

**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS**

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

**Monday February 22, 2016 – Regular Meeting**

7:00 p.m. - Board of Aldermen's Chambers – Somerville City Hall

**Members present:** Ms. Palmer, Alderman White, Ms. Pitone (7:08 p.m.), Mr. Roix, Mr. Futrell, Mr. Green, Mr. Bockelman and Ms. Normand

**Members absent:** Mayor Curtatone

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Carrie Normand called a Regular Meeting of the School Committee to order in the Board of Aldermen's Chambers at City Hall at 7:05 p.m., with a moment of silence and a salute to the flag of the United States of America. Ms. Normand asked for a roll call, the results of which are as follows: - Present – 7 – Palmer, White, Roix, Futrell, Green, Bockelman and Normand and ABSENT – 2 – Curtatone and Pitone.

Ms. Normand announced that Item VI. B be taken out of order.

**Somerville High School Building Project** – Approval of Preliminary Design Program (PDP)

Mr. Roix explained that the Preliminary Design Program (PDP) is a prescribed process of the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA).

MOTION: Mr. Roix made a motion, seconded by Mr. Green, to authorize the Chair to sign the Somerville High School Building Project Local Actions and Approvals Certification.  
The motion was approved via voice vote.

Following the approval of the motion, Mrs. Skipper and Ms. Normand signed the documents.

- Discussion ensued which included the following:
- In depth discussion regarding the project at the meeting on February 11.
- Information on the project being on a website – [www.somervillema.gov/highschool](http://www.somervillema.gov/highschool)
- Building Committee Chair Pierantozzi offering attendance at future meetings, as needed, for updates

**II. STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Mr. Ojo was not present at tonight's meeting.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- January 25, 2016

MOTION: Mr. Bockelman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Roix, to approve the minutes of January 25, 2016.

The motion was approved via voice vote.

- February 1, 2016

MOTION: Mr. Futrell made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pitone, to approve the minutes of February 1, 2016.

The motion was approved via voice vote.

**IV. REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEES**

**A. Educational Programs and Instruction Subcommittee:** Feb. 9 (Mr. Roix)

The Educational Programs subcommittee met in the Central Office Conference room at 30 Bonair Street at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, February 9, 2016.

In attendance were Steve Roix, Laura Pitone and Andre Green; also Superintendent Mary Skipper and Vince McKay. Also in attendance were School Committee members Carrie Normand, Paul Bockelman, Dan Futrell, Lee Palmer and District Data Coordinator Kenya Avant. There were approximately 22 other people in the audience.

*The listing of items are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting. Not all items may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.*

Most of the audience was there for the first item on our agenda, which was a discussion regarding a resolution on a moratorium on high stakes testing. This has been talked about in the community for some time, and brought up in this chamber as well as in previous Educational Programs subcommittee meetings, particularly in recent months when the subject of PARCC vs. MCAS has surfaced and when we're speaking of the latest machinations of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education regarding where the state is going next on this, which, as we all know, has seemingly changed direction numerous times over the past couple of years and may not be settled yet. In short, less testing advocacy movement and their allies, particularly the Massachusetts Teachers Association have been pushing for legislative action on a moratorium on high stakes testing and while they have like-minded legislators they obviously are still trying to build some legislative support and momentum.

So in that vein, there has been petition, originally drafted by the MTA, I believe, that was a list of whereas clauses that culminated in calling for the legislature to enact a three year moratorium on high stakes testing. This petition was passed by a number of School Committees, I believe first in Worcester, but a number of others also, Cambridge certainly, and also Boston City Council, I believe, so it's had some support. This resolution wording was sort of the starting point for our discussion, although we didn't limit ourselves to that. And as I did that evening, I want to thank the Superintendent and Dr. McKay for their participation in this discussion and state again that this was not a typical school committee deliberation in that it was, from the perspective of our professional leadership and our staff, purely a political discussion – by that I mean it was to discuss a *possible* school committee resolution in support of *possible* legislation at the state level which would have no immediate or direct effect on how our District operates and how we support our teachers and instruct our students.

