

**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Monday, June 10, 2020 - Regular Meeting

7:00 p.m. – Central Office Main Conference Room – 8 Bonair Street

Members present: Mr. Futrell, Dr. Ackman, Ms. Palmer, Ms. Normand, Mr. Green and Ms. O’Sullivan.

Members absent: Mayor Curtatone, President Ballantyne and Ms. Pitone.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Normand called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. with a moment of silence followed by a salute to the flag of the United States of America.

Chair Normand asked the Superintendent to call the roll, results of which were as follows: PRESENT – 7 – Mr. Futrell, Ms. O’Sullivan, Mr. Green, Dr. Ackman, Ms. Normand, Ms. Palmer and President Ballantyne (7:04) ABSENT – 2 - Ms. Pitone and Mayor Curtatone

II. AWARDS AND CITATIONS

A. Celebration of Retiring Staff Members

<i>Timothy Cronin</i>	<i>Deborah Lewis</i>
<i>Jane Cummings</i>	<i>Joan McGinty</i>
<i>Donna Driscoll</i>	<i>Maria Medeiros</i>
<i>Joan Duffy</i>	<i>Richard Melillo</i>
<i>Joanne Dunn</i>	<i>Carol Murphy</i>
<i>Rosie Federico</i>	<i>Ana Nogueira</i>
<i>Barry Friedman</i>	<i>Ana Potter</i>
<i>Holly Hatch</i>	<i>Linda Russell</i>
<i>Valerie Kostandos</i>	

Ms. Normand read the year’s retirements and thanked the educators for their long service to the School district. Ms. Normand called up Principal Hatch to honor Donna Driscoll. Teacher and Math Coach for 20 years. She taught K and 7th grade. She is a trusted and valued colleague and friend. She will enjoy more time with family and friend, especially her grandchild.

Ms. Hatch then recognized Valerie Kostandos. Started her career in Somerville 12 years ago. She is a former classroom teacher for 1st and 2nd graders. She is now a reading coach and works closely with teachers throughout ESCS, particularly with fluency and the book room. She has been instrumental in moving forward goals on small reading instruction.

Ms. Deborah Lewis has been in Somerville for 15 years, education for 25+ years. Dr. Hatch first met Ms. Lewis when we arrived at ESCS as principal. Ms. Lewis was a welcoming host and tour giver. She has a strong love of teaching, books, and has moved into the technology era incorporating things like MakerSpaces. She reaches all students and gives them encouragement and attention. The students respond with devotion. She is a wonderful traveler and we wish her the best. We thank her for her years of service.

Ms. Norman invited Principal Seward to come forward to celebrate Joan McGinty. It is my honor to recognize you on your retirement. Many contributions to your students and colleagues. Always have a kind word and encouragement for your students. Incredible resource for your colleagues. You are excellent with the parents, especially of our youngest students.

Ms. Soto when came forward to recognize Carol Murphy and expressed her honor in recognizing her. Ms. Murphy has worked in education for 33 years, in several grade levels and has taught numerous subjects. She has worked at both the East Somerville Community School and the Albert F. Argenziano School. Ms. Murphy was always working on a new project to engage and empower her students. Ms. Soto thanked Ms. Murphy for her dedication and passion and

said the students of Somerville were fortunate to have had her as a teacher.

Ms. Skipper then invited Principal Hatch to come forward. She recognized Dr. Hatch for her long history and service to the district. She has an undying passion for equity and wants what's best for her kids. ESCS has been a model that we can all aspire to. My hope is that she will continue to support the district in the coming years, particular to support equity.

Ms. Normand then read the following resolution recognizing Dr. Hatch's work and commemorating her retirement.

