

**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Monday, December 16, 2019 – Regular Meeting

7:00 p.m. – City Council Chambers – City Hall

Members present: Ms. Krepchin, Dr. Ackman, Ms. O’Sullivan, Ms. Normand, Mr. Green, Ms. Pitone, President Ballantyne and Ms. Palmer.

Members absent: Mayor Curtatone.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Normand called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. with a moment of silence dedicated to Leo DeSimone, Associate Principal and Director of Career and Technical Education at Somerville High School, who passed away on November 27, 2019. Mr. DeSimone was an invaluable leader of our community and will be truly missed. The Somerville School Committee and the Somerville Public School District extend their deepest condolences to the family and loved ones of Leo DeSimone.

The moment of silence was 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 – 8 – Ms. Krepchin, Ms. Palmer, Ms. Pitone, Ms. O’Sullivan, Mr. Green, Dr. Ackman, Ms. Normand and President Ballantyne
ABSENT – 1 - Mayor Curtatone.

Chair Normand welcomed the guest present including the Duhamel Education initiative members and grant recipients, those present to celebrate outgoing School Committee members and the educators and community members in support of the Somerville Public School’s Paraprofessionals.

On behalf of the Somerville School Committee Chair Normand took this time to acknowledge the important work of paraprofessionals and to share with the public a brief summation of recent events.

The negotiating teams have met seven times between May and August of 2019 before arriving at a tentative agreement on a number of issues. The School Committee stated purpose, before the Memorandum of Agreement was rejected by the STA on October 16th, was to increase compensation for paraprofessionals by expanding the types of work to be done, extending the duration of the work year and work day and to modify the professional development program to more fully integrate the duties and functions of paraprofessionals with teachers to benefit students. Although the Memorandum of Agreement was rejected by the STA, the School Committee continues to believe increasing compensation and recognizing the importance of professional development are cornerstones of the package of employment terms, which recognize the valuable role paraprofessionals play to the benefit of students. We continue to be committed to coming forth with a sound agreement.

II. AWARDS AND CITATIONS

A. Recognition of Service for Outgoing School Committee Members

Paula O’Sullivan

At this time Chair Normand invited Ms. Pitone to join the podium to read and present Ms. O’Sullivan with a framed Resolution and to share some comments.

Paula O’Sullivan - School Committee, Ward 6

- WHEREAS,*** *Paula O’Sullivan has been a member of the Somerville School Committee since 2017, and*
- WHEREAS,*** *Ms. O’Sullivan has served as Chair of the Education Programs and Instruction Subcommittee for two years, and as Chair Ms. O’Sullivan led efforts to update the district homework policy to better reflect evidence-based research and balance the varied perspectives of parents, guardians and educators, and*
- WHEREAS,*** *Ms. O’Sullivan contributed to the efforts of the School Committee with her thoughtful, analytical approach and her experience as an educator, parent, and active community member, and*

- WHEREAS** *During her tenure on the School Committee, Ms. O'Sullivan has generously shared her extensive professional knowledge of both state public education policy and mathematics instruction in particular, and*
- WHEREAS** *During Ms. O'Sullivan's three years of service to the School Committee, her major area of focus has been on strengthening instruction for all students with keen attention to best practices and equitable access to resources, and therefore be it*
- RESOLVED:** *That the Somerville School Committee publicly acknowledge the efforts of Ms. O'Sullivan, and wish her continued success in her efforts to improve public education in Massachusetts, and be it further*
- RESOLVED:** *That this well-earned Resolution be included in the minutes of tonight's meeting, and that a framed copy be presented to Ms. O'Sullivan.*

Ms. Pitone shared that she's known Ms. O'Sullivan for about 13/14 years and feels very fortunate to have known her all this time. She was very excited when Ms. O'Sullivan decided to bring her expertise to the School Committee. Ms. O'Sullivan has experienced being a teacher, she works in the Arlington Public Schools right now as a math coach. Not only her professional experience but also her attention to detail and her analytical approach has been a huge asset to the work of the School Committee.

Dr. Ackman thanked Ms. O'Sullivan for her perspective and her thoughtfulness, and stated that she is going to miss having someone who currently works in a school on the School Committee.

Mr. Green echoed the sentiment and shared that he is a better School Committee member for having had Ms. O'Sullivan to bounce ideas off of and ground his thinking in the experience of the daily classroom.

President Ballantyne added that last Thursday night was the regular City Council meeting where they had the honor of giving Ms. O'Sullivan a citation. She added that she learned a tremendous amount from Ms. O'Sullivan and thinks it's invaluable to have a teacher on the School Committee. She echoed what Ms. Pitone said about Ms. O'Sullivan's approach of being so thorough and thoughtful and analytical. Thank you for all you have done for our city and our kids.

Ms. Palmer shared that last winter this body unanimously passed a new Homework Policy, and subsequently there were a number of questions raised about how we got to the point that we did. It speaks very highly to Ms. O'Sullivan, both the energy and effort that she put into all of those deliberations, but also the documentation that she then did to work backwards so that we could see as a body all of the meetings that had occurred and who were at those meetings, to then compare the different iterations of that policy, is something we don't always do very well as a body to be able to carry forward our work, so that new members can see that. Ms. O'Sullivan clearly put a lot of time and effort into this work and it was very appreciated. This is just one example of her contributions.

Superintendence Skipper loved having Ms. O'Sullivan on the committee. She appreciated how deep they could go into the data and how she pushed on all the appropriate places and always kept students at the center of her questions. She stated that It was an honor to serve along her and she is a better superintendent for it.

Chair Normand concluded by saying that it was great to have someone as thoughtful and as well versed on what things look like in the classroom, and not to just bring the parent perspective but also the educator perspective was really important and we are deeply grateful for Ms. O'Sullivan's wisdom, patience and humor.

Ms. O'Sullivan then read a few words.

I'm truly grateful and honored to have been part of this important work with you all and thankful to those who encouraged me to run, and to my constituents in Ward six for entrusting me with this duty. Despite my many years working in public education I never really fully appreciated the many hours, the late nights, the meetings, the important discussions and decisions that were made in this body, until I was here myself. I've always approached this work and I believe we're all driven by what's best for kids, to paraphrase educator John Dewey, "what the best and wisest parent wants for his or her child, that we must all want for all children of the community." And I believe we've all been informed by that. This work is complex and complicated, kids and learning are complex and complicated, and with a finite amount of time and resources we can't add to the school day without taking something away, we can't keep adding. It's always a balance, we always have to think through the budget as a give and take process, and I appreciate the balance with which we've approached this work while never losing sight of equity and excellence for all students. There are lots of buzzwords in education like a focus on equity and whole child development, what's exciting

here is that they're actually happening. I want to thank you all for your continued late nights, the back to back meetings, your office hours, the many emails and for continuing to serve our schools and our students. I'm confident in our school's future and I'm excited about what's to come. Thank you all.

Lee Erica Palmer

Mr. Green then joined the podium and shared some remarks about Ms. Palmer and then read and presented her with a framed Resolution as well.

One thing everyone who's ever interacted with Lee Palmer knows is that she is here to get things done. Mr. Green shared the immense pleasure it's been to be her colleague in this work the last four years. While they may have very different styles, for four years, she has been a relentless, determined and energetic partner, working for equity and working for the difference of marginalized community relations and a partner who seeks of every person in Somerville to do the most and the best they can for all of our students. She has been the person whose advice he's asked for when he didn't know how to keep the ball moving forward, and to that, she has been a constant force of nature. Thank you for your sound legal mind and always questioning and pushing for us to do what is right for the children and the students of Somerville.

Lee Erica Palmer - School Committee, Ward 3

- WHEREAS,*** *Lee Erica Palmer has been a member of the Somerville School Committee since 2016, and*
- WHEREAS,*** *Ms. Palmer's service has included serving as Chair of the Rules Management Subcommittee for two years as well as serving on the Educational Programs and Instruction Subcommittee, and*
- WHEREAS,*** *During Ms. Palmer's four years of service to the School Committee, she served as the Committee's Representative on the Wellness Task Force, where she played a key role in the development of a new, comprehensive, wellness policy for the district, and*
- WHEREAS*** *During her tenure on the School Committee, Ms. Palmer's efforts also contributed to the development of policies establishing public comment, supporting diversity in hiring, providing menstrual products in middle and high school bathrooms, and supporting budget initiatives improving resources for mental health and the holistic well-being of students, and therefore be it*
- RESOLVED:*** *That the Somerville School Committee publicly acknowledge the efforts of Lee Erica Palmer, and wish her continued success in her role as a Staff Attorney at Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services, and be it further*
- RESOLVED:*** *That this well-earned Resolution be included in the minutes of tonight's meeting, and that a framed copy be presented to Ms. Palmer.*

Ms. Palmer then shared a statement she prepared.

Good evening. Thank you for this recognition, it has been both an honor and a privilege to have served Ward 3 in this capacity, and to have had the opportunity to work with all of you on behalf of our schools.

In many ways it feels hard to leave now- there is a significant learning curve on the job - so much to know about the district, it's players, and things are constantly & rapidly changing.

And after 4 years - 5 if you count my time as a candidate - I feel like I'm only now beginning to get a sense of what is possible.

We just redefined our School Committee goals and they are spot on. I couldn't be more excited to see those goals realized in the coming years.

You have much exciting and challenging work ahead, and it's hard to think I won't be a direct part of it.

