

**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Monday, March 7, 2022 - Regular Meeting

7:00 p.m. – Zoom

Members present: Ms. Krepchin, Dr. Ackman, Ms. Barish, Ms. Dion, Chair Green, Ms. Pitone and Dr. Phillips.

Members Absent: Mayor Ballantyne and President McLaughlin.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 with a moment of silence, followed by a salute to the flag of the United States of America. Chair Green asked Superintendent Skipper to call the roll, results of which were as follows:
PRESENT – 7– Dr. Phillips, Ms. Krepchin, Chair Green, Ms. Barish, Ms. Pitone, Dr. Ackman, and Ms. Dion
ABSENT – 2 - President McLaughlin, Mayor Ballantyne

Mr. Green asked interpreters to introduce themselves:

Micaela Yang - Spanish

Elaine Metzker - Portuguese

Angie Surpris - Haitian Creole

II. REPORT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Student Representatives Bryan Recinos and Marcia Narh-Botchway were both present and reported the following:

- Sophomore Students will begin taking ELA MCAS next week
- On Thursday March 23, 2022 SHS will have a meet and greet with Mayor Ballantyne to have their voices heard regarding community relationships, sign up is now available.
- SHS has begun an afterschool homework help for 9th grade students.
- Sports Clearance for spring sports is happening this week

Ms. Pitone wondered if student representatives had heard any conversations regarding face coverings.

Mr. Recinos reported that students know other cities are beginning to lift the mandate, and said it is a big topic with mixed emotions from the student population. Ms. Narh-Botchway added that students are wondering whether it is going to happen here in Somerville and thinks conversations are leaning towards keeping the masks.

Chair Green then asked student representatives to stay on for the conversation pertaining to mask coverings.

Superintendent Skipper asked student representatives if they could verbalize what is being said either way.

Mr. Recinos said some students are wanting to keep masks on because they believe there might be a spike in cases, they also feel like the masks are now socially accepted. Ms. Narh-Botchway added that some students might feel safer keeping the masks on but some have also spoken to keeping masks off for sports or open spaces. Mr. Recinos noted that it would be nice to feel a sense of freedom with the masks coming off but recognized that this would be inadequate in some places like classrooms and crowded hallways.

Dr. Ackman clarified that updating the mask policy is not outlawing the masks but rather making them optional.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Green read the public comment regulations and asked those who signed up, to comment at this time.

Rana McLaughlin of 96 Rogers Ave. 2 kids at the Brown school (Submitted comment to be included in these minutes)

First, I'd like to thank the school committee for doing so much to keep kids in school this year. I've been so pleased with how school has gone and we are so grateful to you and all the educators in Somerville.

Tonight you have the unfortunate task of deciding, once again, on a public health matter. Whether to keep the mask mandate in place for our schools or allow masks to become optional. I am so frustrated that once again you're being asked to make these decisions. These decisions should be made by health experts at the state or national level and not by local school committees. But here we are.

So this is what I ask. Please don't make this decision based on fear or emotion or feelings. Please lean on the experts. Follow the CDC recommendations and vote to make masks optional in our schools as so many of our neighbors schools have done.

If you continue to mandate masks, you are effectively removing freedom of choice and enforcing a requirement that the experts are not recommending at this time, given the many encouraging metrics we are seeing.

Yes there are lots of unknowns. We don't know if there will ever be an approved vaccine for under 5 year olds. We don't know if there will be another variant of concern. We don't know how many parents will pull kids out of SPS because they are struggling with speech delays.

We know what the experts are recommending and we know masks will continue to be effective for those who choose to wear them. We know masks make it harder to hear and understand speech. We know masks inhibit social interactions. We know masks can be damaging to childhood development.

Lastly thank you to the student reps and their input tonight. I have to say I was surprised the committee put them on the spot tonight with questions about this sensitive topic. The lack of anonymity and pressure to be diplomatic in response must have been stressful and they did great.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Caitrin MacDonald, parent of 3 students in SPS, two at SHS and one in 6th grade.