I would like to publicly thank the Superintendent and Dr. McKay for participating in the discussion and supporting our deliberations with their usual keen insights and their mentality of unwavering support of what is best for our students – and I, certainly, and I believe my colleagues truly appreciate that perspective and that with the political nature of this, and certainly reasonable people can and do disagree on policy and politics, I appreciate that they were able to give us their perspective on certain elements of the discussion. not to advocate on either side, but to assist us in giving a really independent expert perspective on some of the issues around this somewhat politically charged topic. Dr. McKay went so far as to prepare a revised version of the resolution that was both updated, because the original resolution has been around for a few machinations of DESE policy changes of recent months, but also to make it, in his opinion, and I think he did this in conversation with the Superintendent and some of the leadership team, so maybe in our academic leadership's opinion, more relevant to Somerville and what they feel is in the best interest of our students. Also the Superintendent and Dr. McKay both participated in this discussion and the Superintendent in particular was able to give us sort of an insider's perspective on some of the talking points among advocates relating to schools in Boston because of, obviously, some of her roles in Boston prior to becoming our Superintendent. I thought that was great.

And I also want to thank the members of our community who came out and participated in this discussion, and I felt as though we really were able to make it a discussion, even though it was a subcommittee meeting and not a public hearing, we were able to recognize audience members including other school committee members, of course, and I felt like we had a really good, respectful, and informed discussion of high stakes testing and what that means and what a moratorium might mean. And not every member of the public who came out, had the same perspective on this, obviously a number of people came out and have been lobbying the school committee to support this, but there were some who did not favor a resolution on a moratorium and it was good to hear from them as well. And I'm happy to say it was a good, respectful discussion and that I think there was some common ground found – *I didn't need to use the getaway car that I asked the chair to leave running for me outside of one of the fire exits in case the debate got too heated – no, it was good*, not to say that we all agree on everything after this, but I do think it went well and I appreciated the discussion, and there is a lot of passion on this in our community but also people on both sides of the testing debate who are interested in going beyond some of the political rhetoric and really diving into what's best for kids and what isn't.

So in summary, one of the areas where I saw some common ground – and I don't claim to say universal agreement, because I didn't take a poll, but I'm talking about people, in particular, who came to this meeting maybe with different perspectives on a moratorium or what that would even mean, but I did see that there was some common ground in particular regarding the "stakes", meaning that here was some agreement that some of the ways that DESE uses the results were probably not in the best interests of students. For instance, I heard some broad agreement that teachers not be punished or subjected to negative evaluation based on the test scores of their students and with that, on the other side of the

coin, sort of acknowledgment by some who supported a moratorium that the tests themselves were not necessarily the problem so much as sort of the punitive ways that the results are currently used, and the negative effects on teachers and thereby students by introducing unhelpful stress and a focus on “test preparation” rather than real learning. And that in fact the data obtained from MCAS (or PARCC, in theory), although not comprehensive, can be useful along with our locally developed formative assessments, in identifying where students and teachers need more support, what’s working, what’s not, all the good stuff we normally hear about in our normal Ed Programs meetings, and that I know our staff is really thinking about every day. So in the course of this discussion of the resolutions, the two versions of it that we had been looking at, one of the issues that came to the surface was that it wasn’t clear to everyone that the resolution was simply asking for a moratorium on high stakes rather than a moratorium on testing itself, even among members of the subcommittee it wasn’t entirely clear to everyone, so Mr. Green graciously agreed, by way of his own motion, to take a look at drafting another resolution based on the conversation we had at that meeting which he will bring back to a future educational programs subcommittee for reconsideration. So I thank him for that –

and along with that, we also passed another resolution, that is forwarded to the full school committee for your consideration, which is based just on a single clause of the original MTA draft which seemed to have very broad agreement, which was requesting that DESE extend the “hold harmless” that it offered to the Districts who chose PARCC, presumably as an enticement to make it more likely that Districts will choose to switch to the new test, that given what we know now and what we’re expecting with regard to changes to the MCAS this year that MCAS itself is looking like it will be such a different test than it has been, that it’s only fair that DESE extends the “hold harmless” provision to cover all Districts, Somerville of course, chose, by not choosing, in effect, to stay with MCAS this year so this is an item that would affect us directly and it had broad support, even from our administration, I believe, so we passed that resolution and its’ before you this evening.