But for personal reasons, I know this is the right decision, though knowing it's necessary hasn't made it easier.

But if I could emphasize to you tonight one value that I don't think we've tended to sufficiently it would be "transparency"; as we all know, information is power.

If we on School Committee are to truly be the oversight for the district, setting and leading initiatives, and holding our systems accountable, we need to both demand - and offer - a much greater level of transparency.

While in many ways it's hard to imagine a universe where we as a Committee could possibly get ahead of our current Superintendent, who moves at lightning speed on behalf of students - I would love to see our School Committee continue to grow into its political role as district leadership and *actually take the lead* to shape the Somerville Public Schools moving forward.

Practically, this would mean:

- Actively bringing in families who aren't already involved - actually doing the deeper engagement work we talk about wanting to do (at a minimum, drastically expanding the pool of families who know what School Committee is, the role we play in the district, and how to access/influence/ & ideally join us)
- Not being afraid to publicly debate contentious topics and make hard decisions not everyone will like (including taking votes that are not always unanimous)
- Finding ways to acknowledge our mistakes and express what we want to see differently without fear that public criticism will devastate us - our system and our staff are not as fragile as we think; and
- Prioritizing information management and dissemination

On this last point, so many times my own frustrations with our district, and my role on this Committee, came from a simple lack of sufficient context or basic information. I recognize that investing in transparency isn't cost neutral and where we lack capacity this would require significant shifting of resources at the very moment we are needing to invest in equity outcomes for our students.

But I urge you as a Committee to have a deep and honest conversation on this as you move forward with our equity agenda. I believe that without establishing the level of trust that greater transparency would engender, we will not achieve the equity goals we seek as a district.

I know it's easy to say these things and leave you with the real work ahead. But if I've learned anything working with all of you, it's that you believe deeply in this work, you listen, and you are open to change for the better. You've demonstrated this by all the progress we've already made together, and I look forward to bearing witness to all that will come.

Again, it has been an honor to have served with you here, on behalf of Ward 3. I appreciate all that you do on behalf of our students, families, staff and schools. Thank you.

Chair Normand then opened the floor to members for comment.

Dr. Ackman thanked Ms. Palmer for pushing this committee and for her passion. Much like we are losing someone with the educator perspective we are also losing a great legal mind who's advised this committee in ways the rest can't. Your passion, your thoughtfulness and your skill set will be missed.

President Ballantyne shared that they also had the opportunity to honor Ms. Palmer and her commitment to the Somerville children, schools and community, last Thursday at the last regular City Council meeting of the year. She thanked Ms. Palmer for those last words, and said those are things that they're always working on and debating and are very vocal about on the City Council. She thanked her for her social justice lens and for challenging everything in the status quo and the systems and trying to make Somerville better.

Superintendent Skipper commented that when she and Ms. Palmer had conversations families were always at the forefront and that helped to always make sure that there was a place at the table for the families. She loves Ms. Palmer's passion and drive and she has appreciated her support during her time as Superintendent.

Ms. O'Sullivan echoed what her colleagues said about Ms. Palmer's passion for the work and her advocacy for all families and added that she especially admires Ms. Palmer's perseverance.

Ms. Pitone shared that Ms. Palmer came in to the School Committee with a very unique angle, particularly on the wellness front, which is super important in terms of the quality of food, access to food and recess. Ms. Palmer has shown a lot of empathy around students and families who have social emotional challenges. Having that empathy has

been a real asset to our community and the work that we do. She commended her for her work as chair of the Rules Management Subcommittee and thanked her for her attention to detail. She confidently said that this will not be the last we hear from Ms. Palmer and she looks forward to continuing to collaborate with her.

Chair Normand echoed everyone's comments about Ms. Palmer's persistence, her legal mind and her organization and drive as chair of the Rules Subcommittee.

III. REPORT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Student Representative Nathalya Salmeron was present and reported on the following topics:

- The student body has participated in multiple events in the past couple of weeks, such as the Music Department Assembly and the Tree Lighting Ceremony outside of City Hall.
- There was a Student Council meeting last week to discuss the pep rally and how the student council played a part in setting up the games as well as helping out. The pep rally was held in the auditorium to celebrate the seniors, and it was very successful.
- Last but not least we have the holiday assembly this Friday, which will lead us into winter break.

Chair Normand thanked Miss Salmeron for her report.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- October 21, 2019

MOTION: Motion by Mr. Green, seconded by Ms. Palmer, to approve the School Committee Regular meeting minutes of October 21, 2019.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Normand read the guidelines of public comment and invited those who signed up, to comment.

At the beginning of public comment, the chair will verbally confirm the list before welcoming the first speaker to the podium. People are encouraged, they're not required to give contact information as this will assist with follow up if necessary. Speakers are allotted three minutes to speak, although depending on the number of speakers, the chair may reduce those to two minutes. Public comment is not a discussion, debate or dialogue between citizens and the committee, it is a resident's opportunity to express his or her opinion on issues of school committee business. Public comment is intended for the school committee to receive input from the public and not as a method to receive specific requests, which should be channeled through school and district leadership or individually to a school committee member, to this end members of the committee will not reply to public comment in the course of a meeting, though individual members may follow up and items from public comment may be taken up in future meetings. The committee and or administrators will not be prepared to directly respond to questions posed in this forum. Public comment is a matter of public record, speakers should be aware that all meetings of the School Committee are filmed live on public access and are recorded for future viewing. Public comments will also be made part of the minutes of the meeting, and submission of a written copy of your comments is encouraged. Comments without a written submission will also be summarized in the official minutes.

Liam Easton Calabria – 25 Knapp Street

I'm an emergency room technician, a member of Socialist Alternative, and a resident of Somerville. Paraprofessionals in Somerville Public Schools aren't making nearly enough, to live a starting salary of \$20,000 a year makes for a very harsh life here in the Boston area. In fact, the Somerville Public School district pays Paras what works out to be around \$10/hour. The housing crisis in this city makes paying rent difficult for people making much more than \$20,000 a year, and many paraprofessionals are also burdened by the cost of driving and public transport, with many having longer and longer commutes from further out of the city where rent is more affordable. Paraprofessional support teachers so that every student can receive the adequate attention and education they need to develop properly. It is so important that we help the paraprofessionals and their union struggle for a better contract. They want a higher salary starting at \$25,000 a year, and they want greater job security. They're demanding to be able to secure a position for themselves in the district after working for four years, instead of an absurd 15-year proposal made by the school district during recent contract negotiations. These are all things that they deserve, but it will take a fight to win. To do that we need to get organized and mobilize community members, parents, other union members and workers across the city. There's a family and community meeting this Thursday at the Center for the Arts at the armory at

7pm, where we will discuss what it will take to win this union contract. I strongly urge everyone here to attend. Additionally, we must fight to fully fund our public school system. We live in a city with some of the most profitable industries and institutions in the world. Boston is home to the top universities in the country which have billions of dollars to their name and continue to receive millions of dollars in donations by philanthropists yet are not required to pay a cent of property taxes in Massachusetts. In fact, half of real estate in Boston is either owned by the government or by tax exempt nonprofits, severely limiting the tax funding that is desperately needed in this region. Harvard has an endowment of over \$40 billion, and if not for its nonprofit status would owe Massachusetts an estimated \$40 million/year. We must organize for a wealth tax on the ultra-rich and institutions with billion dollar endowments to fund public education and other crucial services and create a society that works for everyone, not just the rich. Thank you.

Bruce Castonguay- 175 Summer Street

I work as an investment analyst in downtown Boston. I do appreciate that my voice is allowed to be heard tonight but I don't have children currently, and I don't work with them either, so I'm curious why staff of Somerville Schools aren't allowed to speak tonight. I think it would be important to hear from every member of Somerville Public Schools in regards to this matter. My wife and I have very good jobs, relative to the median wage and the idea of buying in this town is laughable. Even finding affordable rent is a challenge for us. I was absolutely stunned to hear that paras have a starting salary of approximately \$20,000 which is not even close to a livable wage in any location, especially Somerville or the greater Boston area. I constantly hear the reason things are this way is because there's no money. If you look around Somerville, the super wealthy and big businesses that continue to be the beneficiary of tax cuts are ranking in massive profits, you would think differently. We should be doing the exact opposite and taxing them higher to fund our Paraprofessional salaries, in addition to things like transit systems, MBTA and affordable housing for all. I unfortunately also heard that the district started with 15 years as the minimum for job permanency, we don't need to add any additional stressors to our para educator's lives, four years should be the max with regards to job security.

Kinga Borondy- 14 Landers Street

I am a paraprofessional at the Argenziano School. I started as a parent then a volunteer and now I work there. My daughter is a proud graduate of the Somerville school system. We just came off of our eighth meeting negotiating session, we're asking for a starting salary for the first step to be \$25,000. We're disheartened by the committee's response. I know it seems like a big adjustment but we've been paid so poorly for the past 15-20 years that getting up to any kind of reasonable salary will take a big jump. When I got my first full time daily reporting job in 1987 I was thrilled because I was making \$500 a week. I make less than that now, and it's 30 years later. It's really not conscionable to expect people to get up out of bed and to deal with one of the most stressful and demanding professions that we have, taking care of our children and our future. When I started with my take home pay I noticed that 9% of my salary went to fund my retirement benefit in private industry, it takes three to five years to be invested in the pension system. Why are you offering us 15 years before we're vested in the system? We're paying for retirement already, 9% of our \$20,000 salary goes to paying for retirement. And the question you have to ask is, aren't your children, the children of Somerville worth \$25,000 a year? It's a shame that your paraprofessionals have to work two and three jobs to make ends meet.