Ms. MacDonald commented on behalf of her sons at SHS who are wondering about what will happen with mask coverings. She said that students do not know the faces of a lot of their classmates or teachers. Her sixth grader is doing fine, though she would love to have masks off; she has been with the same peers for 7 years so they know each other. Her 10th grade sons are at a relatively new high school; they have never seen the faces of their classmates and do not know the faces of their teachers. She is a Nurse Practitioner and was in homeless shelters during the pandemic, she was fully masked as students and teachers are now, and made many assumptions about people's moods. She wants students to be able to choose and asked that the district to make masks optional as Dr. Ackman noted earlier. Especially where students were kept from in-person learning most of last year, unmasking will be important for their social and emotional growth. Ms. MacDonald noted that we are a highly vaccinated community, there is low level of community virus, and it continues to drop. One-way masking is protective and those who want to continue to mask should do so as we have adequate ventilation and testing in place.

IV. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

A. District Report

• COVID 19 Mitigation Update (Dr. Curley)

Dr. Curley joined with a continuation of last week's conversation, and gave a review of the data. He clarified that this is a very tricky conversation and wanted to explain the district's rationale of what we want to keep in place.

- Mask requirements timeline
 - CDC February 25 - mask no longer required.
 - DESE February 28 - mask requirement lifted for k-12 schools.
 - City of Somerville lifted the indoor mask requirement as of March 5, 2022
 - This week zero positives cases during our regular pool testing.
 - Proposal - masks optional starting March 14, 2022 for SPS, but continue to be required in nurse's offices as this is federal requirements.
 - Masks will continue to be made available to students and staff.

Dr. Curley announced that Dr. Lantagne was also joining today's meeting to answer questions for high risk Individuals. Dr. Lantagne noted that there are individuals who are at more risk of respiratory disease including COVID.

- It is important to
 - Maintain environmental controls
 - Maintain social controls
 - Continue Testing
 - Normalized support for those masking
 - Continue one way masking in high quality masks for those who need it

These will continue regardless of changes to the policy.

V. Unfinished Business – Item A (Taken Out of Order)

A. Somerville Public Schools Policy Manual

The following policies are being presented this evening for a second reading:

- **File EBCA: Face Covering**

At this point Chair Green announced that the Face Covering Policy would be taken out of order for consideration:

Questions:

Ms. Barish thought back to when staff were required to be vaccinated or wear a mask and continue to test and asked if this would be reflected on this policy. Dr. Curley responded that it is one of the elements that has been negotiated with the SEU and looking at the agreement with SEU, he believes this will remain and will be communicated to staff through Human Resources.

Dr. Ackman asked if there was anything in the policy that Dr. Langtane would caution the committee to amend before voting it through. Dr. Langtane thinks the policy looks good and agrees with the consideration of requesting masks for unvaccinated staff.

Dr. Phillips spoke to hearing anguish from parents with younger students and asked Dr. Lantagne and Dr. Curley to speak specifically to what has happened in other districts with younger student populations after lifting the mask mandate. Dr. Langtane said masking has not been required for students under five, they are some of the toughest to mask because they are learning to speak. These students really need the option of being able to unmask and added that the best way to protect the under 12's and under 5's is by having a high vaccination rate. Dr. Curley added that the policy just moves to mask optional, these student will remain testing and the district will make adjustments if we start moving in a different direction.

Ms. Dion asked what is the difference between last spring and now that makes them believe there will not be a new variant. Dr. Langtane responded that for people who are not immune compromise the possibility of a new variant is very low. It should not be a large concern that a new variant will develop.

Chair Green commented that not wearing a mask could be super contagious and said this will be more of a student choice. He is concerned that many younger students will not know why their parents are telling them to wear a mask, when masks are optional. He is curious to see how many students will stop masking after week one.

Dr. Curley said this is valid point and clarified that it is not going to be the educator's job to enforce masking. Dr. Langtane noted that it might be hard to trust unmasking because omicron was so difficult but people will start to trust more overtime.

Superintendent Skipper added that we have been very cautious about safety with the goal of keeping students in schools every day. We have proven to be able to do this even through the highest point of omicron and will continue to monitor and if numbers begin to go up we will revisit the conversations. If there were any safety concerns, we would not make this recommendation. She wants to ensure that we are building a culture that the choice of wearing a mask or not is respected and honored.