So with the passage of those resolutions, we moved to our 2<sup>nd</sup> agenda item, which was more typical of the Educational Programs subcommittee agenda items we usually see – it was a presentation of the 2016 graduation rate data and dropout data. This was presented to us by Kenya Avant, our District Data Coordinator, and I want to also thank Kenya for her patience while we went through the first item. So the good news on this item is that our graduation rate is up. Kenya Avant talked us through the numbers and what they mean –The 4 year District graduation rate is up to 81.4% and Somerville High School as a stand-alone 4 year graduation rate is up to 86.2%, both those numbers up substantially over the last couple of years. The Superintendent expressed confidence that 90% and beyond is certainly where we hope to get in the near future. We talked about some of the challenges around this – how the highest risk for dropping out is with 9<sup>th</sup> graders, particularly “overage 9<sup>th</sup> graders” who are often older by a couple of years than their peers and are dealing with a transition at school at the same time they often have some really adult type issues and responsibilities that they are dealing with in their personal lives, and we got some insight into some of the risk factors that play into drop-out risk and some of the various strategies that our staff is deploying to counter these factors. Members asked some great questions about targeting 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and identifying risk factors ahead of time which is of course one of the important strategies- The Superintendent spoke of overhauling the Student Support Teams a little bit and I think in the context of the changing role of the guidance counselor and how that plays into this - given that what was once one person’s job is now more of team effort with student support. And we heard about the particular challenges regarding some of the overage students and how we are looking to leverage more flexible strategies to keep those in school until they graduate, such as blended learning and internships. We also heard about how the code for America team (from the Grant we received last year I believe) has been engaged on this and I’m guessing we’ll hear more about this in the future, but essentially working the possibility of assessing with data the effectiveness of the various interventions so we can better target supports going forward.. So it was a good update – some good news, obviously a lot of work still here, but good to hear about some of the strategies and plans to continue and hopefully accelerate the progress we’ve made here.

And with that, we adjourned at about 9:15 or so – as I said, I will defer to Mr. Green (or Ms. Pitone or someone else) to make the first motion on this agenda under this report, I don’t know that the second item needs to be moved tonight because it wasn’t particularly forwarding an item to the full committee. unless someone wants to talk about it tonight – but I will make one motion myself, which is:  
I move to accept the report of the Chair of the Educational Programs subcommittee for the February 9, 2016 meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Green made a motion, seconded by Mr. Roix, as follows:

WHEREAS, as a result of the Board of Education's November 17<sup>th</sup> vote to reject the adoption of the PARCC, the Massachusetts state testing program has been fragmented; and

WHEREAS, MA districts administering MCAS are now a minority, fewer than one third of districts state-wide; and

WHEREAS, the MCAS tests for grades 3 – 8 have been significantly altered, with changes including but not limited to elimination of the Long Composition essay in grades 4 and 7; and

WHEREAS, changes to these tests were made on a highly accelerated schedule with little or no input from educators in the field; and

WHEREAS, significant changes to test construction and sample size may compromise test reliability and validity; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Education has provided a one-year "hold harmless" provision, with respect to school and district results as they apply to accountability status, for those districts administering the PARCC exam; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Education does not plan to implement a state accountability hold harmless provision for Districts administering MCAS in 2016 despite the significant alterations to the test as noted above.

THEREFORE, let it be resolved that the Somerville School Committee calls on state education policy makers to implement an accountability hold harmless provision statewide, to include all MCAS districts and PARCC districts, for the 2016 testing cycle.

The motion was approved via voice vote.

MOTION: That it is the will of the Educational Programs subcommittee to further deliberate a resolution advocating legislative action on a moratorium on high stakes testing but with the need for more clarity separating our position on assessment in general from our position on "high stakes" Ward 4 Representative and Educational Programs subcommittee member Andre Green has volunteered to draft a revised resolution based on the deliberation today that can be discussed at a future Educational Programs subcommittee meeting for possible recommendation to the School Committee.

No Action was taken on this motion as this evening's meeting. More discussion will take place at a future Ed Programs meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Roix made a motion, seconded by Ms. Pitone, to accept the report of the Chair of Ed Programs Subcommittee for the meeting of February 9, 2016.

The motion was approved via voice vote.

Following the Ed. Programs report presentation, discussion ensued relative to District leaders' opinions on the 2016 MCAS, creating our own assessment, dropout rate improvement, and graduation rates improvement.