VI. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

A. DISTRICT REPORT

• Duhamel Education Initiative Grants

Superintendent Skipper started by saying that the Duhamel Education Initiative has been a partner to the Somerville district for decades. They're mission, which is to reduce and eliminate the dropout rate, is evident in a short amount of time in how much they've been able to impact the dropout rate here in Somerville. When she first started five years ago, the dropout was in the 4% range, and it meant about 30 to 35 students every year did not stay in school, and we know that for those young people that really means that they don't have a way to be able to make a living. They don't have the skills to survive in a way that you deserve to and so we kind of came together and worked even more closely with Duhamel, where we were able to, with the grants, leverage Duhamel, and the district. She shared that our dropout rate right now is under 1%. This past year we had eight students' dropout. That has been very intentional and it's been the hard work of the staff that supported, in so many of these innovative grants, and the hard work of Duhamel and the board to really come together in a powerful way to impact our students. We can't thank them enough for their partnership.

These grants are intended to find ways to reach and engage students who otherwise might not be engaged to stay in school. She then invited Larry Siraco to come to the podium to introduce the educators in the audience who have

received these innovative grants.

Good evening, Madam Chairwoman Normand, Superintendent Skipper and the rest of the School Committee. And thank you for inviting us here tonight to present the Duhamel Mini Grant Awards. My name is Larry Siraco and I am the current President of the Duhamel Education Initiative. Several of the DEI Board Members are present tonight: June Pietrantonio, Janice Siraco and Dominic Siraco.

The Duhamel Education Initiative is named after the late Paul Duhamel, who passed away in 1996. Paul Duhamel, among other things, was a clergyman. He devoted his life to helping others, especially the less fortunate. And he was a community activist at the forefront of some of Somerville's key social organizations. Two that come to mind are Respond and the Multi Service Center. Paul Duhamel was a member of the Somerville School Committee, a strong advocate for education, he believed that children from all walks of life, not only deserved but needed a good and complete education in order to lead healthy, productive lives. And so he was a strong advocate for lowering the dropout rate. The path that the founders of DEI chose to honor his name wasn't random, they chose education and dropout prevention, specifically targeting the at risk student population to honor his name. After his untimely death, seven of his friends, Ina and Warren Bambury Alba Chitouras, June Pietrantonio and Marie and Dominic Siraco founded the Duhamel Education Initiative to honor his name. We continue this honoring today by funding teachers and school personnel for projects and programs that are designed to motivate a child with their education with the hopes that this motivation continues throughout their education and further into their lives. Money raised for the mini grants are raised mainly through two events throughout the year. However, we did have a third event this year, it was called Duhamel's End of Summer Bash, and it was held at Daddy Jones restaurant in Magoon Square. Not only did the owners of Jerry Jones open their doors to the DEI. They also donated their time, their employees time, and other resources to ensure that DEI's fundraiser was a success. This is something we are deeply appreciative of. In the fall, we have a fall annual dinner, usually late September/early October, at which the Somerville Councilman come out and show their support for DEI by cooking and serving our Dinner, this is something we are both grateful for and are honored by. And we are grateful for all of you with the Somerville School Committee because all of you have been coming out for the past many years to help us and show your support by cooking and serving our Pancake Breakfast Spring fundraiser, usually held late March/early April.

We have an ongoing fundraiser, it's new and it's called Duhamel Stars. If you log on to duhamelsomerville.org, you can purchase a Duhamel star to show your appreciation for a member of the Somerville public schools department. Log on to make a donation, the money goes straight to DEI's account. We at DEI will make a Duhamel star certificate and deliver it to the proper recipient that you want to honor.

This year we're giving out 13 mini grant awards, two will be special awards. One special award will be given in the name of Warren Bambury Jr, to honor the late son of Ina and Warren Bambury, two of DEI's founders. The other special award will be given in the name of Ina Bambury, who passed away earlier this year. Not only was she a founder, she was a dear friend to the board and we will miss her.

When the recipients are called, please come up to the podium and speak briefly about your project.

The more you read, the more you know - Leah Jaenicke (not present)

Circuit for Innovative Instructional Tools – Marisa MacDonald (not present)

Hi-Lo Books for Struggling Readers in Grade 5 – Jan Buckwalter

The project that this money will fund is to support struggling readers in fifth grade at the Winter Hill School. There is a large cohort of students who for a variety of reasons are reading well below grade level, and the books that they can actually read and understand are not of any interest to them, they're given second grade level books. There's a company that makes books called Hi-Low Readers that are high interest but low readability. So the characters in the stories are about middle school kids and their experiences, but the sentences are short and the vocabulary is controlled in a way that allows them to actually read. I'm actually working with a fifth grade teacher, Amanda Payette to plan and implement some small group instruction on a daily basis for these groups of kids so that they are successful as readers as they move forward in their careers as students and that they don't drop out. Thank you so much.

High Interest/ Low Level Books – Janice Fahey-Flynn

Amber Miller – Building, Belonging, Self-Efficacy and Persistence Among Redirect Students

I'm the new redirect counselor this year and for the last two years these students have gone to Thompson Island, which is a high intensity ropes course. And when I spoke to the students this year they said that they would really like to do it again because they got to help each other. A lot of these kids don't feel like they're part of a community, they don't feel like they belong and they're really avoidant of school. Them being able to work together and create more of this community and sense of belonging and helping others, rather than being the ones who are helped helps them not drop out.

Expeditionary Learning in the Arboretum – Helen Onthank and Lauren Harris

Our project is to take children from the two younger classes in the SEEK program, those students often don't see the connection between school and their lives and so we're trying to get them to see the relevance of school by connecting school work before a series of trips to the Arnold Arboretum in Boston so that we can relate it to social studies in science and math and literature and history, and have lessons before and after those trips so they can see that there's a purpose to school.

Strongwater Farm Therapeutic Equestrian Center - Elizabeth Doneghey (not present)

Wrongful Conviction Speaker and Workshop - Alicia Kersten (not present)

Learning Somerville Ecosystems with English Language Learners – Tara Murphy Beardsley

I'm a new SEIP teacher at the Winter Hill and I found that my students are highly engaged in interactive learning of science and I brought seeds in this year and with the garden outside and a lot of my students having experience with seeds and growing things in their home countries, they're very interested in growing things and so we are going to bring an ecosystem into the classroom and we're going to bring in genetics and higher level learning, and they're really excited to own things and to really check them every day.

Bilingual Book Buddies Project - Meghan Kimmel

The Bilingual Book Buddies Project is a project where students will be read to and discuss books with a volunteer in their first language. Volunteers who are fluent in Spanish or Portuguese will read with students in their first language and discuss books in a small group or one on one. This type of dialogic reading has been shown to garner positive results for students, particularly in the areas of comprehension and communication. We'll be launching this program in Spanish and Portuguese and hope to grow this in future years to include other languages.

Equal Access to STEM Learning and Coding - Angela Rodriguez (not present)

A Positive Transition - Holly Maloney (not present)

Flexible Seating - Amanda Payette

The project is for flexible seating, which is one of the newer pushes in education. I'm sure you've all seen and heard the big push for standing desks and people sitting on yoga balls in their offices, and it's basically the idea of bringing that into the classroom. Students learn best when they're comfortable, when they feel at home and when they can be comfortable in their space. This project can be used to fund a lot of different seating options from cushions on the floor with a low coffee table to like a little Bistro table to stools that they can sit on so that students can really just be comfortable in their space in our classroom in our community and learn the best that they can.

Thank you all for having us again. And to the recipients, congratulations and good luck with your projects.

The meeting recessed for five minutes at 8:05.

The meeting reconvened at 8:12.

Superintendent Skipper took this time to deliver her district report, before moving on to the next item listed.

Superintendent's Notes: *School Committee Meeting - Monday, December 16, 2019*

Welcome back everyone. I hope the Thanksgiving Break gave you the opportunity to rest and spend time with family and friends. We have much to be thankful for here in Somerville.

As many of you know, it has been a challenging period for our district and for our community in general. Just before the Thanksgiving break, we unexpectedly lost a wonderful colleague, mentor, leader, and friend. **Leo DeSimone** embodied the values of trustworthiness, compassion, commitment, and joyfulness that we hold dear as professionals, as colleagues, and as mentees. The impact that he had in our district and in the broader community was evident by the vast number of people who attended his services to pay their respects. We are grateful to have had the opportunity to work and laugh with Leo, and to learn from his outstanding leadership and the way he supported his students and staff. I want to extend a special appreciation to Principal LaGambina and the CTE staff at Somerville High School for their strength and leadership during an incredibly difficult time. I also want to thank the community for your support and compassion. Working together, we will continue Leo's great work.

I often talk about the important role that our community partners play in supporting our students. As we approached the Thanksgiving break a couple of weeks ago, I was again reminded of the compassionate people and organizations who uplift our students in so many ways. Just before the break, three organizations – **Ryan Harrington Foundation, John Welch Productions Fund, and Boston Rescue Mission** – shared their time and resources to make sure that families in need throughout our district would be able to enjoy a Thanksgiving meal. Together, these three organizations provided 96 Thanksgiving meals to our families. The meals included a Thanksgiving turkey, and all the traditional side dishes – enough for each family's entire household to enjoy. We have a special connection with each of these organizations, and are incredibly thankful for their generosity and their commitment to our students.