Ms. Barish wondered how we are scheduling rapid test vs. pool testing. Dr. Curley responded that scheduling pool testing is largely around the school calendar. At SHS, testing is typically on Mondays and Thursdays. The rapid test only speaks to if you are affected in that moment and is in place for symptomatic testing.

Ms. Barish followed up by asking if the at home tests were distributed weekly or biweekly. Dr. Curley confirmed that tests are distributed biweekly.

Ms. Dion asked if we have been able to procure KN94 masks for staff and if we could add high quality masking to the policy. Dr. Curley responded that we still have 12,000 KN95 masks for those staff who choose to wear them.

Ms. Pitone asked if there is a particular communication going out for students of color who have a higher risk of contraction. Dr. Curley is working closely with the communications department to explain the rationale and continue to provide the resources for high quality masking.

Dr. Ackman asked regarding those who test positive and do not test for 90 days, what percent is not currently testing because of that, and is there any way for those to re contract the virus and pass it on during those 90 days? Dr. Langtane responded that if there is a new variant it may be possible to re contract, but without a new variant it is very unlikely and Dr. Curley said that out of caution those who are within that 90 days period still have access to rapid testing specially if they are symptomatic.

Ms. Krepchin wondered how we make it acceptable on the ground for those who continue to wear mask. Dr. Curley is working on slides for the community that explain the rationale and the option and will continue to share communication with parents for them to speak to their children. Superintendent Skipper added that part of this is school culture and having respect for difference in choices, teachers and staff will continue to push this.

Chair Green weary of adding rules within the policy and thanked Dr. Lantagne for speaking to the issue of trust.

Ms. Barish feels like people are getting so used to the routine of checking for symptoms that they may forget and asked if there is a way to reinforce that practice. Dr. Curley will take the feedback and go back to find ways to come from all angles to teachers and staff as well as parents.

Superintendent Skipper reinforced that communication goes out every week on testing and will continue to go out districtwide.

MOTION: There was a motion by Dr. Phillips, seconded by Dr. Ackman to approve File EBCA: Face Coverings, with the friendly amendment of adding March 14, 2022 as the policy implementation date. The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.

Superintendent skipper thanked Dr. Curley for all his work around this the past two years.

- **File JLCB: Inoculation of Students**

File JLCB: Inoculation of Students was reintroduced tonight for a second reading.

MOTION: There was a motion by Ms. Barish, seconded by Dr. Ackman to approve changes to File JLCB: Inoculation of Students.

Ms. Barish explained the specific changes:

- Immunization – Changed to Inoculation
- Addition of parent or guardian instead of just parent.

Chair Green requested that the last change made to this policy, be made to other policies wherever possible. The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.

VI. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

B. Personnel Report

- **February 2022**

Superintendent Skipper read the personnel report and noted the retirements of the following teachers:

MaryAnn Beaton, Clinical Coordinator at Next Wave/Full Circle retiring after 22 years
Heloisa Taveira, Somerville High School Portuguese Teacher retiring after 27 years and 82 days,
Charles LaFauci, K-12 Supervisor of Library and Media Services retiring after 28 years and 182 days,

Harry Marchetti, Somerville High School Assistant Principal retiring after 9 years,
Kellee Kucharski, Senior Clerk at John F. Kennedy School retiring after 6 years,
Cheryl Piccirelli, Principal at Michael Capuano School retiring after 7 years,
Ana Treska, Community Schools Lead Teacher retiring after 13 ½ years,
Peter Holladay, Adjustment Counselor at Benjamin Brown School retiring after 23 years.

VII. REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

A. School Committee Meeting for Educational Programs and Instruction: February 28, 2022 (Dr. Phillips)
Report of Educational Program February 28, 2022, submitted by Sarah Phillips

The Educational Programs Subcommittee met on February 28, 2022, via Zoom. Members present were Sarah Phillips, Emily Ackman, and Sara Dion. Also in attendance was Assistant Superintendent, Chad Mazza; SPS Legal Counsel, Peter Sumners; Real Life Learning Center Founder, Christian Cole; Principal at ViewPoint Christian Academy, Adam Rondeau; Real Life Learning Center Legal Counsel, Shawn Beacon.