**B. Finance & Facilities Subcommittee:** Feb. 11 (Mr. Bockelman)

Members present: Paul Bockelman, Dan Futrell and Laura Pitone

Other School Committee members present: Carrie Normand, Lee Palmer, Steve Roix

Also in attendance: Superintendent Skipper and Finance Director Durette and three audience members.

Mr. Bockelman called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

There were five items on the agenda.

1) MSBA Statements of Interest

Rob King from the City of Somerville Capital Planning Department was present to discuss the Statements of Interest to be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority. He said the top priority should be the Winter Hill Community School. There is a February 12<sup>th</sup> deadline to submit the Statements for consideration for the accelerated repair program. He said the Winter Hill needed

roof replacement and window repairs. He anticipated at least a 70% reimbursement rate. He estimated that, if funded, the work would be done during the summer of 2017.

In response to questions, he said the Brown School roof and boiler were in good shape. He said the Edgerly would only qualify for partial reimbursement as the program can only apply to buildings being used for educational programs.

He also noted that, in December, the City funded a complete assessment of all city-owned buildings and he estimated that this analysis would be completed in May.

The School Committee will receive a Statement of Interest to vote on at its next meeting.

Mr. Bockelman asked how the School Committee, if it desired, would go about getting a complete renovation of the Brown School into the capital planning discussion. Mr. King said the School Committee should submit its request to his office for consideration with other capital improvements.

Members of the Committee also asked about the status of 42 Cross Street. Due to water infiltration and damage to 42 Cross Street, Central Office staff has moved to the Edgerly School while repairs are made. The first phase of staff moved before winter break with the rest of the 42 Cross Street staff moving in January. Once repairs are complete, the plan is for the Finance and Human Resources Departments to move back to 42 Cross Street. The rest of Central Office will remain at the Edgerly. This will alleviate the space needs of 42 Cross Street. The Superintendent, Student Services, academic officers, and Communications will stay on at the Edgerly fostering a more collaborative work environment.

2) Special Appropriations for SHS Robotics

Ms. Durette reported that the vote to accept the appropriation for the Somerville High School Robotics team had two problems: it was in the wrong form and had the wrong sum of money. She requested that the Subcommittee vote a new motion as follows:

Motion: that the School Committee request an additional appropriation of \$27,362 from the Board of Aldermen to establish a first robotics team, thus increasing the total FY2016 Somerville Public Schools budget to \$62,540,020.00.

Mr. Bockelman asked for an explanation for the genesis of this particular project and request, noting that this type of mid-year request for additional funds was unusual in his experience. Superintendent Skipper explained that she learned that the high school was not participating in the robotic competition, that they – and she – wanted to, and the Mayor agreed to seek the additional funds to make it happen.

After further discussion, Mr. Futrell made the motion as presented above. It was seconded by Ms. Pitone and passed unanimously.

3) FY2017 Level Service Budget Projections

Ms. Durette presented budget projection for FY2017 assuming all services are to be maintained with no additions or deletions. This is the first step in our budget building process.

4) FY2016 Expenditure Report

Finance Director Durette answered clarifying questions about the Expenditure Report. Members of the committee expressed appreciation for the addition of percentage of funds available the previous year as a data point for comparison.

5) FY2016 Bill Rolls

Motion: Ms. Pitone made a motion to approve FY2016 Bill Rolls. The motion was seconded by Mr. Futrell and passed unanimously.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

MOTION: Mr. Bockelman made a motion, seconded by Ms. Palmer, to approve the FY16 bill rolls. The motion was approved via voice vote.

MOTION: Mr. Bockelman made a motion, seconded by Ms. Palmer, to accept the report of the Chair of The Finance and Facilities Subcommittee for the meeting of February 9, 2016.

The motion was approved via voice vote.

## V. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

### A. Personnel Report

The Superintendent shared the names of those employees who have recently informed the district of their intent to retire on June 30, 2016.

