



Somerville School Committee

Education • Inspiration • Excellence

Mary Skipper, *Secretary*

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To: Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

From: Mary E. Skipper, Secretary to the School Committee/Superintendent of Schools

Re: FY2018 Budget

Date June 7, 2017

At the School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities, held on May 22, 2017, the School Committee voted unanimously to approve the locally funded budget for FY2018 in the amount of \$68,549,180 with a contingency for an additional \$25,000 approved if the Superintendent recommends supporting busing for after school enrichment. This vote reflects the culmination of a process begun ten months ago, requiring numerous meetings throughout the spring. The budget development timeline is attached.

The budget process was public with valued input provided by many school and community members. Leadership teams at each school participated in collaborative budget meetings, bringing together educators to evaluate the needs specific to their school community and to develop a budget plan to meet these needs. The resulting budget represents the funding needed to deliver these improved and enriched educational services to our students.

This budget will allow the District to protect class size and increase support for all students, particularly ELL (Newcomers and SAFE) and Special Education (Autism and Inclusion). The FY2018 budget, as voted by the School Committee, provides for continued expansion of Universal K Readiness and increased access to quality Pre-K Education; continued expansion of social emotional supports and embedded therapy at all schools; and restructured afterschool programming, with an emphasis on increased access to Community Schools (K-5) and new middle school offerings through partners such as Citizen Schools for improved out of school time outcomes.

Please contact me at your convenience if additional information is needed. A packet of information, which provides detailed information regarding the Somerville Public Schools FY2018 budget, will be provided as soon as it has been finalized. These budget documents will also be posted on our website – www.somerville.k12.ma.us/finance. Additional copies will be made available at Budget Presentation.

On behalf of the School Committee, I would like to thank you, the Board of Aldermen, and Board President, William A. White, Jr., for supporting the efforts of the School Committee to provide an appropriate level of funding for the Somerville Public Schools. As I finish my second year as Superintendent of the Somerville Public Schools, I continue to be grateful to work in a city whose Mayor and elected officials keep our students in the center of decision making and fund their needs accordingly.

Thank you.

Cc: Members of the Board of Aldermen
Somerville School Committee
Somerville Public Schools Central Administration
John Long, City Clerk