Holly Hatch, Ed. D

- WHEREAS,*** *Dr. Holly Hatch has worked in education for forty-seven years in different capacities, including as a Teacher, Counselor, Director of Education, Assistant Principal, Principal, and*
- WHEREAS,*** *Dr. Hatch has an extensive background in education having authored eight previous publications including “Mobilizing Resources for District-wide Middle Grades Reform” Columbus, OH: National Middle School Association 1997, and “Working together to improve student achievement”, Journal of Staff Development, Spring 1997, and*
- WHEREAS,*** *Dr. Hatch has been a Somerville Public School employee since 2005 as Principal of the East Somerville Community School, the largest K-8 school in the Somerville District, which includes the only two-way English-Spanish Dual Language Program districtwide, and*
- WHEREAS,*** *Dr. Hatch successfully led the East Somerville Community School through the fire of 2007 and maintained a sense of community with her staff while the school was split into three buildings for seven years, triumphantly transitioning all her staff back to a brand new reconstructed school in 2014, and*
- WHEREAS,*** *Dr. Hatch promotes teacher and student leadership through a vibrant School Council and Instructional Leadership team, encourages parent involvement, and advocates for the whole child by investing in the physical, emotional, psychological, and intellectual health of all students, and*
- WHEREAS,*** *Dr. Hatch has maintained and improved the UNIDOS Program through incredible recruitment and creating a great sense of collaboration for all teachers, and*
- WHEREAS,*** *Dr. Hatch is a pioneer for Somerville Public Schools leading in equity work via the Reimagining Integration Diverse and Equitable Schools (RIDES) Initiative out of the Harvard Graduate School of Education for the past 3 years, and*
- WHEREAS,*** *Dr. Hatch is a Member-at-Large of the Multistate Association for Bilingual Education (MABE), always ensuring her staff is up to date on dual language instruction, and even hosting MABE at the East Somerville Community School for their 2018 Dual Language Annual Conference, and*
- WHEREAS,*** *Dr. Hatch has demonstrated throughout her tenure the highest ethical standards and work ethic in her professional performance, supporting the development and growth of countless students and staff, and earning the trust and respect of the entire community, and therefore be it*
- RESOLVED:*** *That the Somerville School Committee, publicly and proudly, expresses its deep gratitude for her leadership and vision in guiding the East Somerville Community School, and wishes her a long, happy, and healthy retirement; and be it further*
- RESOLVED:*** *That this Resolution be recorded in the minutes of tonight's meeting, and that a framed copy be presented to Dr. Hatch.*

Ms. Normand said she knew so many students in Dr. Hatch and saw her leaderships in action during a difficult period. She was an extraordinary leader. Mr. Green then spoke to say two things: Dr. Hatch was doing equity when no one knew the word for it. She moved the needle in this district. I'm not worried about you coming back. I know you have a deep and passionate love for Somerville — and are active in SomerVision. There was one SomerSupper hosted in Spanish, and that was Holly's. Ms. O'Sullivan then spoke to say she had worked with Dr. Hatch. I appreciate your work ethic and leadership.

Ms. Normand then called Mr. Rich Melillo forward. Mary spoke first saying Rich is so many things. Graduated here in 1972 — he has been a coach, attendance officer, and Director of Student Services. He has put many of the systems that help our students into place. He reaches parents and students through empathy. He is a warrior, always attending to student and parent needs. He is often the last on to leave central office at 6 or 7 p.m. He has brought the dropout rates from 4.5% to 1.2% — the lowest in the district's history. Rich truly loves Somerville and the students of SPS. We will miss him tremendously and are grateful he will continue to help the district. We are grateful to his wife Sue and are privileged to have him in the district.

Ms. Normand then read the following resolution recognizing Mr. Melillo's work and commemorating his retirement.

Richard N. Melillo Jr.

- WHEREAS,*** *Richard Melillo grew up on Craigie Street and Hall Street, attended the Somerville Public Schools, graduated from Somerville High School in 1972 as Class President, and*
- WHEREAS,*** *Mr. Melillo has been a Somerville Public Schools employee since 1985 holding several positions in the district, including Boys Basketball Coach, Attendance Officer, Assistant Principal, Director of Student Services, and*
- WHEREAS,*** *Mr. Melillo has developed strong relationships with the Middlesex District Attorney's Office, Somerville Police and Fire Departments, Somerville Health and Human Services, Somerville YMCA, Somerville Recreation Department, Somerville Mental Health, Riverside Community Health Care, Home for Little Wanderers, Somerville Youth Programs, Somerville Cares About Prevention, and*
- WHEREAS,*** *Mr. Melillo has presented to and educated other administrators in our District and across the Commonwealth on his development of a Systemic Approach to Truancy along with Bullying Prevention and Intervention, Student Attendance, 51A Trainings, 504 Accommodation Plans, Chapter 222, Emergency Preparedness, Pre-Prom Drug and Alcohol Awareness among others and,*
- WHEREAS,*** *Mr. Melillo's determination has seen incredible improvement in Somerville student attendance, drop out and graduation rates and,*
- WHEREAS,*** *Whereas Mr. Melillo continues to regularly attend meetings with Community Based Justice and continues to improve the Student Support Teams and the coordination between Student Services and our Special Education Department and,*
- WHEREAS,*** *Mr. Melillo has demonstrated throughout his tenure the highest ethical standards and work ethic in his professional performance, earning the trust and respect of*

the entire district, and supporting the learning and growth of thousands of Somerville students, therefore be it

RESOLVED: *That the Somerville School Committee, publicly and proudly, expresses its deepest gratitude for his leadership and vision in guiding our city's schools and the safety of our students, and wishes him a long, happy, and healthy retirement with his family; and be it further*

RESOLVED: *That this Resolution be recorded in the minutes of tonight's meeting, and that a framed copy be presented to Mr. Melillo.*

Ms. Normand first met Rich as a Healey School parent. He always was willing to take on more leadership and responsibilities. Rich always knew and supported all students. Rich is a Highlander through and through.