Congratulations to Luca Duclos-Orsello, Brian Marin Ruiz, and Angie Mejia for being the first three Somerville High School Class of 2020 students to earn the **Massachusetts Seal of Biliteracy**. The Seal is awarded to students who have studied and gained proficiency in English and a second language by the time they graduate from high school. Students must demonstrate proficiency in both languages and apply for the recognition. Luca, Brian, and Angie, along with any other students who earn this distinction will receive a Seal of Biliteracy medal on Class Day and will wear them at graduation.

I hope you will join us this Thursday, December 19th, for the final **Somerville High School building project "Topping Off" Ceremony**. The celebration marks an important milestone in the project, when the highest steel beam of the new building's eastern wing will be set into place. The ceremony will take place on the east side of the SHS campus next to the Somerville central library. Guests are strongly encouraged to dress warmly and wear boots, sneakers, or other rugged footwear. Attendees can arrive starting at 2:30pm to sign the beam; the ceremony will begin at 3:00pm. Light refreshments will be available in the high school cafeteria immediately following the ceremony.

Finally, as we approach the end of the calendar year, students and teachers are preparing for **concerts and other events** to share with families and the community what students have learned this fall. We hope to see you at many of these events. Please visit our website calendar for a list of upcoming concerts and other family events throughout the district. To all of you who attended the "In the Heights" musical production at Somerville High School, thank you! We had wonderful crowds at each of the four productions and were proud to showcase the outstanding work of our students and staff.

I also want to commend the portion of the jazz band on Our Schools, Our City this past week, we had the music director Rick Saunders, as well as an ensemble from the jazz band. And one of the students actually wrote the song and dedication to Leo Desimone, and then the jazz band played it. So if you haven't had the opportunity to check out just the amazing gift that we hopefully were able to give to Leo's family.

B. Personnel Report

There's no update on the personnel report, it's just included in there for December, it would include minor transfers and changes but no additional retirements.

- **2020-2021 School Calendar**

Chair Normand explained there is typically an initial conversation over two to three meetings, of which tonight will be the first. The calendar is negotiated with the union in regards to start dates, end dates and half days.

She then opened the floor discussion in regards to the 2020-2021 school calendar.

Mr. Krepchin asked a clarifying questions about it being in negotiation with the union and if that is something that's already happened or its ongoing, as the committee talks about it.

Superintendent Skipper responded that this one was actually negotiated through 2021. She added that we always work with the union to take a look at the calendar and make sure we're not missing anything.

Ms. Palmer asked a question regarding the box that was added last year in the lower right for the major religious and cultural holidays to recognize that we have other religious populations in our school communities and so staff members would refrain from scheduling, one-time events field trips, etc. for those dates. Have we gotten any feedback from families on that? In terms of classroom compliance Have there been any issues raised, anything that we would want to do differently in next year's calendar.

Superintendent replied that to the best of her knowledge, we have not had anyone complain.

Mr. Green asked if we've considered adding, given our sizable Nepalese and South Indian populations, and looking at possibly more Hindu holidays, as well.

Mr. Mazza said we could take a look at that for sure. Superintendent Skipper added that generally, we work in close collaboration with SFLC for guidance on this as well, but we will go back and certainly ask that question.

Ms. Pitone took this time to reiterate her thanks to the administration that has highlighted why we start before Labor Day. This is a question that comes up every year, if anybody's observing this meeting, this is something that's currently in the contract with the STA. One of the reasons we do it is so that we don't get in the position where we have to extend our school year far into June based on snow days.

She asked that all members look at the calendar and if there are dates that we should be adding in terms of religious celebrations to please bring them forth, or send them to superintendent and we will look at them on the next school committee meeting and vote to approve.

- **2020 School Committee Meeting Schedule**

Chair Normand introduced the next item, the 2020 School Committee meeting schedule and said that included in the packet is the draft schedule for the remainder of this school year. The full school committee meetings are in the SC policies and that schedule is dictated, the subcommittee chairs have authority to schedule their own meetings, and so while this is a framework, once subcommittee chairs are named, they may choose to look at a different schedule. They would need to work with the members of their subcommittee.

Ms. Palmer shared that in the Rules subcommittee meeting it came up that subcommittee chairs should think outside the box, in terms of scheduling for their meetings. There has been feedback from families that having evening meetings exclusively are not great for all families. Experimenting with different times of day, obviously working with administration and their scheduling constraints, but daytime meetings might actually work even better for much of the staff and having a diversity of meeting times might be helpful for greater participation from the community.

Chair Normand shared that the committee has tried various configurations to try to balance the needs and the time constraints of both school committee members, who often have full time jobs, staff and families. She encouraged members to continue to think of ways we could do this that maximize access and transparency.

VII. REPORT OF SUMCOMMITTEES

A. School Committee Meeting for Rules Management: October 21, 2019 (Ms. Palmer)

Rules 10/21/19 Subcommittee Report

Called to order 5:42pm Attendees: Lee Erica Palmer, Laura Pitone, Carrie Normand, Jeff Curley (Chief of Staff) & Rebecca Grainger (Superintendent fellow)

Agenda - Items taken out of order

- 1) **Life-threatening Allergies** policy: Ms. Normand had hoped to bring an amended draft back to the subcommittee for consideration but still has questions about who should be responsible for what in terms of the policy v. procedures included in the draft (school committee policy v. city's health and human services department v. district procedures) – she requested more time to bring this policy back to Rules for deliberation at a future meeting – will meet with Dr. Curley to figure out next steps.

- 2) **Sexual Harassment** memo –last winter Rules subcommittee, at the prompting of several constituents who had raised some concerns, asked the District to report back to us on the existence and efficacy of current reporting practices and procedures regarding our Title IX and Sexual Harassment policies and procedures. HR Director Mariana MacDonald prepared a memo that outlines the definitions and reporting procedures we use, and she included an anonymous list dating back to 2015 of all reports/complaints made to Central Office. Ms. MacDonald will provide the memo to the full Committee and come before us for Q&A and discussion at an upcoming full meeting.

Ms. Normand asked a clarifying questions about student handbooks v. the SHS handbook (which is online) and parent guardian guides that are school by school for the K-8 schools (because each of these is defining sexual harassment and outline the procedure to make complaints). We asked that the HR director clarify this for the next iteration of the memo and her presentation before the full Committee as there has been lots of confusion over the years about what families receive from the district in terms of consistent distraction information.

Ms. Pitone – acknowledged the more thorough orientation being done for high school students around harassment/consent topics and wanted to know if we are doing the same for our middle school students since many of the same issues surface there.

- 3) **Homeschool and Virtual student participation in District extracurricular Activities**
Rebecca Grainger did some research on this question to see what other districts across the state have been doing. She found some sample policies from other districts and provided two to the subcommittee for discussion. The first option provided would leave the language broad and discretionary, the second option was much more specific.
Dr. Curley explained that the preference of the District would be to spell it out more specifically so there is clarity.

Ms. Normand agreed that having it all under one policy is helpful but wondering how we would define the “requirements” for home schooled students to participate in team sports (since the league we are a part of has specific academic requirements), for example.

Ms. Pitone stated that she is glad we are clarifying this and she agrees it’s important to include home-schooled students in District activities as much as we can.

It was clarified overall that it is the intent of the District to permit home schooled students to participate in all extracurricular activities, space permitting (with District students having priority). Subcommittee members were asked to bring specific proposed amendments to move this policy forward at a future meeting.

- 4) **Equity Policy** – Attorney Long reviewed the policy in full and overall said he felt like the language is acceptable, but did recommend two specific changes and the Subcommittee voted to amend the policy to reflect both of his proposed changes (to resolve any fears that the language might be struck as unconstitutional in its potential application of quotas). These two changes were made in the “Desired Outcomes” section, substituting “diverse representation” in place of “balanced representation” (in paragraph 1) and adding “after consideration of students’ individual needs” (in paragraph 2).

We also asked Attorney Long for suggested language regarding protection for students and staff from retaliation for reporting violations of the equity policy. Long explained via memo that retaliation protection is implicitly covered by statute but if we want it to be explicit in our policy that we can be, and he suggested some language. We rejected his language as unnecessarily verbose and repetitive and instead adopted a much shorter proposal offered by Dr. Curley:

“The district shall develop a process to field complaints and violations of the values which this policy intends to uphold. This process will be clearly communicated to all staff and students. No SPS student or staff member who, in good faith, reports a violation of the equity policy shall suffer harassment, retaliation, or adverse consequences.”

We also agreed to add back in language regarding the superintendent being directed to report on the district’s progress towards its equity goals on an annual basis, and to explicitly state the goal of diversifying parent leadership under Paragraph 6 of “Desired outcomes” regarding schools “building partnerships with every family”, adding “with a specific goal of diversifying parent/guardian leadership and the SPS volunteer base”.

With no further discussion or proposed amendments, the subcommittee voted the policy unanimously out of Rules to be considered by the full committee.

- 5) **Homework Policy** update: Dr. Curley reported that Chad Mazza (Acting Assist Superintendent) will have a report-back on several of the teacher homework policy focus groups at next full committee meeting and this policy will be on November Rules agenda to begin deliberation of any proposed changes to the policy to bring to full.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55p.m.

MOTION: Motion by Ms. Palmer, seconded by Ms. Pitone to accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Rules Management of October 21, 2019.

Motion approved via voice vote.

