We need a better system.

Coach Bernard asked Mr. Arria do we have stats from this year on every kid and how many times they attended every week so we know what we can compare? Mr. Arria replied I don't have individual student stats here right now.

Mr. Kimbrough stated Coach Coleman does not work at the high school. It is valuable to be in-house to be able to check on students consistently. Coach Coleman commented on Aspen I can only see the kids I work with, not all the athletes during all seasons at the high school. Mr. Arria stated a few years ago we were able to have coaches access Aspen but due to privacy laws we don't have it now. I might be able to get coaches access for grades through the coach's registration system.

Principal Smith proposes we have further conversations around when a student athlete is interested in signing up for a team and how much contact information we can transmit to a coach. We are losing more kids before they get to the field. Can we get an interest list so people can do that work? What can constitute outside of the season? If the will is to be more attentive to that then we should use our coaches outside of the season.

Mr. Cody stated when I first started I would get progress reports, attendance reports, and report cards in my mailbox. Also if a kid has an IEP the coach needs to know because if you have a kid with anxiety and you are screaming at him you will have a better understanding of where they are coming from. I have been invited to IEP meetings as a coach. Mr. Arria responded sometimes we don't know who is signing up for sports until the deadline. Dr. Turk added with more voices and perspectives, the solutions we come up with will be that much more powerful. We still have a relationship with Tutoring Plus that people may not be aware of. They work with the elementary and Upper Schools but not at the high school but if that is what we need we can talk to them. There needs to be some structure where folks can talk about and share information so the students are successful. Working with ICTS we can tell them this is what we need today and I feel confident they can come up with a solution.

Additional Concerns Within the Athletic Department:

Mr. Kimbrough invited two recent graduates Ms. Austin and Ms. Smith-Sokol to speak. Ms. Smith-Sokol feels frustrated because the girl's lacrosse team had to keep their equipment in a smelly old trailer while the boys went to Russell Field which is a great facility with bathrooms, work out rooms, and working water fountains. The girls have only one water fountain. We sent a survey to the athletes, coaches and parents and received 43 responses from students (12 were captains) about their experiences. Ms. Nolan thinks they needed a CPSD email address to get more responses. Of the 43 responses 90% said we need improvements in the athletic dept. The following were some of the responses; more support for teams other than the winning team, busses need to be booked accurately, funding and attention should not be centered around one team, listening if athletics have issues with relationships, equal care for the field including boys getting a new scoreboard while girls can barely play on their field because they are not properly tended, a huge issue of equity of all sports regardless of how many games they have won. One year the tennis team did not get team uniforms, our tennis courts are all cracked, slanted, some don't have nets so we have to play on Pemberton Court or other fields, no indoor place. Other responses include comments about masculinity, mutual respect for all teams, transparency, and clear communication for the athletic parents to know who to talk to and get a response, one year the diving team did not have a coach. A positive point is coaches were mentors to student athletes. Hiring the soccer coach was a long process. Mr. Kimbrough recognizes there is a problem with equity between teams. Mr. Maloney can speak about the fields and equity. Mr. Maloney stated that the survey was brought to Mr. Arria's attention and he has made changes to address that. We have a robust program which puts enormous stress on our fields and indoor facilities. Mr. Arria is constantly juggling indoor facilities during the Winter, every gym is booked by the schools, youth programs and we are facing a gymnastics issue now. The city maintains the fields. The tennis court is the only outdoor facility we have here and was initially scheduled for renovation 8-9 years ago but the budget was cut; they will be repaired in July. The score board for the baseball field was requested by another city program. We produced for the School Committee the number of kids and the costs so we can be more informative to the athletes and families and want to be receptive to their input. Mr. Arria added the process takes a long time. I want to make everybody aware decisions are made after discussion with coaches. Girls lacrosse always had better numbers and Danehy had more fields. We are talking about the girls going to Russell next year because the team numbers are more equal. I am constantly looking at that. These are important to hear and I am constantly looking at making improvements to our facilities including scoreboards for the softball fields.