Dr. Ackman then spoke. She was born and raised in this area. When I first heard Rich speak, I knew he cared about students. I am proud of the work you do and grateful for the help you provide. Mr. Futrell spoke to thank Rich for his service to the district. Working to make the district better one student at a time. Every student has a story and context. You have led by example taking on difficult roles. You have made the city better. Ms. O'Sullivan is a math and data person. Rich's work means that about 30 more students stay in the Somerville each year thanks to Rich's work. Andre Green: Rich's work to get the dropout rate to 1.2% — is incredible. Rich has also taken on security plans in our schools. It's hard work that Rich tackles with love and care. He does the work with passion and compassion. The most important way to secure our schools is to know our students — this is 100% true.

The meeting then recessed at 7:42 p.m. The meeting came back to order at 7:57 p.m.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- April 22, 2019

These minutes were tabled.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

V. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. District Report

- ELPAC and Enroot

Superintendent Skipper invited Dr. Davila and Sarah Brune to present about the ELPAC.

Sarah Brune started us off by saying she is a parent of three students in Somerville. Ms. Brune turned it over to Laura. She has two kids — SHS junior and AFA 4th grade. Parent involvement council is a good opportunity to know about programs. She has communication with parents. Some parents are new and need support to learn about the schools. ELPAC's mission is to talk with students about Somerville Public Schools — to know about programs and improve.

Tanti then shared about the work ELPAC has done. Parent of two daughters in SPS — recent graduate and rising 8th grader. Starting in September the group met and got to know each other. They studied different district programs that affect English Learners, especially the LOOK Bill, SEI classrooms, and Unidos. We visited Argenziano, Winter Hill, and Somerville High School.

Sylvia shared some suggestions. Suggestion 1: make CORI form accessible to parents with ID or SS#. Some of these parents can't participate in field trips. Suggestion #2: Tanti then talked about clear information for parents of EL programs.

Suggestion #3 is to support opportunities for parents to meet teachers. Opportunities for parents to meet teachers

on Saturdays? Have a picnic in the park over the summer.

Suggestion #4: Bitalina Dias parent of a WHCIS 5th grader, student in English class. Improve parent teacher conference experience for EL. Hold workshops for teachers to help them understand some of the possible cultural differences for families. Interpreters need training to be more friendly and patient. Consider paraprofessional support during parent teacher conferences. Allow for more time for families who need translation.

Suggestion #5: Maura works as Family and Language Leadership Liaison for SFLC. Conduct classroom visits with ELPAC members. We hope this can happen once a year in late Fall. Visit SEI classrooms and parent English classrooms.

Teresa then got up to talk about Enroot. She gave an overview of the Enroot program and then introduced three students. Enroot currently has 58 students. We talk about important issues like race, macroaggressions, and building healthy relationships. We introduce students to employers and help them see potential careers.

She introduced the student Mathew. He talked about how the district can improve the experience of immigrant students. He recommended that the district expand afterschool options like Enroot, and for teachers to encourage more immigrant students to participate. More teacher conferences and events could focus on stopping Juuling.

Kalsang said she appreciates Enroot and hopes the district will invest in more programs. I have learned a lot from my tutors, who have helped me with English and Math. I really like my internship experience with the Little Sisters of the Poor.

Ariagny: I am very shy but Enroot has helped me overcome my fear of public speaking. We learn how to interact with people in professional settings. From Venezuela and came to the U.S. two years ago. Enroot is like a family for me.

The School Committee gave a standing ovation to the Enroot students. Dr. Davilla then asked if there were questions.

Dr. Ackman asked about what the observations were that were suggested in #5.

Mr. Green then asked about the suggestions. The School Committee explored CORI changes two years ago. If we got universal driver's license, would this fix the issue? Mary suggested that we could have the parent go just as a chaperone for their child. Lee the issue is also district liability. Dr. Curley will ask Mike Long about this idea. []

Mr. Green then asked about how we can advocate to pay parents more to support the work. Dr. Davilla: ELPACs are required by law but we can't use Title 3 money to support this work.