Chair Phillips called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Emily Ackman joined at 5:32pm. There were three people in the audience.

There were three items on the agenda:

1) High School GPA

This item was tabled.

2) Real Life Learning Center Presentation

Pursuant to policy LBC, the founders of the Real Life Learning Center responded to questions posed by the subcommittee.

3) Real Life Learning Center Deliberations

Attorney Sumners provided the subcommittee with an overview of the legal definition of the criteria for approving or denying an application from a private school, "the instructional program of the school equals that of the city's public schools in thoroughness, efficiency, and progress made." Ultimately, the criteria boil down to a question of will students be able to achieve grade level skills in those subjects required by law. Private schools do not have to use DESE frameworks. They can decide what they want to teach as long as students are progressing through school at the same rate they would in a public school.

Dr. Ackman asked about private school expectations regarding supports and progress for special education students. Attorney Sumner responded that he did not believe the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, which is what requires special education services, applies to private schools.

Dr. Phillips asked whether adherence to the concept of "nouthetic counseling," which teaches that mental illness is caused by sin and demons and the planned lack of counselors were evidence of failing to meet criteria with respect to the health curriculum or student support services. Attorney Sumner noted that the state law does not require mental health be included the health curriculum and reminded the subcommittee that the curriculum in a private school does not have to be the same as that of a public school, just equivalent in thoroughness, efficiency, and progress made.

Dr. Phillips asked how a science curriculum that emphasizes creationism fits with the criteria of thoroughness, efficiency, and progress made. Attorney Sumners replied that the issue is whether a student learning creationism in a private school can progress through the grade levels in the same manner as a student in the public schools. The subcommittee can evaluate an application based on what students are required by law to know but can't discriminate on the basis of religious beliefs.

Ms. Dion pointed out that the curriculum chosen by the Real Life Learning Center fails to meet several state science standards, such as those related to dinosaurs, evolution, and natural selection, and doesn't meet English Language Arts Standards, such as providing students a range of reading, representing a variety of genres, cultures, and perspectives. Attorney Sumners reminded the subcommittee that a private school does not have to teach the same curriculum as a public school.

Dr. Phillips asked Mr. Mazza if SPS received a copy of the Real Life Learning Center Handbook, which Mr. Cole had referenced numerous times in his presentation but has not been received by the subcommittee. Mr. Cole reminded the subcommittee that it was sent with the Real Life Learning Center's initial application materials. Dr. Ackman stated that she would not feel comfortable beginning formal deliberations on the Real Life Learning Center's application until the subcommittee has had a chance to review the handbook, and deliberations were tabled until March. In the mean time, Attorney Sumners will draft an opinion for the subcommittee about whether the application meets the criteria established by state law and DESE guidance.

Chair Phillips adjourned the meeting at 6:42 pm.

Documents used:

RLLC_responses.pdf

MOTION: There was a motion by Dr. Phillips, second by Ms. Pitone, to accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Educational Programs and Instruction of February 28, 2022. The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Somerville Public Schools FY2021 Graduate – (Recommended Action: Approval)
Mitchell Costa

MOTION: There was a motion by Ms. Barish, seconded by Dr. Phillips, to approved FY2021 graduate Mitchell Costa. The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.

B. FIELD Trips (Recommended action: approval)
May 6, 2022

20 Students from Next Wave/Full Circle will visit Mount Monadnock state Park in New Hampshire. Travel by school van, no student cost.

MOTION: There was a motion by Ms. Barish, seconded by Dr. Ackman, to approve the out of state field trip for 20 students from Next Wave/Full Circle to visit Mount Monadnock State Park in New Hampshire. Travel by school van, no student cost, on May 6, 2022. The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.

June 16, 2022

Eighth Grade Students at the Healey School will visit Canobie lake park in New Hampshire. Travel by Bus, Student cost \$35

MOTION: There was a motion by Ms. Barish, seconded by Dr. Ackman, to approve the out of state field trip of Eighth Grade Students at the Healey School visiting Canobie Lake park in New Hampshire. Travel by Bus, Student cost \$35, on June 16, 2022. The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.