- Jaan Terry, Senior Clerk at the Argenziano School, after 28 years
- Barbara O'Brien, Principal at the Argenziano School, after 45 years (more information on this retirement later in these minutes)

### B. District Report

Mrs. Skipper provided her District Report as follows:

- Congratulations to the Argenziano 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade team of students who, under Mr. Coughlin's guidance, finished 6<sup>th</sup> overall and claimed the top prize for the "Best City Model" at the **Future City Engineering New England** regional competition. The contest, called Waste Not Want Not, asked teams to tackle solid waste management with a project that addressed the 4 R's: reduce, reuse, recycle, and rot. The Argenziano team named their city *Atervingning Mastare*, which is Swedish for Recycling Champions. Their winning scale model was one component of the overall project, which also includes a written description of their city, a project plan, and a presentation.
- There's still time to stop by the Somerville Public Library central branch on Highland Ave. for a look at some stunning artwork created by Somerville High School students. Nine SHS students are showcasing their work through the end of this month in the **AMP2016 Gallery Exhibit**, featuring artwork by students who have completed Art Major Portfolio, a new Art Major course at Somerville High.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Our **Student of the Quarter awards** continue this month at the following schools:
    - Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30am - Kennedy School
    - Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30am – Healey School
    - Monday, February 29<sup>th</sup> @ 8:45am – West Somerville Neighborhood School
    - Monday, February 29<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30pm – East Somerville Community School
  - Somerville High School will host two **SHS Open Houses and Tours** this Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup> from 8:15-10:00am and from 12:15-2:00pm each day. Families interested in learning more about the high school are invited to stop in during one of those times. It's a great way to meet some of the students and staff, learn about the curriculum and extracurricular programs offered at the high school, and to get a tour of the facility. No reservations are required. Just stop in at 8:15 or at 12:15 on the 25<sup>th</sup>.
  - The SHS Science Department hosts its **Science & Engineering Fair Exhibition** event from 4:30pm-6:00pm on Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. The entire Somerville community is invited to stop by the high school that evening to view student research projects and listen to their presentations. Guests can view projects at their leisure between 4:30 and 5:30pm. An informal awards presentation will take place in the Auditorium starting at 5:30pm. We encourage you to stop by and get a first-hand look at our students' work.
  - The Somerville Family Learning Collaborative will be hosting two important community events in the next couple of weeks.
    - On Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 7:00pm, Somerville community members are invited to join us at the Cummings School Building on 42 Prescott for the **SFLC Community Resource and Information Clinic**. Meet representatives from the SFLC, the Somerville Community Corporation, Somerville Homeless Coalition, and the Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS), to learn about employment opportunities, housing, childcare, and other assistance programs in the City.
    - The SFLC will also host the annual **Somerville Summer Camps and Activities Fair** on Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 5:30-7:00pm at the Healey School, located at 5 Meacham Street. Somerville families are invited to stop by this FREE fair to find out more about local summer programs for all ages, interests, and budgets.
- The **City-Wide Swim Meet** will be held at the Kennedy Pool on Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, from 12:00-4:00pm. Students will have a chance to compete in the breaststroke, butterfly, backstroke, or crawl
- It is with a mixture of sadness for us but happiness for Barbara O'Brien that I accepted her letter of retirement at the end of this academic year. Barbara has served the Somerville Public Schools

for 45 years beginning in September of 1970. During that time she served as a teacher, redirect counselor, assistant principal and principal – most recently the principal of the Argenziano. Several generations of Somerville Public Schools students have benefited from Barbara's talent, commitment and passion as an educator. It has been my privilege this year to come to know Barbara and to see what a consummate professional she is to staff and students. We wish her the very best in the future and thank her for all of her years of incredible service.

- Please join us at the 14<sup>th</sup> annual Brian Higgins Foundation Trivia Night on Thursday March 24, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at Tufts University's Cousens Gym. This event, in memory of Brian Higgins, helps to support children with special needs and their families in a variety of ways! For more information, please visit [www.thebrianhigginsfoundation.org](http://www.thebrianhigginsfoundation.org).

Discussion ensued following the Superintendent's Report regarding the next steps now that the resolution has been approved (it will be forwarded the Commissioner of Education, State Legislators and other key DESE staff).

Assistant Superintendent Vincent McKay provided a brief update which included the following:

- Dr. McKay thanked members for taking the testing issue so seriously and thoughtfully. This is a big deal for us. Last year ½ of districts were taking MCAS; this year just 1/3 of districts are doing so.
- Grade 10 ELA testing will be on 3/22 – this is the first date for testing
- Grades 3-10 testing begins on 3/28. We are now backpacking the schedules to parents/guardians.
- Kindergarten Readiness – requests for collaboration for formalizing partnerships with community providers are currently out. This will allow for curriculum sharing, coaching, joint professional development and will allow us to leverage all resources for the best PreK experience for all of our children. We have one response back, thus far, from CAAS – Head Start. There will be a formal presentation on this topic at Ed. Programs.