Superintendent Skipper: happy to hear that Enroot has made a difference Do you have suggestions for how to help students hear about Enroot earlier in their career? Mathew suggested that Enroot be part of the Afterschool and Summer Fair. Include a flyer for middle school students. Students could be ambassadors to the middle schools.

Ms. Palmer: are there barriers to students participating in Enroot? Mathew: the most common barrier is shyness or embarrassment. Afterschool programs can conflict with work or they may live far from the school.

Mr. Futrell: really appreciate this group. The point about parent teacher conferences is a good one. We have work to do on this, especially for parents who need interpretation.

Mr. Green: like Mr. Futrell said, I am really excited to hear this presentation. Our goal is not just to have an ELPAC but to have more immigrants on School Committee. Ms. Normand complimented the educators, parents, and students who were here to present tonight. We know it's a long day and finals week — and we are grateful for your time.

B. Personnel Report

- May 2019

VI. REPORT OF SUMCOMMITTEES

A. School Committee Meeting for Rules Management: April 1, 2019 (Ms. Palmer)

Rules 4/01/19 Subcommittee Report

Called to order 6:04pm

Attendees: Lee Palmer, Laura Pitone, Dan Futrell, Mike Long, Jeff Curley

Agenda

Review of policies

1) JCA – Controlled Choice Policy

Mr. Long provided highlighted suggestions for areas of the policy that he would recommend we revisit. He did not provide specific redlining but said he would do so before the next meeting. It was suggested that Regina Bertholdo also review the policy to confirm current practice/compliance.

Agreed that current policy needs updating but should be done in the broader context of the equity work, i.e. Possible controlled choice proposal to balance school enrollment in light of changes to Community Eligibility Provision and definition of "Economically Disadvantaged".

2) Online Fundraising – File FBEBD

Mary Skipper has reviewed the language for GBEBD and administration suggested some minor revisions. Subcommittee made a few additional changes and were ready to vote this out last fall but were waiting legal question of what gifts get reported out/approved at School Committee and which do not. Mr. Long said there are two statutes on accepting gifts. This is a sensitive area because of issues other districts have had with student activity accounts and recognizing contributions to student activity funds. Language needs more review by the committee.

Ms. Pitone would like a joint policy including gifts. Mr. Futrell would like to keep the policy separate. No decisions pending more direction from counsel.

3) Recess

Ed Programs looked at the proposed statute on recess minimum of 20 minutes. This work stalled after Steve Simolaris left and state legislation did not move forward.

Ms. Palmer would like to see the School Committee take action to implement longer recess. She will invite Caitlin Kelly to next Rules committee meeting to discuss next steps. Committee requested updated recess memo by Sheila Freitas-Haley. How was data collected previously? Jeff to ask Caitlin Kelly and the Wellness committee.

4) Public comment

Desire to shorten and make customary the instructions to the public regarding public comment at the start of each meeting. Jeff will schedule time with Laura Pitone to draft such a script for public Comment.

Meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

B. School Committee Meeting for Rules Management: May 13, 2019 (Ms. Palmer)

Rules 5/13/19 Subcommittee Report

Called to order 6pm

Attendees: Lee Palmer, Laura Pitone, Dan Futrell, Jeff Curley, Caitlin Kelly

Agenda
Review of policies

1) Recess

Caitlin Kelley joined the committee to discuss recess – confirmed that her understanding is that recess is no longer being used across the district as a reward or punishment (at least according to the Wellness Champions' reports), and she agrees that the amount of time allocated to recess varies across the schools for different reasons. Some discussion of the wellness policy procedures, including the weather childcare guide and whether it is consistently used by principals to decide if there will be outdoor recess or not due to weather conditions. There was also some confusion over whether recess as a policy appears as a standalone policy, or elsewhere in our policies besides in the Wellness Policy itself. (Need to make our policies more searchable!)

Mr. Futrell confused why we were discussing this in Rules and Ms. Palmer clarified that it is her desire to see School Committee implement policy that ensure longer recess for all students to ensure schools are in compliance with the 20 min minimum the pending MA state statute would require. And this work would be a continuation of the discussions on Recess that recently occurred in Ed programs. Question remained (with no clear next steps): what would it take to ensure longer recess for our students?