Coach Bernard said for the past 7-8 years the track field throwing area has been under water so we can't use it. Mr. Kimbrough stated if we aren't being proactive, it become sexism and inequity. Do we need to support some of the bill for facility upkeep? Mr. Arria responded there is constant communication with the City and they have fixed a lot. The Danehy field crew did a ton of work on the fields this Spring. The throwing area is not going to be done right now. The drainage at St. Peters softball field takes a hit more than the baseball field. I recommended to Parks and Recs that a scoreboard could come out of my budget. We are trying to improve many things. Mr. Maloney added I don't want anything to be misconstrued by the City because the maintenance we get is phenomenal. The field house at Danehy is on reclaimed landfill and we could not build on it. The city is taking a more serious look at that. The process started a few years ago as far as funding. Mr. Smith added we need to have more of these sessions regarding costs and expenditure per sport, so the student athletes know how resources are allocated so we have both perspectives. Mr. Dottin asked was there ever a suggestion to rotate one

week for boys and one for girls on the field? We're still talking about the same things from years ago. There are a couple of articles (on file in the School Committee office) from 2016, 2017 and 2018. Communication could be better so the kids know the challenges. Mr. Arria answered yes there were discussions with the coaches but they thought changing fields would result in confusion for the students. Soccer rotates because it works for coaches. Ms. Austin stated the articles need to be acknowledged to make it feel like a lot of energy is going towards it. There should not be a separate dialogue, both boys and girls should speak together about issues. There could be an anonymous form for communication with the athletic dept. to check in about kid's experiences.

Public Comments:

Donnie Harding, Windsor Street. his nephew is a freshman, we need to create a culture here that students learn how to do homework and study as soon as they get to CRLS.

Tasha Anderson, her son played baseball and I have been communicating about how to address bullying but never got any suggestions on how to handle that. I agree with the study hall. Treat all kids the same. Last year he was on the team and was short seven points and did not play but other kids did worse and still played. Mr. Arria replied there is no formalized bullying training from the athletic dept. but a lot of our educators that are coaches have had bullying training.

Jennifer Miles, parent of JV baseball player, there should be support for new coaches. Who makes up the hiring committees? The hiring process for baseball coaches was not inclusive enough for the community. There was a parent during the 1st round but not the 2nd round. Mr. Kimbrough asked Principal Smith to speak on hiring committees. Principal Smith stated committees are composed of a parent, coach, another staff member and athletes. In the last two years through diversity we have expanded on it. The committee recommends the number of candidates that move to the second round. They meet with me and I make a recommendation to the Superintendent for both academics and athletics. Mr. Aria spoke regarding coaching support it's more conversations, regarding coach's education I offer about 10 people per year to attend for 4-5 hours on a Saturday or Wednesday night, we get first aid training thru the city and I have requested professional development funding through the department.

Alex Steinberg, Vineyard Street, has 2 students and is wondering how we mentor and supervise coaches and how is feedback given to coaches.

Matt Meyerson appreciates bringing volunteers and coaches together to give candid comments back to the athletic department about what we can do better. We have untapped resources and should allow coaches to mentor. Mr. Arria responded coaches are suggested by other coaches and need to pass a CORI and background check.

Laura McGaffigan May Street, parent 2 students, has concerns about the Academic Eligibility Policy. What programs were here when Mr. Arria arrived to support students? How were they evaluated? What have we instituted? What type of mentorship is offered to the new coaches specifically toward the academic eligibility, what is our process? Mr. Arria responded in my introductory meeting we discuss policies & procedures and what is expected and I answer questions but there is nothing formal. I have tried to be cognizant of coaches' time but if people are interested and want to volunteer we can explore that.

Kathy Hickey, Bolton Street, her son was pulled off the basketball court because the grades came out but the coaches never got them and he was embarrassed.

Ms. Nolan stated other issues have surfaced and many things have been going on for several years. Maybe we need another sub-committee to evaluate how those have been addressed. Let's find out how the data is being used to improve the system for all students. There has been talk about parents and kids to provide their expertise about what works well and what doesn't.

Mr. Fantini believes we will get the answers and work on the issues that were raised and we can move on a lot of these issues because we do have the resources.