B. School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities: November 18, 2019 (Mr. Green)

Finance and Facilities November 18th

Came to order at 6:04pm In attendance were A. Green, P. O'Sullivan, and I. Krepchin. Also in attendance were Interim Associate Superintendent Mazza, Finance Director Gorski, and STA VP Megan Brady.

The first item for business was the discussion of the expenditure reports and the Bill roles. Ms. O'Sullivan raised the question of how it was decided what classroom supplies were purchased from what budget items. Mr. Gorski gave his impression from the perspective of the finance department, to which Assoc. Superintendent Mazza added his experiences as WH principal and Vice-President Brady added her experience as a classroom teacher and reports from other social studies teachers she's worked with. Members also discussed their experiences as parents with school/classroom supply lists (or lack thereof). There appears to be no district wide consensus on how classroom supplies are decided upon, provided, or paid for. There was agreement that the national phenomenon, found also in Somerville, of teachers paying for classroom needs out of their own pockets was problematic and something we wanted to address. To this Mr. Green reiterated his request from the fall for information about what it would cost to fully pay for classroom supplies. Assoc. Supt. Mazza agreed to begin surveying Principals about current school based practices. Hope was expressed that we could begin to know actual numbers about teacher out-of-pocket expenditures.

Ms. O'Sullivan moved and Ms. Krepchin seconded the approval of the bill roles.

Director Gorski then shared the presentation from the initial meeting of the Student-Based-Budgeting working group. He and I shared our excitement about the initial meeting, the plan to start looking at the demographics at two schools at our next meeting and the importance of making sure STA was at the table from the beginning, but as an expression of our values but also as a practical response to some of the challenges other communities have had implementing this sort of budgeting in equitable ways.

Finally, Mr. Gorski shared a draft version of a spreadsheet providing an overview of the approximately \$6,000,000 in grants the district currently receives. The committee expressed its satisfaction with the Administration's ability to raise outside funds. We also expressed some suggestions for improvement to the spreadsheet, namely a better by year breakdown of multi-year grants, more clearly identifying when any grant money goes towards employee salary, as well as distinguishing between formula and competitive grants.

The meeting adjourned at 6:54

MOTION: Motion by Mr. Green, seconded by Dr. Ackman to accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities of November 18, 2019 and to approve the October bill rolls.

Motion approved via voice vote.

C. School Committee Meeting for Rules Management: November 20, 2019 (Ms. Palmer)

Rules 11/20/19 Subcommittee Report

The meeting was called to order at 6:07pm

Present were Subcommittee Chair Ms. Palmer, Vice Chair Ms. Pitone, and Member Ms. Normand.

Also present were School Committee Member O'Sullivan, Dr. Curley, Carrie Gwynn (resident), and Steve Stephano (STA).

The following items were discussed:

1) Homework Policy Update

Dr. Curley shared the homework policy memo provided by Mr. Mazza. Ms. Pitone appreciated that the data included what percentage of teachers had chosen to participate in the initial three schools. She requested the feedback be broken down by grade levels for the teacher focus groups. Ms. Pitone also requested a summary analysis of the focus group feedback (similar to the report we received following the Equity policy focus groups).

Ms. Normand asked whether there was a plan for additional outreach to parents about the homework policy. Not at this time. Ms. Pitone requested Assistant Superintendent Mazza come to the next Rules committee in December to share further updates.

There was also a question about the online homework survey sent to teachers. Dr. Curley shared that the homework survey was sent to principals on Oct 30th and teachers were given time to complete it during professional development on Nov 5th. This information will be compiled and made available at the next Rules meeting. Ms. Palmer recognized Ms. O'Sullivan who asked about how the research on the efficacy of homework was integrated into the focus groups and asked that that be included in future reports.

The subcommittee decided that further feedback is needed before the committee deliberates on any proposed changes to the homework policy that was passed last year.

2) Virtual and Homeschool Participation in Afterschool and Athletics

The committee reviewed the same language, adopted from Scarborough School District, from the October Rules Committee meeting regarding homeschool and virtual school student participation in district extracurriculars. Ms. Pitone requested a definition of "virtual school" and expressed concern that this category could open up the policy to include private and charter students. Dr. Curley expressed that this was a limited category and students would only be accepted if there were space in the program and the district did not incur participation costs.

Ms. Palmer expressed support for participation of all non-SPS students who live in Somerville considering the limiting language of the policy. Ms. Normand made a MOTION to forward the Scarborough policy language forward to the full body with a minor clerical change. The motion was seconded by Ms. Palmer and approved. Ms. Pitone requested that we list district programs that would be eligible.

3) Mandated Recess/outdoor free play time during district Out of School Time

Ms. Palmer opened by stating the importance of recess and unstructured play time for students for mental and physical health. She said she was inclined to support mandated recess in afterschool. There was a discussion about the tradeoffs of mandating time limits for afterschool. Ms. Pitone requested that the district do a survey of the afterschool schedules and recess time of current district out-of-school programs to see whether a 30-minute minimum would need to be mandated (or if it's already happening consistently). Mr. Stephano spoke up in favor of more mandated outdoor time for students suggesting that students often get as much time outside as the adult in charge is willing to give based on their own preferences for getting outside. Therefore, he thinks mandates in this area are necessary, despite not being a fan of mandates in general.

4) School badges/Buildings and Grounds Security

Dr. Curley introduced this policy by explaining the district's new identification and security badge system. Ms. Pitone asked whether this language was based on MASC standard policy, to which the answer was yes. There was a MOTION to approve by Ms. Pitone, seconded by Ms. Palmer. The motion was unanimously accepted.

5) Video Surveillance

There was a brief review and discussion of the district's 2013 video surveillance policy. It was determined that Dr. Curley should redline the policy for any suggested changes based on current practice.

There was a brief discussion of future agenda topics including cell phone policy and anti-bias speech incidents policy.

The meeting adjourned 7:30 p.m.

MOTION: Motion by Ms. Palmer, seconded by Ms. Pitone to accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Rules Management of December 11, 2019.

Motion approved via voice vote.

D. School Committee Meeting for Educational Programs and Instruction: December 11, 2019 (Ms. O'Sullivan)

Education Programs & Instruction - Meeting Minutes - December 11, 2019

The Education Programs & Instruction Subcommittee held a meeting on December 11, 2019. Ms. O'Sullivan called the meeting to order at 5:32pm. Subcommittee members in attendance were Paula G. O'Sullivan, Emily Ackman and Laura

Pitone (5:39). Participating district staff included Assistant Superintendent Chad Mazza, SHS principal Sebastian LaGambina, Director of Music Rick Saunders, and Assistant Principal of Elm House Marie Foreman. STA vice president Megan Brady was also in attendance. Superintendent Mary Skipper and School Committee chair Carrie Normand joined the meeting partway through.

To begin, Ms. O'Sullivan made a motion to approve meeting minutes from 9/19/19, 10/7/19, and 11/4/19, which was seconded by Dr. Ackman. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting participants then discussed the draft agenda topics for January to June 2020, which were developed based on input from various stakeholders, and a subcommittee discussion in June 2019, followed by further planning by Ms. O'Sullivan and Mr. Mazza. The proposed topics, bundled by grade span are:

- January - School improvement plan updates via memos for the 5 schools in off-year planning cycle
- February & March - Middle grades updates
 - X-block
 - What is common across schools and what is school-specific
 - Electives
- April & May - Elementary updates
 - A focus on the academic side of "tier 1" instruction, within the MA Tiered System of
 - Support structure.
 - A renewed focus on literacy
 - Further discussion of X-block
 - Differentiation - what's the goal and what's actually happening
- June - unfinished business, drafting of 2020-21 agenda topics

These agendas are subject to the discretion of the incoming EP chair.

Finally, the high school Curriculum Committee presented changes to the Somerville High School Program of Studies for the 2020-21 school year. These changes were developed through a curriculum review process that began last spring with notice to all department heads/supervisors to review their offerings and discuss with staff the appropriate additions, deletions and modifications to the 2020-2021 Program of Studies. The high school administrative team reviewed preliminary proposals in June and September. The Curriculum Committee met twice in October to review all new proposals. After much discussion, the committee voted to forward 14 new course proposals and one new program proposal for submission to the School Committee for further action. The proposed changes are within the following departments: Art, English Learning, Music and Performing Arts, Science, and Social Studies, and include several joint proposals from two departments, for example "Theater and Society" from Music and Performing Arts along with Social Studies. The new courses also include changing a full year course to two single semester open honors courses, which provides more flexibility to students. The new one-semester pilot program, Beyond the Classroom Experience and Support Class, will allow students to participate in BCL opportunities such as dual enrollment, internships, and independent studies, supported by workshops, reflections and feedback from a SHS instructor, while earning 2.5 credits.

Meeting participants expressed an interest in hearing at a future meeting (potentially Feb 2020) the district's plans for compliance with the new state civics education law, which makes it a requirement for Massachusetts public high schools and school districts serving eighth-grade students to provide at least one student-led, non-partisan civics project for each student. Participants also discussed the desirability of more open honors classes, continuing to expand college and career guidance for English learners, and need for parental notification and consent for any potentially violent films that may be included in the African American History Through Film class syllabus. Overall, meeting participants found the proposed changes to be responsive to student needs, developed through a thoughtful process, and representative of innovative ideas and approaches.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00pm.

MOTION: Motion by Ms. O'Sullivan, seconded by Ms. Palmer to accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Educational Programs and Instruction of December 11, 2019.