Note, relevant excerpt from Ed Programs minutes 12/4/18:

Asst. Supt Abeyta reported that principals thought it would not be possible at grades 6-8 to add in a 20-minute recess block (in addition to the 30-minute lunch/recess block). The subcommittee requested that the district administration conduct a feasibility study regarding options to add recess at grades 6-8 to the daily schedule. There was some discussion about whether the recommendations laid out in the memo dated Nov. 3, 2017 should be written into policy, or included in the Student/Staff Handbook, without a recommendation either way at this point.

2) Public comment – file BEDH

Dr. Curley and Ms. Pitone proposed changes to the public comment policy and committee voted unanimously to approve.

3) JCA – Controlled Choice Policy

Attorney Long finally provided some redlined language to bring our current policy into compliance but did so only an hour before the meeting, so no one had had a chance to review. Tabled.

4) Online Fundraising – File FBEBD

Still waiting on counsel to respond to our question of whether School Committee would be required to approve amounts raised via online fundraisers. Tabled.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

MOTION: Motion by Ms. Palmer, seconded by Dr. Ackman, to accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Rules Management of April 1, 2019 and May 13, 2019.

- C. School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities of the Whole:** April 24, 2019 (Mr. Futrell)
- D. School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities Meeting of the Whole:** May 21, 2019 (Mr. Futrell)
- E. School Committee Meeting for Education Programs and Instruction:** May 21, 2019 (Ms. O'Sullivan).

All other subcommittee reports were tabled.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Superintendent's Evaluation

Ms. Normand turned it over to Dr. Ackman to talk about the superintendent's evaluation policy. Dr. Ackman revised the DESE standards and aggregated assessments — these ratings and examples are in the packet. The Superintendent has been rated Exemplary across all four DESE standards. Superintendent Skipper leads by action and by example. I did my best to reflect my colleague's comments, verbatim as much as possible. For Standard Two, our responses were split. Proficient is a very high bar. In consultation with colleagues and based on last year's evaluation, I made the decision to rate Superintendent Skipper as Exemplary for Standard 2.

Ms. Normand: my intent is to standardize this process in the Fall.

Mr. Green: I am thrilled with the evaluation and move to approve.

MOTION: Motion by Mr. Green, seconded by Ms. O'Sullivan to approve the Superintendent's evaluation.

Ms. Palmer: it was a pleasure to do this evaluation. I thank Dr. Ackman for her work on this. Our Superintendent is a state and national leader — and doing exemplary work across all standard. You always credit your staff for their hard work and share praise. The superintendent highlights all of the great work of the staff. Dr. Ackman: professional culture was exemplary across the board. Ms. Normand: one of the best changes you've made is move from single departments to collaborative cabinets. It's been leadership by example. You challenge and coach people to do effective work. We are seeing a large number of internal candidates growing and moving up — and this boosts retention and diversity. Mr. Green: I want to bring attention to Standard 1 Instructional Leadership. There has been consistent growth and movement in this area, despite everything going on in our state and nation. Ms. Normand: we do celebrate us

All approve the motion accepting the Superintendent's evaluation. Ms. Skipper then thanked the School Committee for their support. This is an informed group that is part of a team. We have a team and trust. We know the time and effort you put into this work.

B. Somerville Public Schools Policy Manual

The following policy was presented for a first reading:

- File BEDH: Public Comment

Ms. Palmer: a few years back, we created a public comment policy to hear more from constituents. We wanted to have a clear script for the chair to read at meetings, so we have a consistent process. Need to change number 7 to number 6.

MOTION: Motion by Ms. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Green, to approve File BEDH: Public Comment. The motion was approved via voice vote.

Dr. Ackman: did the Rules Committee explore whether nonresidents should be included?

Ms. Palmer: we deliberated on this and the Rules Committee unanimously agreed not to change this at this time.

C. Field Trips (Recommended action: approval)

September 17, 2019 – September 20, 2019

Grade 5 Students from the Brown School will visit Nature's Classroom. Transportation via bus. Student cost is \$150 - \$200.

August 19, 2019 – August 22, 2019

The Somerville High School Cheerleaders will visit the Crown Plaza in Providence, RI for Cheer Camp. Transportation via bus. Student cost is \$100.

MOTION: Motion by Ms. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Futrell, to approve these field trips.

D. FY19 SCALE/ADP Diploma Request (Recommended action: approval)

Ebil Samuel Amaya

Roslindale, MA

Wendy C. Cortez

East Boston, MA

Celia Mary Jessiman

Newton, MA

Yvemaël Pierre Louis	Somerville, MA
Samantha Rego	Lawrence, MA
Marcos Antonio Pereira Souza	East Boston, MA
Morena X. Ulloa	Somerville, MA

MOTION: Motion by Dr. Ackman, seconded by Mr. Futrell, to approve these ADP Diploma requests. Many congratulations to all the students.