Principal Smith asked if the minutes are going to be made public? Mr. Kimbrough responded yes.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Fantini seconded by Ms. Nolan at 7:03 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Gist
Confidential Secretary to the School Committee

Documents on file in the School Committee Office

Agenda

Athletic Sub-Committee Meeting Presentation

List of issues to be discussed

Articles from 6/26/17, 1/30/18 and another from 2018 (no specific date)

#19-205, The Report of the June 13, 2019 Community Relations Sub-Committee was accepted as presented:

**Community Relations Sub-Committee
School Committee Conference Room 7:00 PM**

Called for the purpose to review updates on the district exit surveys, review ways to increase School Committee and community engagement, review the report on Controlled Choice and any other business that may come before the Sub-Committee.

Present: Ms. Nolan, Chair; Ms. Bowman, Mr. Kimbrough

Also Present: Mr. Maloney, Mr. Fantini, Ms. Liss,

A quorum being present, Ms. Nolan called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M. and read the call of the meeting.

Annual Exit Survey Report: Ms. Nolan explained we will review the data from the Exit Survey Reports (on file in the School Committee office) regarding why families leave the district to see if we can learn something from them leaving or possibly retain them. Mr. Maloney summarized the report stating the numbers are fairly consistent to what we have seen in the past; we are a fluid community. 826 kids left between November 1, 2017 and October 31, 2018; almost half of them left the country or state. We have Charter and Parochial School departure information as well. The next page shows what school the kids were attending, the Kennedy/Longfellow and Graham & Parks JK-5 both have SEI programs where students are here for a short time and then return to their home country. Looking at the grade level, the Tobin had high departures but families stayed in-state. Some people leave because of housing costs and size. Students that stayed in Massachusetts are scattered through the greater Boston area. Page 4 shows where students went if they went to a Charter, Private or Parochial school. The good news about departing student's attrition is that it is not as high as it was in the past. We are finishing up new construction at Tobin/Vassal Lane Campus. There is inflow from Charter schools as kids come back. Page 5 includes demographics by type of transfer, page 6 lists the Exit Survey demographics free/reduced/paid lunch, female/male, SPED, Race. Ms. Nolan interrupted that the data on pages 6 through 9 is based on only 45 responses to the exit surveys which is a small sampling. Mr. Maloney continued page 7 matches the housing piece. The overall experience with CPS percentages are on page 8, and page 9 lists open responses. Our enrollment continues to grow. We created the Leaver Survey

about 10 years ago when we had steady declining enrollment; we have had a steady 2-3 % increase for the past ten years and don't know why. Families are staying in the city and housing is not cheaper than it was 10 years ago. Ten years ago we saw a lot of people leaving for gateway cities. We have turned this data over to two data staff people this year and it is prettier but received less response from parents. If families have been gone for a long time they won't respond to the survey. Ms. Nolan asked do we only send the survey once a year, not when families are leaving? Mr. Maloney replied he believes so.

Ms. Bowman asked when did we begin to implement the Exit Survey? Ms. Nolan responded that she has one from 2004. Ms. Bowman is curious do we use the information to improve the product we are trying to have in our schools or are we collecting information just to collect it. Mr. Maloney replied it is informative information and contributes to how decisions are made. The innovation Plan had an enrollment factor and input from families had a lot to do with it. Ms. Nolan added that individual schools were done in the past. Mr. Maloney replied yes; it is hard to separate this report from everything else that is going on in the district. To me the survey should not be an Exit Survey, it should be what has happened since the Innovation Agenda (IA)? Before the IA there was more stress, complaints and anxiety from parents and we don't know why. One suspicion is families look at Kindergarten and worry about grade 7-8 but we don't know that for a fact. We had great attrition in grade 6 in past years. I would like to see what are the changes going on but we have not put that in a formal report. There is more selection of neighborhood schools. Ms. Bowman stated we need to think strategically about how we use staff time and what we do with surveys because I get a lot of them as a parent. We need to take parent's time into consideration. Mr. Maloney replied that has some merit to it. When we did the report we were in an economic recession now we are in an economic boom as far as enrollment.