C. DONATIONS (Recommended action: approval)

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

Donation	Donor	City, State	Value	Program Donated to
Lunch	Kristin Phelan - Somernova	Somerville, MA	Mama Gina \$220 La Cantina Mexicana \$700 Dave's Pasta \$720	Lunch provided for 65 kids and 15 adults for the coding camps at Argenziano School during winter 2022

MOTION: There was a motion by Ms. Barish, seconded by Ms. Krepchin, to accept all donations listed above. The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.

IX. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Chair Green announced that three weeks ago City Council appointed three members to look at school buildings, Chair Green is now appointing three members from the School Committee to create a subcommittee pertaining to school buildings; he asked Ms. Pitone to Chair the subcommittee and asked Dr. Ackman and Ms. Dion to join.

He said he is also looking to ways of keeping virtual public comments even after returning to in person meetings.

Lastly, he announced that the School Committee will have a member retreat this summer to address summer budget approvals.

X. CONDOLENCES

Superintendent Skipper and the Somerville School committee extend their deepest condolences to the families of **Lise Lange Striar**, mother of Siri Striar, Multilingual Learner Academic Support Coordinator at Somerville High School

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned 8:48 p.m.

Related documents:

Agenda

[COVID 19 Mitigation Update](#)

File EBCFA: Face Coverings

File JLCB: Inoculation of Students

Personnel Report

Submitted by: E. Garcia

**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING – MARCH 7, 2022
ZOOM WEBINAR– 7:00 P.M.**

Amended 03-04-22

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the School Committee will be conducted via remote participation.

We will post an audio recording, audio-video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of these proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting on the City of Somerville website and local cable access government channels.

Copy & paste the following link into your internet browser to preregister or on the date and time of this meeting to view it live: https://k12somerville.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_UrehXHpaTfut-o3dQKwcpw

Webinar ID: 840 0751 5994

Password: SPSSC22

Somerville Public Schools - School Committee Goals 2019 - 2022

Through the following long-range goals, we commit to addressing deep-rooted systemic barriers that have prevented us from achieving our district vision of equity and excellence and ensuring that all students, regardless of race or ethnicity, have the supports and resources they need to achieve educational success in our district now and in the future. By 2022, we will ...:

...increase the percentage of support staff of color by 6 percentage points, teachers and counselors of color by 5 percentage points, and administrators of color by 4 percentage points through evaluating and strengthening all elements of our human capital system.

... 1) conduct a district enrollment study to understand the prospective future population of the district and 2) craft a vision for school assignment and programming aligned with the district's equity policy.

... design, evaluate, and partially or fully implement student-based budgeting to ensure that every student has equitable access to rich learning opportunities that help them thrive.

... design a robust system of aligned developmental academic and social-emotional benchmarks which will be used to inform practices, policies, and resource allocation.

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. REPORT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

IV. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

A. District Report

- COVID 19 Mitigation Update (Dr. Curley)

B. Personnel Report

- February 2022

V. REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEES

A. Educational Programs and Instruction Subcommittee: February 28, 2022 (Dr. Phillips)

MOTION: To accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Educational Programs and Instruction of February 28, 2022.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Somerville Public Schools Policy Manual

The Following policies are being presented this evening for a second reading:

- File EBCFA: Face Coverings
- File JLCB: Inoculation of Students

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Somerville High School FY2021 Graduate – (Recommended Action: Approval)

Mitchell Costa

B. Field Trips (Recommended action: approval)

May 6, 2022

20 Students from Next Wave/ Full Circle will visit Mount Monadnock State Park in New Hampshire. Travel by school van, no student cost.

June 16, 2022

Eighth Grade Students at the Healey School will visit Canobie Lake Park in New Hampshire. Travel by Bus, student cost \$35.

C. Donations (Recommended action: approval)

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

Donation	Donor	City, State	Value	Programs Donated to
Lunch	Kristin Phelan - Somernova	Somerville, MA	Mama Gina \$220 La Cantina Mexicana \$700 Dave’s Pasta \$720	Lunch provided for 65 kids and 15 adults for the coding camps at Argenziano School during winter 2022

VIII. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

IX. CONDOLENCES

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

FACE COVERINGS

Somerville Public Schools (SPS) is committed to providing a safe environment in schools during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Maintaining a safe environment is critical to the District's ability to ensure students remain in a full-time classroom learning environment.