VIII. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Green

Would like the School Committee to endorse Rep. Barber's driver's license bill.

IX. CONDOLENCES

The Somerville School Committee extends its deepest condolences to the families of ***Vaughan Castellanos Barton*** – Retired Somerville Public Schools Teacher and ***Georgia "Ina" Bambury***, Mother of Alison Bell and grandmother of Amanda Bell Payette, both are teachers at the WHCIS.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned via voice vote at 8:59 p.m.

Related documents:

Agenda
ELPAC/Enroot Handouts
Superintendent's Evaluation
File BEDH: Public Comment

Submitted by: K. Santiago

**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
REGULAR MEETING – JUNE 10, 2019 – 7:00 P.M.**

Somerville Public Schools - School Committee Vision Statement/Goals

We believe in developing the whole child - the intellectual, social, emotional, and physical potential of all students - by providing students with the skills, opportunities, and resources that will nurture innovative ideas, foster pride in diversity, inspire students to become lifelong learners and empower them to enrich their communities.

- Goal #1: Increase achievement and access for all students. Reduce all performance gaps by half.
- Goal #2: Develop and implement a comprehensive PreK-12 social-emotional learning framework that provides students with the skills they need for social and academic success.
- Goal #3: Increase engagement with the community to reflect the community in which we live.
- Goal #4: Continue to develop and implement innovative ways of measuring student academic performance and school quality such as formative assessment, performance-based tasks, and whole quality indicators.
- Goal #5: Develop a comprehensive plan for Universal Kindergarten Readiness that supports intellectual, physical, and social/emotional growth from birth to Pre-K.
- Goal #6: Develop and implement a strategy to recruit, develop, and retain a diverse and talented staff.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

I. CALL TO ORDER

Call to order with a moment of silence and a salute to the flag of the United States of America.

II. AWARDS AND CITATIONS

A. Celebration of Retiring Staff Members

<i>Timothy Cronin</i>	<i>Jane Cummings</i>
<i>Donna Driscoll</i>	<i>Joan Duffy</i>
<i>Joanne Dunn</i>	<i>Rosie Federico</i>
<i>Barry Friedman</i>	<i>Holly Hatch Valerie</i>
<i>Kostandos</i>	<i>Deborah Lewis</i>
<i>Joan McGinty</i>	<i>Maria Medeiros</i>
<i>Richard Melillo</i>	<i>Carol Murphy</i>
<i>Ana Nogueira</i>	<i>Ana Potter</i>
<i>Linda Russell</i>	

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- April 22, 2019

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

V. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

A. District Report

- ELPAC and Enroot

A. Personnel Report

- May 2019

VI. REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEES

A. School Committee Meeting for Rules Management: April 1, 2019 (Ms. Palmer)

MOTION: To accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Rules Management of April 1, 2019.

B. School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities Meeting of the Whole: April 24, 2019 (Mr. Futrell)

MOTION: To accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities Meeting of the Whole of April 24, 2019

C. School Committee Meeting for Rules Management: May 13, 2019 (Ms. Palmer)

MOTION: To accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Rules Management of May 13, 2019.

D. School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities Meeting of the Whole: May 21, 2019 (Mr. Futrell)

MOTION: To accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities Committee of the Whole of May 21, 2019

E. School Committee Meeting for Education Programs and Instruction: May 21, 2019 (Ms. O'Sullivan)

MOTION: To accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Education Programs and Instruction of the Whole of May 21, 2019.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Superintendent's Evaluation

B. Somerville Public Schools Policy Manual

The following policy is being presented this evening for first reading, as amended:

- File BEDH: Public Comment

C. Field Trips (Recommended action: approval)

September 17, 2019 – September 20, 2019 Grade 5 Students from the Brown School will visit Nature's Classroom. Transportation via bus. Student cost is \$150 - \$200.

August 19, 2019 – August 22, 2019 The Somerville High School Cheerleaders will visit the Crowne Plaza in Providence, RI for Cheer Camp. Transportation via bus. Student cost is \$100.