Motion approved via voice vote.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS
A. MCAS Presentation

Tabled.

B. Somerville Public Schools Policy Manual

The following policy is being presented for a first reading:

- **File ECA: Building and Grounds Security**

Chair Normand asked Ms. Palmer to introduce this policy as chair of the Rules subcommittee.

As you just heard in my reports at our last meeting the Rules Management subcommittee voted out for your consideration file ECA- Buildings and Grounds Security. This is model language from MASC, and the district has a new identification and security badge system so we put forth for your consideration this policy.

MOTION: Motion by Ms. Palmer, seconded by Dr. Ackman to approve File ECA: Building and Grounds Security, from the Somerville Policy Manual.

Chair Normand asked Ms. Palmer to clarify if she was putting the policy forth for vote without a reading or just putting it forth.

Mr. Green brought to the committee's attention that if these policies aren't voted on tonight, they will have to come back for a first reading on the first meeting in January, because there will be a new set of members.

Chair Normand discussed that the committee could possibly waive the second reading and vote on the policies tonight. She then asked if everyone had an opportunity to read the policy?

Ms. Palmer then read the policy for the committee.

File: ECA - BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS SECURITY

School buildings, building contents, sites and site facilities constitute one of the greatest investments of the community. The School Committee believes it to be in the best interest of students and taxpayers for the School Committee to exert every reasonable means to protect the investment adequately.

Security means more than having locks and making certain that doors are locked at the proper times. Security also means:

- minimizing fire hazards
- reducing the possibility of faulty equipment
- keeping records and funds in a safe place
- protection against vandalism and burglary

It shall be the policy of the School Committee to protect the Somerville Public Schools' sites, site facilities, buildings and building contents against attempts at vandalism, destruction or unlawful entry. The School Committee authorizes and directs the Superintendent, in coordination with the Somerville Police Department, to develop and implement a program of security for the school district's buildings, building contents, sites and site facilities. The Superintendent is authorized to institute, as she or he deems desirable, the use of electronic surveillance devices and the use of security services to safeguard school buildings.

The Human Resources Department is responsible for activating and de-activating electronic access badges for all SPS employees. Principals in each school shall be responsible for maintaining physical control of access badges and keys over the summer, and shall be responsible for use of the school by any staff under their jurisdiction.

The Superintendent shall inform all school principals that it is the policy of the Somerville Public Schools that all school doors always be secured from the outside to prevent unauthorized entry to school buildings, and that all individuals entering the building after the beginning of school report first to the main office.

Adopted:

Ms. Krepchin was curious about the part where it says "the superintendent is authorized to institute as she or he deems desirable, the use of electronic surveillance," and if we need to have a policy as to who has access to that surveillance and how long its kept on file.

Superintendent Skipper responded that we already have electronic surveillance in the schools. This is just codifying it and actually some of this was in the older policy about electronic surveillance. It's a restricted group and is only used for the purposes of safety.

Ms. Palmer clarified that the Video Surveillance policy, which was passed in 2013, does define what the superintendent is referring to. And that it is under discussion in the current Rules subcommittee with Dr. Curley who will bring a red lined policy with suggested changes based on current practice.

Superintendent Skipper added that the biggest difference, and the reason she thinks the policy will need to be updated is because right now there's a difference between which schools actually have internal cameras and external cameras and there had been past practice of Somerville Police not necessarily having access. We've aligned to best practice based on national standards and that's what you see reflected here and then going forward as is like for instance with Somerville High School with the new building, there will be an extensive camera system in the new building.

Mr. Green confessed that the language as written in this document does not sit well with him and that not having any check in balance on surveillance feels a little wrong. He feels like this is something that could easily be changed by adding a sentence about reporting. He added that this policy isn't time sensitive, unlike the homeschool policy, and there is no reason why we couldn't do this through the first reading in January, if there's an opportunity to perhaps get the wording right.

Ms. Palmer said that Mr. Green raised a valuable point and thinks it would make sense to deliberate on both together, seeing as the Rules subcommittee is taking up the Video Surveillance policy itself and they can reference each other. That seems like a way to resolve this. She agreed to table this policy.

Ms. Palmer rescinded her motion to approve File ECA: Building and Grounds Security, and the policy was tabled.

- **File IHGB: Home School and Virtual School Student Participation in Extra Curricular Activities**

MOTION: Motion by Ms. Palmer to approve the following policy and to waive its second reading, putting it forth for consideration for a vote tonight, seconded by Mr. Green.

File: IHGB – HOME SCHOOL AND VIRTUAL SCHOOL STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Somerville Public Schools is committed to creating equitable systems of learning and well-being that will serve all Somerville children and prepare them for success. The district recognizes that closing achievement gaps requires expanding access to out of school time learning opportunities. The district welcomes participation in school-based extracurricular activities for Somerville-based home school or virtual school students if space is available and there is no financial impact to the district.

“Extracurricular activities,” for the purpose of this policy, are school-sponsored activities for which participants are selected by staff supervising the activities, including those teams, both athletic and academic, that participate in interscholastic competition. Participation of students in such school programs shall be limited to home school or virtual students whose home instruction programs are in compliance with applicable Massachusetts law and Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education regulations.

Students receiving home-school or virtual instruction are eligible to try out for and/or participate in extracurricular activities sponsored by Somerville Public Schools upon availability and approval of the Assistant Superintendent or his/her designee provided the student applies in writing and the following requirements are satisfied.

- The student agrees to abide by equivalent rules of participation as are applicable to regularly enrolled students participating in the activity and provides evidence that the rules of participation are being met.
- The student complies with the same physical examination, immunization, insurance, age, and semester eligibility requirements as regularly enrolled students participating in the activity. All required documentation must be made available upon request by the School District.
- The student meets equivalent academic standards as those established for regularly enrolled students participating in the activity and provides evidence that the academic standards are being met.
- The student abides by the same transportation policy as regularly enrolled students participating in the activity.

The School District has reasonable discretion to grant or withhold approval based on factors including: whether the activity is already filled with enrolled students, additional costs that would be caused by the student's participation, the student's behavioral and academic record, safety, and any other factors that involve the best interests of the District. The decision of the District shall not be subject to appeal or reconsideration unless it is in violation of the law or a School Committee policy.

Dr. Ackman was curious about the purpose of this policy.

Ms. Palmer explained that the School Committee was previously approached by homeschooling families who were interested in participating in school based extracurricular activities. There has not been a consistent policy practice or procedure and so as a subcommittee, they agreed that it was important to clarify, and also assert that there's a benefit for SPS students to have homeschool students participate in activities and that that benefit can be mutual. So to the extent that it does not have a negative financial impact on the district, and to the extent that it's not replacing

opportunities for existing SPS students, they wanted to make it clear that this was something they supported.

Dr. Ackman asked for the Superintendent's take on the subject.

Superintendent Skipper explained that there are only about 30 to 35 students a year that are homeschooled in Somerville. When the homeschool community approached the committee, they asked if there was a way where, if they weren't taking up a seat from somebody else, they're kids could participate and be able to cement the relationships that they're building in other kinds of activities. So we looked at it and we were able to offer particular extracurriculars that would be the case for. It's gone fairly well, there hasn't been any issue, when there is space they're allowed to and when there isn't there, they're not. So this was just building on that and it was an attempt to extend and expand it to other kinds of things such as sports.

Ms. Pitone shared that there's actually a memo that sits on the website right now that basically says homeschoolers can do extracurricular activities. This was a follow up from an Ed Programs meeting, years ago. The decision was made, but it never got codified in our policy. She then emphasized what Superintendent Skipper said about bringing these students in the fold and how that can help them be part of the community and in some cases, come back into the fold as students, if it feels like the right thing to them. She also had a detailed comment on the first sentence of the second paragraph, she thought they struck the comment "for which participants are selected by staff supervising the activities," because it sounds like a reference to when kids try out for something.

Chair Normand thought they were leaving that in, because we are also talking about athletics, and there is a trying out for a number of our sport.

Ms. Pitone was confused because the way it reads, is really only for those things that students try out for, it says "extracurricular activities, for the purpose of this policy, are school sponsored activities for which participants are selected by staff supervising the activities." So it's exclusive to only this and she wanted to make sure, because she thought the intention was everything, it could be clubs, etc.

Superintendent Skipper explained that where it says "selected by staff supervising the activity," it's just simply that the staff, no matter what the club is has a process by which students join. It is not so much as a tryout, it certainly isn't Interscholastic, but like in the case of, for instance the theater program, if a number of homeschoolers want to participate in the theater programs, that would be an example where everyone is included and welcome, but the staff has some process for knowing who wants to be a part of which club and therefore, distributing the paperwork and the permissions. These are just some clubs for which is just about participation.

Ms. Palmer clarified that there was a proposed friendly amendment "extracurricular activities, for the purpose of this policy, are school-sponsored activities for which participants are supervised by SPS staff." A clarifying change to the policy currently before the body.

Ms. O'Sullivan asked if this policy does not apply to Somerville Community Schools.

Superintendent Skipper confirmed that is correct. Although she did say that in a couple of cases, the question has been asked, if there is room, there just never really is. It's one of the programs that's generally fully subscribed, so it's not something we would necessarily trigger a new class for. It is part of the Somerville Public Schools, but it's a program parents pay for.

Ms. O'Sullivan understands that and wonders if it would be helpful to have a comment about that on the policy, because to a reader it may not be clear here.