Mr. Futrell asked why Dr. McKay thinks the partnership with CAAS works so well?

Dr. McKay responded that CAAS sees the family as an entirety and offers support systems on many things. Ms. Cabral is a great partner and all involved have a mutual interest to serve kids better. We are looking at a possible expansion so that we can leverage resources and stitch together all of the things that help kids and families – one stop shopping, so to speak.

- March 19 starts Preschool Registration

Mrs. Skipper reported that we are reaching out to all families to register because we know that students who don't attend preschool are at risk for falling behind during their school experience.

## VI. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Somerville High School Graduate (recommended action: approval)

The Superintendent of Schools recommends that the following student, who has successfully completed the requirements for graduation from Somerville High School, be granted his diploma:

- Guilherme Pereira

MOTION: Mr. Futrell made a motion, seconded by Mr. Roix, to approve the SHS diploma.

The motion was approved via voice vote.

### B. Field Trips (recommended action: approval)

#### **April 12, 2016**

Somerville High School Science League to Cape Elizabeth, Maine to participate in final Science League competition. Transportation via minibus with no cost to students.

#### **June 8-10, 2016**

Healey School grade 4 students to Red Gate Farm, Ashfield, MA, *overnight*. Transportation via charter bus with a total cost to students of \$200 each. Fundraising efforts are underway to assist students with financial need.

#### **June 9-10, 2016**

Healey School grade 7 and 8 students to New York City, *overnight*. Transportation via bus with a cost to students of \$300 each. Fundraising efforts are underway to assist students with financial need.

MOTION: Mr. Green made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bockelman, to waive the reading of the field trips and approve.

The motion was approved via voice vote.

**C. Acceptance of Donations** (recommended action: approval)

The Superintendent recommends the acceptance, with gratitude, of the following donations:

<b>Donation</b>	<b>Donor</b>	<b>City, State</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Program donated to</b>
Monetary	Parent-Child Home Program	Garden City, NY	\$5,000	Somerville PCHP
Monetary	Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare	Portland, ME	\$500	Kennedy School Drama Club
Monetary	Demeter Hospitality, Inc.	Somerville, MA	\$750	SHS Athletics for Hoop Fest costs
LG 700W Mini Shelf System	Ozzy Martinez	Somerville, MA	\$200	SHS Weight Room
Monetary	Demos Kouvaris	N. Reading, MA	\$1,000	Skills USA Program CVTE
Monetary	Guy Corricelli	Medford, MA	\$100	Skills USA Program CVTE
Monetary	Dennis Maher	N. Reading, MA	\$100	Skills USA Program CVTE
Monetary	Tufts University	Medford, MA	\$250	Argenziano Library

MOTION: Mr. Roix made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bockelman, to accept of the donations listed above, with gratitude.

The motion was approved via voice vote.

**Traffic Concerns – West Somerville Neighborhood School**

Alderman White reported that recent issues around traffic concerns around the West Somerville Neighborhood School have been referred to the Traffic and Parking Committee. Increased patrolling and traffic calming measures are in the works.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

Prior to adjourning, Mr. Bockelman expressed the School Committee's condolences for the following staff members and family of staff members who recently passed away:

- Paul DiPasquale, husband of Julie DiPasquale, former School Committee Representative from Ward 6 and father of Patricia DiPasquale, paraprofessional at the Kennedy School and Julie Jasper, teacher at the Brown School.
- Vincent Callaghan, former Director of Vocational Education

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m. via voice vote.

**RELATED DOCUMENTS:**

1. Agenda
2. Minutes of January 25, 2016 and February 1, 2016 for approval
3. February 2016 Personnel Report
4. One (1) SHS diploma request
5. Three (3) Out of State Field Trips forms
6. Eight (8) donation acceptances
7. Correspondence from City Clerk, John Long re: MSBA SOI for Winter Hill
8. Two (2) donation thank you letters
9. A flyer advertising the Brian Higgins Trivia Night