D. FY19 SCALE/ADP Diploma Request (Recommended action: approval)

Ebil Samuel Amaya	Roslindale, MA
Wendy C. Cortez	East Boston, MA
Celia Mary Jessiman	Newton, MA
Yvemaël Pierre Louis	Somerville, MA
Samantha Rego	Lawrence, MA
Marcos Antonio Pereira Souza	East Boston, MA
Morena X. Ulloa	Somerville, MA

VIII. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

IX. CONDOLENCES

X. ADJOURNMENT

English Learner Parent Advisory Council
Presentation to School Committee
June 10, 2019
7 PM

LOOK Bill Summary

Signed into law in November 2017. Somerville was already doing some of these things; the bill applies to the whole state. These are a few of the most relevant provisions of the law:

- Provides flexibility in language acquisition programming and oversight so districts can best meet their English learners' needs and makes sure teachers have licenses to match what they are teaching.
 - Allows districts to have English Learner programs included Sheltered English Immersion or other alternative programs that meet state and federal requirements, including Two-Way Immersion, and transitional bilingual education.
- Establishes mechanisms for more input from families, including parent choice about English learner programs and the English Learner Parent Advisory Council (see below).
- Establishes a State Seal of Biliteracy which districts can award to students who have high levels of proficiency in English and another language.

English Learner Parent Advisory Council (EL PAC) Summary

Adapted from Massachusetts Language Opportunity Coalition LOOK Bill Summary

- English Learner Parent Advisory Councils are required for districts with 100+ or 5%+ ELs (or whichever is fewer).
- The PAC will advise the district, participate in planning and development of programs to increase EL opportunities, and participate in review on school improvement plans.
- Parents/guardians of students who are or have been identified as English Learners will be a part of the PAC, and these parents will ideally represent the most common language groups in the community.
- PACs are supported by the director of language acquisition programs or a similar position appointed by the superintendent.
- The PAC has the right to meet at least annually with the school committee, school council, or charter school board.

PUBLIC COMMENT AT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

All regular and special meetings of the School Committee shall be open to the public. Executive sessions will be held only as prescribed by the statutes of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Somerville School Committee desires residents of the district to attend its meetings so that they may better understand the operations and the programs of our local public schools. In addition, the School Committee would like the opportunity to hear the wishes and ideas of the public.

In order that all residents who wish to be heard before the School Committee have a chance and to ensure the ability of the School Committee to conduct the district's business in an orderly manner, rules and procedures have been adopted.

At the start of each regularly scheduled School Committee meeting, individuals or group representatives will be invited to address the School Committee. The length of the public comment will ordinarily be 20 minutes, unless otherwise determined by the Chair or a majority of School Committee. At the start of public comment, the Chair shall read the following script:

1. Welcome and thank you to those who have signed up for public comment.
2. Speakers will be allowed three (3) minutes to present their material. However, the Chair may limit comments to two (2) minutes based on the number of individuals signed up to speak.
3. Remarks should be respectful, professional, and addressed through the Chair. If a speaker persists in improper remarks, the Chair may terminate that individual's right to continue.
4. Public comment is not a discussion, debate, or dialogue between residents and the Committee. Members of the Committee will not reply to public comment in the course of the meeting, though individual members may follow-up, and items from Public Comment may be taken up in future meetings.
5. The School Committee will not hear personal complaints of school personnel nor against any member of the school community in public session. Individuals may address topics on the agenda or items within the School Committee's scope of responsibility such as the district budget, goals, and policies, or role of the Superintendent.
7. The public is encouraged to submit comments in writing for inclusion in the public record.

Public comment shall not take place at subcommittee meetings or at public retreats of the School Committee, where no matter being discussed may be finally considered, in that no votes may be taken. Written comments will be accepted and made part of the record of the meeting. The opportunity for the public to make oral comments on items discussed at committee meetings or at public retreats shall be at the regular or special meetings at which the item is being considered for action by the School Committee.

Procedures will be periodically established and reviewed by the School Committee.

Adopted:

Revised: May 2019

LEADERSHIP IS NOT A POSITION OR A TITLE, IT IS AN ACTION AND EXAMPLE

**Somerville Public Schools
2019 Evaluation of the Superintendent of Schools**

Unsatisfactory = Performance on a standard or overall has not significantly improved following a rating of *Needs Improvement*, or performance is consistently below the requirements of a standard or overall and is considered inadequate, or both.

Needs Improvement/Developing = Performance on a standard or overall is below the requirements of a standard or overall but is not considered to be Unsatisfactory at the time. Improvement is necessary and expected.

Proficient = **Proficient practice is understood to be fully satisfactory. This is the rigorous expected level of performance.**

Exemplary = A rating of *Exemplary* indicates that practice significantly exceeds *Proficient* and could serve as a model of practice regionally or statewide.