Ms. Pitone commented that she was under the impression that Community Schools was included in this policy. That's what was discussed, from her perspective in the Rules meeting. It was made clear that right now, in most schools we don't have room, so it would be a non-issue but that's what was communicated to the subcommittee.

Superintendent Skipper added that the issue with Community Schools is that of financial impact, and it has to do with it not being district funded, it's a cash pay program. She could see a situation, potentially where a subsidized seat is available, it would be a little bit messy to figure out who has entitlement to that subsidized seat. That said, there's never space, that's the reason that this probably wasn't discussed more fully. She will have a further conversation with Community Schools about how they would see best for a homeschooled or a virtual scholar, to be able to gain access.

Mr. Green said that if Community Schools is the hang up, he is open to the idea that perhaps they are in need of their

own policy.

MOTION: Motion by Mr. Green to amend File: IHGB by adding a sentence at the end that states that nothing in this policy shall be pursued as pertaining to Community Schools, seconded by Dr. Ackman.

Ms. Palmer was confused because they did deliberate on this for two sessions of Rules subcommittee and Community Schools was a pretty important part of that conversation. She asked why the "if space is available" in the first paragraph, and the final paragraph, not sufficient from the district's perspective.

Because we have a limited amount of subsidized seats, Superintendent Skipper could see a situation where somebody who is homeschooled is taking this subsidized seat from a student that is attending SPS. She offered to go back and talk to Dr. Curley specifically about this.

Dr. Ackman said that because of the lack of clarity on this she is pushing to tabling for a second reading.

Mr. Green reminded the committee that there is a time constraint on this policy for any homeschool students who may want to join winter sports. And expressed that his personal opinion is that Community Schools should be included in the policy.

Ms. Palmer took this time to reiterate and clarify the last paragraph of the policy, "the school district retains reasonable discretion to grant or withhold approval based on factors including" and there's a long list of factors including any other factors that involve the best interest of the district.

She feels, as the chair of Rules, that the district had deliberated and spent enough of its time and school committee time on this, and that they should move this forward and that's why it's here tonight.

Mr. Green withdrew his amendment.

Chair Normand clarified that there was an initial motion by Ms. Palmer to move this policy forward and waive the second reading which was seconded by Mr. Green. She asked if there were any additional comments because otherwise she would be putting the policy to a vote, because of the time sensitivity for students wanting to play winter sports.

Dr. Ackman asked why there's a time sensitivity if the memo that's on the website has been serving as the policy for years.

Superintendent Skipper explained that this is specific to the Interscholastic pieces. That was an area where we had never really had test cases, and there's at least three or four families that are interested in that now. It was also the expansion not just of homeschoolers but students in virtual schools which is another category that we hadn't included.

Chair Normand first asked for a roll call vote to waive the second reading of File IHGB – Home School and Virtual School Student Participation in Extracurricular Activities.

Motion passed 7-1, second reading is waived.

Chair Normand then asked for a roll call vote for Ms. Palmer's motion to approve File IHGB – Home School and Virtual School Student Participation in Extracurricular Activities, as its presented, seconded by Mr. Green.

Motion passes 7-1, Policy is approved.

C. FY20 Technology Cost- Transfer of Funds Memo (Recommended action: approval)

Chair Normand directed members to refer to the memo in the packet (it is attached here). This is an accounting between the city and the school district.

MOTION: Motion by Ms. Palmer, seconded by Dr. Ackman, to approve the transfer of funds in the amount of \$155,000 from the Somerville Public School's ordinary maintenance account to the City Information Technology Department's ordinary maintenance account.

Motion approved via voice vote.

D. Field Trips (Recommended action: approval)

February 27, 2020

10 NW/FC Students will visit Pat's Peak in Henniker New Hampshire. Travel via school van, student cost \$25.

MOTION: Motion by Ms. Palmer, seconded by Mr. Green, to approve this field trip.

Motion approved via voice vote.

E. Acceptance of Donations (Recommended Actions Approval)

Donation	Donor	City, State	Value	Program Donated to
Monetary	Holly and Derek Samuelson	Somerville, MA	\$50	SFLC Playgroups
Monetary	Macaela Vandermost	Somerville, MA	\$1,500	SFLC Basic Needs/ Clothing Closet
Home Depot Gift Card	Dale Engineering – Chris Hawes	Bedford, MA	\$500	CTE Advance Manufacturing Program
44 Thanksgiving Meals	Ryan Harrington Foundation	Somerville, MA	TBD	SPS Families
37 Thanksgiving meals	John Welch Productions Fund	Medford, MA	TBD	SPS Families
15 Thanksgiving Meals	Boston Rescue Mission	Boston, MA	TBD	SPS Families
Monetary	Lueders Environmental	Needham, MA	\$50	Somerville Public Schools
Monetary	Cummings Properties, LLC	Woburn, MA	\$3,000	To split 50/50 between the football and cheerleading team

MOTION: Motion by Mr. Green, seconded by Dr. Ackman, to accept with gratitude, the above listed donations. Motion approved via voice vote.

IX. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Green

This body should be aware that for the last three months, a working group that was originally convened by Councilor Hirsch is meeting monthly to discuss ways in which we as a city can do a better job of accessibility for trans youth. And obviously as part of conversation, there have been questions about the high school building, and the building of non-gender bathrooms. They will be coming to this committee in the new year to have that conversation more formally.

Dr. Ackman

She received the Honorable Council on Aging newsletter and noticed that the Prospect Hill kids have interactions with seniors. It seems like it's a deliberate aspect of their curriculum. She is curious if there's a deliberate reason that our students don't and if it's something that we could get started.

Superintendent Skipper responded that we do not, we currently have tutors, but it's definitely a great idea and she will bring it to Doug Kress.

Ms. Palmer

Noticed that the School Committee goals were approved several meetings ago and requested that the top of the regular meeting agenda be updated to include a concise summary of the new goals.

Second, she wanted the committee and school community to know an exciting update on the city side. They recently passed the Housing Stabilization Notification Act, which becomes effective December 26 of this year and this new law requires landlords to provide tenants with documents created by the Office of Housing stability, whenever they serve a tenant with a notice to quit or notice of lease non-renewal. It's a series of documents, and most importantly they refer tenants to legal services to get advice and counsel if they can, which we want our families to stay here and this is a big development that will allow many more of our families to know what their rights are under and Massachusetts. The city is making a huge effort to notify landlords and there are civil penalties and fines for each incident, and each

X. CONDOLENCES

The Somerville school committee extends its deepest condolences to the family and loved ones of Leo DeSimone, Associate Principal and Director of the Career and Technical Education Program at Somerville High School. You will be missed.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned via voice vote at 9:32.

Related documents:

- Agenda
- 2020-2021 School Calendar
- 2020 School Committee Meeting Schedule
- FY20 Technology Costs - Transfer of Funds Memo

Submitted by: Katherine Santiago

**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL
REGULAR MEETING – DECEMBER 16, 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.** Recognition of Service for Outgoing School Committee Member
Lee Erica Palmer
Paula O'Sullivan

III. REPORT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- October 21, 2019

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

VI. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

- A. District Report**
 - Duhamel Education Initiative Grants
 - 2020-2021 School Calendar
 - 2020 School Committee Meeting Schedule
 - Teacher Retention/ Retirement Data (Requested by Mr. Green)
- B. Personnel Report**
 - December

VII. REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEES

- A. School Committee Meeting for Rules Management:** October 21, 2019 (Ms. Palmer)
MOTION: To accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Rules Management of October 21, 2019
- B. School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities:** November 18, 2019 (Mr. Green)
MOTION: To accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities of November 18, 2019
- C. School Committee Meeting for Rules Management:** November 20, 2019 (Ms. Palmer)
MOTION: To accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Rules Management of November 20, 2019.
- D. School Committee Meeting for Educational Programs and Instruction:** December 11, 2019 (Ms. O'Sullivan)
MOTION: To accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Educational Programs and Instruction of December 11, 2019.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. MCAS Presentation**
- B. Somerville Public Schools Policy Manual**
The following policies are being presented this evening for first reading:
 - File ECA: Buildings and Grounds Security
 - File IHGB: Home School and Virtual School Student Participation in Extracurricular Activities
- C. FY20 Technology Cost- Transfer of Funds Memo** (Recommended action: approval)
- D. Field Trips** (Recommended action: approval)
February 27, 2020

10 NW/FC Students will visit Pat's Peak in Henniker New Hampshire. Travel via school van, student cost \$25.

- E. Acceptance of Donations** (Recommended action: approval)

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

Donation	Donor	City, State	Value	Program Donated to
Monetary	Holly and Derek Samuelson	Somerville, MA	\$50	SFLC Playgroups
Monetary	Macaela Vandermost	Somerville, MA	\$1,500	SFLC Basic Needs/ Clothing Closet
Home Depot Gift Card	Dale Engineering – Chris Hawes	Bedford, MA	\$500	CTE Advance Manufacturing Program
44 Thanksgiving Meals	Ryan Harrington Foundation	Somerville, MA	TBD	SPS Families
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Monetary	Lueders Environmental	Needham, MA	\$50	Somerville Public Schools
Monetary	Cummings Properties, LLC	Woburn, MA	\$3,000	To split 50/50 between the football and cheerleading team

IX. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

X. ADJOURNMENT

**2020-2021
School Calendar**

Important Dates

AUGUST '20				
M	T	W	TH	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

September '20				
M	T	W	TH	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

October '20				
M	T	W	TH	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

November '20				
M	T	W	TH	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

December '20				
M	T	W	TH	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

January '21				
M	T	W	TH	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

February '21				
M	T	W	TH	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26

March '21				
M	T	W	TH	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

April '21				
M	T	W	TH	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28

May '21				
M	T	W	TH	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

June '21				
M	T	W	TH	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

Quarters

- 1st Quarter 9/2-11/9 (45 days)
- 2nd Quarter 11/10-1/26 (45 days)
- 3rd Quarter 1/27-4/7 (45 days)
- 4th Quarter 4/8-6/17 (45 days)

Half-Day Wednesdays

Dismissal @ 11:30 (PK) Noon (K-8)
 Sept. 16 Feb. 10
 Oct. 14, 28 Mar. 10, 24
 Dec. 9 Apr. 7

August
31 – 1st day for Staff Prof. Devel.