According to public health experts, one of the best ways to stop the spread of coronavirus and to keep members of our school community safe is the use of face masks or face coverings. Therefore, in accordance with guidance and recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH), the following requirements are in place until further notice.

A face covering that covers the nose and mouth is recommended to be worn by individuals who remain unvaccinated or are otherwise immunocompromised in school buildings, and on school grounds, even when physical distancing is observed.

Individuals who are vaccinated are not required to wear a mask, but may do so if desired.

Students and staff returning from 5 day isolation following a positive COVID test must follow strict mask use, other than when eating, drinking, or outside, and conduct active monitoring for symptoms, through day 10.

Masks will be required in all school health offices.

A student's mask or face covering is to be provided by the student's family. Staff members may provide their own face coverings. However, the district will supply disposable face coverings, as necessary, for individuals at a school building, or aboard school transportation, who request but are without one.

The Superintendent or their designee will work with School Committee to develop a mechanism for returning to mandatory masking if needed and as directed by federal, state, and local public health guidance.

Guidance Statements: Massachusetts Department of Public Health

[https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements - mask-requirements-in-certain-locations-https://search.mass.gov/?q=school+health+offices](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-mask-requirements-mask-requirements-in-certain-locations-https://search.mass.gov/?q=school+health+offices)

Center for Disease Control and Prevention – Covid-19 Community Risk Levels Updated February 25, 2022.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>

Center for Disease Control and Prevention – Guidance for Covid-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools Updated January 13, 2022.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html>

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education – Fall 2021 Covid-19 Guidance Updated February 9, 2022

<https://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/on-desktop/2022-0209mask-requirement-update.pdf>

SOURCE: MASC – February 25, 2022

ADOPTED:

File: JLCB - ~~INOCULATION~~ IMMUNIZATION OF STUDENTS

Students entering school for the first time, whether at kindergarten or through transfer from another school system, will be required to present a physician's certificate attesting to immunization against ~~diphtheria, whooping cough, poliomyelitis, tetanus, measles, mumps, rubella, varicella, HIB, and TB evaluation, and such other~~ communicable diseases as may be specified from time to time by the Department of Public Health. The only exception to these requirements will be made on receipt of a written statement from a doctor that immunization would not be in the best interests of the child, or by the student's parent or guardian stating that vaccination or immunization is contrary to the religious beliefs of the student or parent/guardian.

SOURCE: MASC August 2020

Established by law.

LEGAL REF.: M.G.L. 76:15

CROSS REF.: JF, School Admissions

Revised: January 18, 1996

Amended: December 2009



Somerville Public Schools
 Education • Inspiration • Excellence
PERSONNEL REPORT
 2021-2022 School Year
 February 2022

RESIGNATION FOR PURPOSE OF RETIREMENT:

SCHOOL	POSITION	INCUMBENT	EFFECTIVE DATE	YEARS OF SERVICE
SHS	SEIP Mathematics Teacher	Raul Quintanilla	12/31/21	28
KEN	SEEK Paraprofessional	Anne Oshima	06/30/21	13
SHS	Library/Media Paraprofessional	Donna Alibrandi	06/30/21	19
SCALE	FT ELL Teacher	Elizabeth Stark	12/31/21	14 + 3 months
HLY	Kindergarten Paraprofessional	Kathleen Donahue	10/15/21	38 years
HLY	Occupational Therapist	Marybeth Bernstein	11/22/21	25 years
EEC	BCBA	Diane Pucci	01/31/22	6 years
Food Services	Pincipal Account Clerk	Patricia Leahy	02/04/22	34 years
ESCS	Grade 2 Teacher	Paula Lynch	12/31/21	28 + 164 days
ESCS	Grade 1 Paraprofessional	Margarita Lopez	01/13/22	25
SHS	Health Career Teacher	Laurie Foley	06/30/22	22 & 157 days
Central Office	District Administrator of MLE Programs	Sarah Davila	06/30/22	25 & 143 days
SHS	Chemistry Teacher	Joseph Tarello	01/31/22	58 years
NW/FC	Clincial Coordinator	MaryAnn Beaton	06/30/22	22 years
SHS	Portuguese Teacher	Heloisa Taveira	06/30/22	27 years & 82 days
District Wide	K-12, Supervisor of Library & Media Services	Charles LaFauci	06/30/22	28 years & 182 days
SHS	Assistant Principal	Harry Marchetti	03/25/22	9 years
KEN	Senior Clerk	Kellee Kucharski	06/30/22	6 years
CAP	Principal	Cheryl Piccirelli	06/30/22	7 years
CAP/Comm Schools	FT Lead Teacher	Ana Treska	12/31/22	13 1/2 years
BR	Adjustment Counselor	Peter Holladay	08/10/22	23 years