Unsatisfactory	Needs Improvement	Proficient	Exemplary
<p>Standard I: Instructional Leadership. The education leader promotes the learning and growth of all students and the success of all staff by cultivating a shared vision that makes powerful teaching and learning the central focus of schooling.</p> <p>Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Superintendent Skipper effectively fosters and leads a collaborative culture focused on teaching and learning for all students. She actively seeks input from all staff and engages all staff in cultivating a shared vision, across programs and schools. Administrators and other staff are knowledgeable of this vision and it clearly informs and directs their work.</i> <p>Examples/Evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Expanding ECIP program for 3 year olds</i> <i>Expanded out of school services at the result of a task force</i> <i>Increasing professional development as well as ILT focus on equity and inclusion</i> <i>New initiatives in Math Education</i> <i>Staff from various functions of SPS review individual student files to develop a shared understanding and strategy to address student needs</i> <i>Presentation about competency-based assessments</i> <i>Increased investment in programs promoting school readiness birth to K</i> 			X
<p>Standard II: Management and Operations. Promotes the learning and growth of all students and the success of all staff by ensuring a safe, efficient, and effective learning environment, using resources to implement appropriate curriculum, staffing, and scheduling.</p> <p>Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Superintendent Skipper is prudent. She is intentional about initiating pilots on a small scale to evaluate and adjust programming before scaling up, using resources (time and money) more effectively at each stage.</i> <i>Superintendent Skipper is making great strides in equity work for the district. We look forward to supporting her efforts to grow, hire, and train staff with a focus on equity and access.</i> <i>Outstanding management of student transition period during high school construction.</i> <i>Given the hectic pace of the spring, the detail on the FY 19 budget is a particular management highlight of which the superintendent ought be proud.</i> <p>Examples/Evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Superintendent Skipper established clarity in budget timeline with School Committee with intentional time for deliberation and increased time for community review of proposed budget with new calendar.</i> <i>Superintendent Skipper made strategic use of grant dollars to better support mental health needs of students - including trauma informed PD and wellness mini grants to better support students.</i> 			X

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The district thoughtfully launched pilot in response to students and families' requests to begin recycling and composting in the schools.</i> • <i>Worked with SHS leadership to plan, partner and contract for facilities to house PE and several CTE programs while current building is under construction, as well as collaborated with DESE to review and approve placements.</i> • <i>Consistent communication with budget development documents, high school construction updates, and Human Capital Strategy, as well as the report on the Kennedy School pool.</i> 				
<p>Standard III: Family and Community Engagement. Promotes the learning and growth of all students and the success of all staff through effective partnerships with families, community organizations, and other stakeholders that support the mission of the school and district.</p> <p>Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>As a district we made a number of controversial decisions this year. Even in the face of decisions not everyone liked, the fundamental faith in the district held thanks to the leadership of Superintendent Skipper.</i> • <i>Strategic planning efforts by SFLC included how to scale connection between schools and families.</i> • <i>Superintendent Skipper is incredibly accessible to students, parents, community members and other stakeholders. During the budget process, she actively sought community input and worked to respond to each request, with at least information if not a financial response.</i> <p>Examples/Evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Comments on the Powderhouse studios proposal</i> • <i>SFLC Presentation and strategic review documents</i> • <i>Connections newsletters</i> • <i>Sanctuary City/Schools monthly meetings</i> • <i>ELL parent English and leadership classes</i> • <i>Memos with budget requests from PTAs</i> 				X
<p>Standard IV: Professional Culture. Promotes success for all students by nurturing and sustaining a school culture of reflective practice, high expectations, and continuous learning for staff.</p> <p>Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>We can trust Superintendent Skipper to say what she means, and mean what she says. That is a fabulous gift to have in a district leader and partner with the School Committee.</i> • <i>Superintendent Skipper creates an environment where reflective practice, high expectations and continuous learning are expected and supported. She is strategic, and careful about her priorities – both pushing and supporting her staff to improve their practice and expand skills to better serve all students.</i> <p>Examples/Evidence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Superintendent Skipper works with her staff to achieve a workforce of “highly qualified, diverse, satisfied, energized educators who work with our students every day.” That quote from the Human Capital Strategy report says it all.</i> • <i>Teacher led professional development provides teachers the opportunity to take on leadership roles while providing timely professional development in the district.</i> • <i>Superintendent Skipper is always first to compliment her staff, never takes credit for accomplishments as an individual but is instead always thanking and acknowledging her team and underscoring and highlighting their work and contributions.</i> 				X