September – 19 days

- 1 – Staff Prof. Development, Para's report
- 2 – 1st day for students 1-12 (1/2 day)
- 4 – No school (Offices Open)
- 7 – No school - Labor Day
- 8 – 1st day for Kindergarten and Pre-K Students
- 18 – Rosh Hashanah begins
- 27 - 28 – Yom Kippur

October – 21 days

- 5 – No school – Indigenous Peoples' Day

November – 17 days

- 3 – No school – Election Day Prof. Devel. 8-12/ PTA Conf. 12:30 – 2:30
- 11 – No School – Veterans Day
- 25 – Begin Thanksgiving Recess at noon

December – 17 days

- 10 - 18- Hanukkah
(Includes Christmas – 12/25 and Kwanzaa – 12/26)

January – 19 days

- 1 – No School – New Year's day
- 4 – Classes resume
- 18 – no school – Martin Luther King Day

February – 15 days

- 12 – Lunar New Year
- 15 - 19 – February Vacation (includes Presidents' Day)

March – 23 days

- 27 – Passover begins

April – 16 days

- 2 – Good Friday
- 4 – Easter
- 19-23 – April Vacation (includes Patriots Day)
- 12 – Ramadan begins

May – 20 days

- 12 - 13 Eid al-Fitr
- 28 – Class Day (Tentative)
- 31 – No school – Memorial Day

June – 13 days

- 7 – Graduation (Tentative)
- 17- Last day of school (180 days)
- 24- 185th day

Prof. Dev. for teaching staff

○ Half-Day ALL students PK-12

☆ Special Dates for Seniors

Major Religious & Cultural Holidays

Dates underlined above represent the district's major religious and cultural holidays. Observance of Jewish and Islamic holidays begins at sundown of the preceding day. Somerville Public Schools staff members will do their best to refrain from scheduling one-time events, field trips, athletic competitions, auditions, tests, quizzes for these days. Long-term assignments will not be due on the day of or the day after one of these holidays.
 * Estimated

For more information or for any questions, please contact Katherine Santiago-
ksantiago@k12.somerville.ma.us

School Committee Meeting Dates - January - June 2019

DRAFT

Date	Meeting	Location	Time
1/6/20 (Monday)	Inaugural Ceremony	City Council Chambers- City H	6:00 p.m.
1/13/20 (Monday)	Regular School Committee Meeting	City Council Chambers- City H	7:00 p.m.
1/15/20 (Wednesday)	Executive Session	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	6:00 p.m.
1/22/20 (Wednesday)	Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting (Tentative)	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	6:00 p.m.
1/27/20 (Monday)	Educational Programs & Instruction Subcommittee Meeting	City Council Chambers- City H	6:00 p.m.
1/27/20 (Monday)	Regular School Committee Meeting	City Council Chambers- City H	7:00 p.m.
1/29/20 (Wednesday)	Finance and Facilities Meeting of the Whole	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	5:30 p.m.
January TBD	School Committee/City Council Joint Hearing (Tentative)	City Council Chambers- City H	6:30 p.m.
2/3/20 (Monday)	Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting	City Council Chambers- City H	6:00 p.m.
2/3/20 (Monday)	Regular School Committee Meeting: 1 SIP (tentative)	City Council Chambers- City H	7:00 p.m.
2/12/20 (Wednesday)	Executive Session	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	6:00 p.m.
2/12/20 (Wednesday)	School Committee Annual Meeting with the Council of PTA's	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	7:00 p.m.
TBD	School Committee and SEPAC Meeting	TBD	TBD
2/24/20 (Monday)	Educational Programs & Instruction Subcommittee Meeting	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	6:00 p.m.
2/24/20 (Monday)	Regular School Committee Meeting: 1 SIP	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	7:00 p.m.
2/26/20 (Wednesday)	Finance and Facilities Meeting of the Whole	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	6:00 p.m.
3/9/20 (Monday)	Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting	City Council Chambers- City H	6:00 p.m.
3/9/20 (Monday)	Regular School Committee Meeting: 2 SIPs	City Council Chambers- City H	7:00 p.m.
3/11/20 (Wednesday)	Executive Session	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	6:00 p.m.
3/11/20 (Wednesday)	Finance and Facilities Meeting of the Whole	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	7:00 p.m.
3/23/20 (Monday)	Educational Programs & Instruction Subcommittee Meeting	City Council Chambers- City H	6:00 p.m.
3/23/20 (Monday)	Regular School Committee Meeting : 2 SIPs	City Council Chambers- City H	7:00 p.m.
3/25/20 (Wednesday)	Finance and Facilities Meeting of the Whole	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	6:00 p.m.
3/25/20 (Wednesday)	Long Range Planning Subcommittee Meeting	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	7:00 p.m.
4/6/20 (Monday)	Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting	City Council Chambers- City H	6:00 p.m.
4/6/20 (Monday)	Regular School Committee Meeting	City Council Chambers- City H	7:00 p.m.
4/8/20 (Wednesday)	Executive Session	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	6:00 p.m.
4/8/20 (Wednesday)	Finance and Facilities Meeting of the Whole	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	7:00 p.m.
4/27/20 (Monday)	Educational Programs & Instruction Subcommittee Meeting	City Council Chambers- City H	6:00 p.m.
4/27/20 (Monday)	Regular School Committee Meeting	City Council Chambers- City H	7:00 p.m.
4/29/20 (Wednesday)	Finance and Facilities Meeting of the Whole	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	6:00 p.m.
5/6/20 (Wednesday)	Budget Hearing	ESCS Auditorium	6:00 p.m.
5/11/20 (Monday)	Finance and Facilities Meeting of the Whole	City Council Chambers- City H	6:00 p.m.
5/11/20 (Monday)	Regular School Committee Meeting	City Council Chambers- City H	7:00 p.m.
5/13/20 (Wednesday)	Executive Session	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	6:00 p.m.
5/13/20 (Wednesday)	Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	7:00 p.m.
5/18/20 (Monday)	School Choice Public Hearing	City Council Chambers- City H	6:45 p.m.
5/18/20 (Monday)	Regular School Committee Meeting	City Council Chambers- City H	7:00 p.m.
5/20/20 (Wednesday)	Educational Programs & Instruction Subcommittee Meeting	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	6:00 p.m.
5/20/20 (Wednesday)	Finance and Facilities Meeting of the Whole (HOLD)	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	7:00 p.m.
5/29/20 (Friday)	SHS Class Day	SHS	9:00 a.m.
6/1/20 (Monday)	SHS Graduation (Tentative)	Dilboy	5:30 p.m.
6/3/20 (Wednesday)	Full Circle Graduation	Armory	5:00 p.m.
06/3/20 (Wednesday)	SCALE Graduation	ESCS Auditorium	6:00 p.m.
6/8/20 (Monday)	Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting	City Council Chambers- City H	6:00 p.m.
6/8/20 (Monday)	Regular School Committee Meeting	City Council Chambers- City H	7:00 p.m.
6/15/19 (Monday)	Educational Programs & Instruction Subcommittee Meeting	City Council Chambers- City H	6:00 p.m.
6/15/19 (Monday)	Regular School Committee Meeting	City Council Chambers- City H	7:00 p.m.
6/17/20 (Wednesday)	Executive Session	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	6:00 p.m.
6/17/20 (Wednesday)	Finance and Facilities Meeting of the Whole	Main Conf. Room- Edgerly	7:00 p.m.

12/16/2019



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR



DAVID B. GOODRIDGE
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

To: Francis J. Gorski, Finance Director, Somerville Public Schools
From: David B. Goodridge, CIO, City of Somerville
Date: November 14, 2019
Re: Transfer of Funds

In order to cover the Telecommunications, Network & Technology costs for the schools in FY2020, please prepare and seek School Committee approval to transfer funds totaling \$155,000 from the Somerville Public Schools Ordinary Maintenance Account # S0653995 530100 to the City Information Technology Department's Ordinary Maintenance Account numbers listed below.

Ordinary Maintenance Account #	Description	Amount
1. 0115552-534007	PSTN-Usage	\$95,000
2. 0115552-534002	Cellular & Paging Service	\$60,000

If you have any questions concerning this matter please do not hesitate to contact me at x3266.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

David B. Goodridge
Chief Information Officer
City of Somerville, Massachusetts

Cc: Edward Bean
Cc: Colleen Tam

Somerville City Hall 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville Massachusetts 02143
(617) 625-6600 x3260 Office bdesmond@somervillema.gov (857)523-1038 Cell