Ms. Liss is curious if there have been exit interviews from graduates or transfers in-district around what their experiences have been and why. Mr. Maloney explained regarding the number of transfers two major things occurred we shortened the window to transfer kids between schools. Now that it is the last day of school before the winter break in December but we know there have been fewer recently. We have not seen a lot of movement. And you cannot transfer in the 5th grade so parents understand this is where your child will go to middle school. Ms. Nolan thinks it is best to wait 2 years before doing a survey of graduates for them to have a better perspective.

Ms. Nolan stated given the decline in responses over time and if we want to get the information while it is fresh in their minds, particularly if it is done on line, can it be done every month and be tabulated at the end of the year. Mr. Maloney said originally it was done retroactively but will check on that. Ms. Bowman added we shouldn't generate a report if we aren't going to use it. Mr. Maloney stated this report was requested and designed for the School Committee. Ms. Bowman thinks we should assess the value of it and see if it is impactful and are we using the data?

Annual Report on Controlled Choice – analysis and review – lottery, balance: Mr. Maloney handed out the District Enrollment Report of SES by percentages (on file in School Committee office). Ms. Nolan handed out a summary memo on Annual Review of the Controlled Choice Plan for SY 2018-2019 which says we will review the report annually. Mr. Maloney reviewed the summary page (on file in the School Committee office). We measure by capacity and how we assign. eleven schools are in compliance and we have a steady increase in full pay lunches. We know that the full pay families that were here 10-12 years ago have a higher income than we had then. We need to continue to look at trends at the Upper Schools, four out of five are in compliance, Amigos is not. We see changes at the feeder schools. We are bringing in more 6th graders than are leaving. Ms. Bowman stated based on the number of families that get mandatory assignments, moving across the district is complicating and impacts working parents having the ability to move your child to a place that has after school care because all the seats are taken up. It is putting a lot of stress on families that weren't lucky enough to get certain schools. We cannot have a Controlled Choice program model that isn't aligned with the city after school programs. Ms. Liss commented that the city's offerings are independent of the lottery system. We need to look at the full picture and linking the school and city programs. We are going to explore an elementary school network and we can have those conversations.

Mr. Kimbrough asked if that can come from our Committee? Ms. Nolan replied yes. Ms. Bowman will write a motion.

Ms. Nolan added the data starts at the Kindergarten level and includes the 10-year analysis. The summary has where the unassigned kids came from. (Ms. Nolan was missing the waitlist page but will get it for the Committee).

Parth Patwari, Valentine St, his daughter is at the King School and one child is out of district. The real lottery is the after school program and the community school program. The gold star prize is to get in the after school program that starts on the 1st day and doesn't have early release days. He presented a document on the projected success on winning the lottery (on file in SC office). All 3 are in the top spots. The School Committee and the district have created some great programs. Can we think about creating more spots? Restricted supply gets into issues of who gets in because there aren't enough spots so it becomes critical.

Raphael Carbonell, Rockwell Street, parent of K and 1st grade, wants to increase after school spaces. People get in line at lunch time to be able to get a spot. The demand is outstripping in terms of immersion, what are the options? His wife and he are from cultural backgrounds and both kids are bilingual. People are interested in another language but some people are looking at the culture. His son got into Amigos and his daughter is on the waitlist. We went to Dana Park for orientation and parents spoke about how to gain points to get in. They had no qualms in telling us how they got into the Immersion Schools. Look at ways to evaluate how points are assigned. The bilingual test is pass/fail and there is a percentile and our kids were at 98%.

Matt Yolt, Putnam Ave, Last February the School Committee used reduced lunch seats for students that were not on reduced lunch. Last year, Yuri Morisheema did research indicating the remaining seats were not used and dwindling through 5th grade which keeps classes small. We were advocating with him. One of his kids was in the NiHao Program and one was in the Immersion Program and because of the sibling issue it passed to continue for one year and the data was going to be used to decide how to move forward with the process after 2018. Yuri's child was the only one to get in. My daughter is about to finish 2nd grade and there is no guarantee that the Principal is going to allow us do that. Voting to extend those unused seats in the Immersion Program means my daughter and others on the wait list would have the opportunity to gain fluency in a second language in a public school environment. My son is in an Immersion classroom but daughter is not. If you vote no, please explain so I can tell my daughter the rationale behind it. Ms. Nolan responded this raises the wait list issue. Mr. Maloney commented we did it for one year but have not followed up on this and it affected more than one family. Ms. Bowman thinks that should have been followed up by the Sub-Committee and we should not leave seats open.