RESIGNATION NOTICES:

SCHOOL	POSITION	INCUMBENT	EFFECTIVE DATE
CAP	SPED AIM Teacher	Meghan Harrington	02/04/22
CAP	PK Paraprofessional	Mallory Shackford	01/28/22
Food Services	Cafeteria Helper	Mitchel Calderon Melendez	01/24/22
Food Service	PT Lunch Attendant (still holds 2 positions)	Seema Sood	02/01/22
HLY/Comm Schoools	PT Therapeutic Specialist	Alexandra Mower	02/18/22
SHS	CTE School Counselor	Meghan Sousa	02/11/22
WHCIS	Theater Teacher	Lauren Berkouse	02/11/22

ASSIGNMENT ENDED:

SCHOOL	POSITION	INCUMBENT	EFFECTIVE DATE

LEAVES OF ABSENCES:

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SCHOOL	POSITION	INCUMBENT	EFFECTIVE DATES
AFAS	School Nurse	Ruja Sharma	03/03/22-04/03/22
AFAS/ESCS	.90 Music Teacher	Kathy Kim	02/22/22-03/06/22
BR	Grade 2 Teacher	Rachel Bourne	12/31/21-06/30/22 - Revised
CAP	Speech & Language Therapist	Tiffany Jeng	01/11/22-04/14/22 - Revised
CAP	SPED Paraprofessional	Jeffy Louis	01/05/22-06/30/22 - Extended
ESCS	Grade 7 Math Teacher	Catherine Howland	03/01/22-06/30/22
ESCS	Reading teacher	Elizabeth Larson	12/30/21-04/22/22
ESCS	Grade 4 UNIDOS Paraprofessional	Emma Mrozicki	03/26/22-06/30/22
HLY	Sonrisa PK Paraprofessional	Ivelise Cruz	01/31/22-02/11/22
HLY	Grade 1 Teacher	Lauren Woldemariam	04/07/22-06/17/22
NW/FC	Crisis Counselor	Elizabeth Gillott	04/04/22-05/31/22
SCALE	PT Reading Teacher	Nancy Egan-Tricomi	03/16/22-04/06/22
SFLC	Resources, Data and Communications Coordinator	Ruth Santos	02/14/2-TBD
SHS	Music Teacher	Phillip Grannan	02/16/22-02/18/22
SHS	Social Studies Teacher	Kara Carpenter	04/17/22-06/17/22
WHCIS	Grades 1/2 Paraprofessional	Nicholas Triant	02/14/22-02/18/22