Ms. Nolan added the School Committee voted that it does not make sense to leave seats empty. We need to be sure we balance low income families and the Amigos is now balanced so we can get there with intentional focus. Mr. Kimbrough added there is a need to explore increasing opportunities in the Immersion and Montessori Programs. Ms. Nolan stated that many years ago the Morse School became a Core Knowledge school, the Amigos started from the parents primarily. Four years ago the School Committee said we need to look at these schools and bring in a program and balance the schools. Ms. Bowman stated she gets calls from people and tells them about the Fletcher Maynard Academy Spanish Program because they don't know about it. We need to work out why people, who are primarily from African descent don't know about that. We need to celebrate that program as an opportunity for them. Ms. Nolan stated bringing in a program changes a school. Mr. Maloney added a couple of years we asked families that came in to sign up for Kindergarten and the highest demand was for the STEM, Montessori and Immersion Programs. If we started a Montessori Program, it would add 90 seats to the Program. Ms. Nolan suggested having at least one meeting over the summer to address the capacity issue.

Ways to Increase School Committee and Community Involvement: Ms. Nolan stated that several School Councils have asked for regular communication with the School Committee, how can we do that more formally for next year? We have had a focus on community engagement for a long time. Ms.

Bowman does not think that will expand community engagement. We should be more intentional about our communication. Why don't we have more social media presence? Why aren't we on Twitter or Facebook? It gets away from the School Committee meetings. Mr. Kimbrough agrees with more social media. Can we have sub-committee meetings out in the community so people don't have to come to us. Ms. Nolan or the Executive Secretary will reach out to schools and parents to see if they have any ideas. Mr. Kimbrough wants to hear from people that are impacted by the school council but don't have the opportunity to attend meetings. There is an equity issue on school councils. Some of our families don't seek out diversity in terms of experience. Some schools have a challenge in voices being heard. Ms. Bowman is amazed by how segregated our schools are. Even after school there are clusters of people gathered together in playgrounds. We should encourage our families that are different to engage and feel comfortable about it.

Motion to adjourn at 8:30 PM by Mr. Kimbrough seconded by Ms. Bowman.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Gist
Confidential Secretary to the School Committee

Documents on file in School Committee Office
Annual Review of the Controlled Choice Plan for SY2018-19 & Summary Memo
Projected Success Rate – 2019
Student Withdrawals & Exit Survey Report 11/1/17-10/31/2018
10. Resolutions (letters of congratulations, letters of condolence): None

11. Announcements: Ms. Nolan reminded the Committee of the Whole that we are doing our annual evaluation of the Superintendent. Mr. Fantini asked for the evaluation forms for the executive secretary ASAP.

12. Late Orders:

It was voted to adopt the following:

Motion by Ms. Nolan That the School Committee hereby goes on record in expressing its deep condolences to the family of Ms. Maureen Manning for their loss. Ms. Manning worked for special needs students, and that a suitable letter of condolence is sent to the family on behalf of the entire School Committee. Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Mr. Kimbrough YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

13. Communications from City Officers: None

Distributed Back-up Documents (copies on file in the School Committee office):

- Agenda
- Enhancing Existing LD Programs and Recommendations for the Establishment of a New Language-Based Learning Disability Classroom

Statements from Public Comment (copies on file in the School Committee office)

- Dan Monahan, CEA President re Social Media Policy

E-Mail communications (copies on file in the School Committee office)

On a motion by Ms. Bowman, seconded by Mr. Fantini, on the following roll call vote, it was voted to adjourn: Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Mr. Kimbrough NO; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Mayor McGovern YEA.

Adjourned: (7:45 p.m.)

Cambridge School Committee
Regular Meeting
Henrietta S. Attles Meeting Room

August 6, 2019

Attest:



Dosha Beard
Executive Secretary
to the School Committee