INTRA-DISTRICT PERSONNEL TRANSACTIONS					
SCHOOL	POSITION	INCUMBENT	REASON	VICE	EFFECTIVE DATE
AFAS	Provisional Kindergarten Paraprofessional	Secma Sood	Additional Assignment	Christine Hayes	02/02/22
ESCS	Senior Clerk	Katy Matos	Junior Clerk to Senior Clerk	Luz Lopez	01/24/22
CAP	Building Substitute Teacher	Lina Spinosa	New Assignment	New	11/01/21
CAP	Provisional PK SMILE Paraprofessional	Emily Jahne	Reassignment	Margaret Whittier-Ferguson	02/14/22
CAP/Comm Schools	PT Assistant Teacher	Mei Idris	Additional Assignment - Reassignment	Alex Mendoza	02/09/22
CAP/Comm Schools	PT Lead Teacher	Ana Treska	New Assignment - Post Retirement	Kenner Munoz	01/03/22
Enrollment Center	Student Enrollment & Registration Specialist	Fernanda Alves	New Assignment	Marisa Hurley	02/10/22
ESCS	PT Utility Aide	Joanne Simon	Additional Assignment	Hailee Andrade	01/24/22
ESCS	PT Cafeteria Helper	Vanita Sharma	New Assignment	New	01/26/22
ESCS	Building Substitute Teacher	Charles DiSilva	New Assignment	New	01/24/22
Food Services	Cafeteria Helper	Vanita Sherma	New Assignment	New	01/26/22
SHS	SHIP Nurse	Leah Zackon	New Assignment	New	02/04/22
WHCIS/Comm Schools	PT Assistant Teacher	Adjaratou Koita	Reassignment	Kaisy Espinoza	02/21/22
WHCIS	Provisional Kindergarten Paraprofessional	Charlotte Schofield	New Assignment	Sara Zaveloff	01/18/22
WHCIS	PT Lead Teacher	Allyson Caprigno	Additional Assignment	Molly Dickerson	01/24/22
WHCIS	Provisional Grade 2 SEIP Teacher	Sara Zaveloff	New Assignment	Aveva Mack	01/18/22

NEW HIRES					
SCHOOL	POSITION	INCUMBENT	VICE	DUAL/SEI	EFFECTIVE DATE
AFAS	Provisional PreK Paraprofessional	Mohua Mondal	Liesel Bender	No/No	02/08/22
AFAS/Comm Schools	Homework Helper	Marisa Lopez	New	No/No	01/24/22
CAP/Comm Schools	Homework Helper	Aidsa Arias	Alaa Boutkourst	No/No	02/07/22
District Wide	Remote Tutor	Michelle Gatta	N/A	No/No	01/18/22

District Wide	Intermittent Substitute Teacher	Danica Mooney-Jones	N/A	No/No	02/11/22
District Wide	Intermittent Substitute Teacher	Jacqueline Landaverde	N/A	No/No	02/11/22
District Wide	Intermittent Substitute Teacher	Richard Csaplar	N/A	No/No	02/11/22
ESCS	El Sistema High School Helper	Serena Wong	New	No/No	01/24/22
ESCS	Provisional Grade 7 Math Teacher	Joseph Fleming	Catherine Howland	No/Yes	03/01/22
Community Schools	High School Helper	Tessel Van Schaak	New	No/No	01/03/22
HLY/Comm Schools	PT Therapeutic Specialist	Alexandra Mower	Ramya Ramakrishna	No/No	01/24/22
HLY/Comm Schools	PT Lead teacher	Michelle Ambila	Reassignment	Janty Jonah	02/07/22
HLY	Provisional Building Paraprofessional	Eliza Bowditch	Yolking Goin	No/No	01/24/22
KEN	Building Substitute Teacher	Kristin Connor	New	No/No	02/14/22
NW/FC	Provisional Social Studies Teacher/Counselor	Allison Kangas de Bellalta	Tom Serino	No/No	02/04/22
NW/FC	Principal Clerk	Jessica Roffi	Virginia Roche	No/No	02/28/22
SCALE	PT Chief Examiner of Assessments	Roxi Coicou	Scott Weaver	No/No	02/17/22
SHS	Provisional Art Teacher	Christopher Plunkett	Thomas Linville	No/Yes	02/07/22
SHS	Homebound Tutor	Owen Sheehy	New	No/No	01/03/22
SHS/CTE	Senior Clerk	Darci Cangiamila	Cheryl Martino-Young	No/No	02/09/22
WHCIS	Building Substitute Teacher	Racheli Mandelker	New	No/No	01/25/22
WHCIS/Comm Schools	FT Lead Teacher	Veronica Garza	Kaisy Espinoza	No/No	02/14/22
WHCIS/Comm Schools	Homework Helper	Rosa Palma	New	No/No	02/07/22

SUMMER SCHOOL	POSITION	INCUMBENT	
All Programs	District Director of Summer Programs	Dayshawn Simmons	Additional Assignment