

**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Monday, October 15, 2018 – Regular Meeting

7:00 p.m. - Board of Aldermen Chambers - City Hall

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

Members absent: Mayor Curtatone

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Green called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. 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 – 8 – Mr. Futrell, Ms. Palmer, Ms. Pitone, Dr. Ackman, Ms. O’Sullivan, Ms. Normand, Alderman Ballantyne and Mr. Green. ABSENT – 1– Mayor Curtatone.

II. REPORT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Student representatives were not present, so Dr. Curley read their written report as follows.

This past week, due to the Brett Kavanaugh hearings, Ms. Massillon and a few students held an event Thursday and Friday afterschool, in which students could come discuss their thoughts on the event and make posters to hang in their neighborhoods. Laura-Luiza Gouvea, Emily Childs, Sabrin Zahid, and Anika Nayak were the juniors that ran the event which had a great turnout both days. Additionally, the sophomores and juniors took the PSATs on Wednesday. Thank you, Aislinn Cannistraro

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- SEPTEMBER 17, 2018
- SEPTEMBER 24, 2018
- OCTOBER 1, 2018

MOTION: Ms. Palmer made a motion to approve the September 17, September 24, and the October 1 minutes, seconded by Dr. Ackman.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the audience signed up to give public comment.

V. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

A. DISTRICT REPORT

Superintendent Skipper thanked all of our retiring teachers for their dedication and service. She gave particular praise to SHS Special Education Teacher Doanne Dunn retiring after 39 years. Superintendent Skipper praised SHS Adjustment Counselor Barry Friedman for his 28 years of service to Somerville Public Schools. And she highlighted the dedication of WHCIS Fifth Grade Teacher Ana Potter for her 33 years of service to the district.

Superintendent Skipper gave the following report:

More than 100 students, parents, guardians, educators, local and state elected officials, and community members shared their thoughts and asked questions at the **State of Latino Education** town hall event held at the East Somerville Community School last Wednesday evening. New state education Commissioner Jeff Riley hosted a reception and town hall event to share where we are in terms of serving our Latino community, and to hear from the Latino community about their hopes, concerns, and ideas for better serving Latino students. The Somerville event was the third in a 3-part series of conversations that the Commissioner and co-hosts -- Latinos for Education, Amplify LatinX, and the Greater Boston Latino Network – held across Massachusetts. Thanks to everyone who was able to be part of this conversation. I was particularly proud of our students and parents for their leadership at this event, for asking direct and tough questions, and for representing their communities and their city with strength and compassion.

Our visioning work with the City and community partners is well under way. We are continuing to solicit input through a short survey and invite people who work and/or live in Somerville to share their hopes and priorities when it comes to learning experiences for children and teens in Somerville. The survey only takes about 5 minutes to complete. Visit our district home page, and click on the LEARN button under the "**Somerville**

Learning 2030” banner to access the survey and other materials and information about this important visioning process. We also invite you to participate in a special Somerville Learning 2030 “Night @ the Cummings” event being hosted by the Somerville Family Learning Collaborative on Tuesday, October 16th, 6:00-8:00pm. A light dinner will be served. Please register by emailing mlaskey@k12.somerville.ma.us or calling (617) 625-6600, x6990.

Our commitment to **supporting the whole child** continues to be a focus in schools across the district. The Kennedy School hosted Health and Wellness Week from October 1st-5th. Students and staff were encouraged to wear workout attire throughout the week and to pay special attention to healthful snacks, mindfulness, and healthy movement throughout the day. As part of the “Safe Routes to School” National Walk to School Day, the Winter Hill PTA hosted a Walk and Roll to School Day event on Wednesday, October 10th. Students and parents were encouraged to walk or bike (or otherwise roll) to school that morning. Special events started at 7:00am in the Winter Hill schoolyard and included a D.J., special prizes, and an opportunity to meet with PTA offers and representatives from Shape Up Somerville, Beautiful Stuff, Somerville Cares about Prevention, and the Somerville Police Department.

Somerville High School students were invited to be part of the **Massachusetts Trial Court’s “Cultural Appreciation Week”** during which the Court celebrated “the rich tapestry and diversity of Trial Court employees” and communities across the Commonwealth. We were proud to be part of this wonderful celebration. On Friday, September 28th, Students had an opportunity to meet with Court judges and other staff to learn about the court system and some of the positive things the Court does for the community. Sixteen students participated in the event; 10 students displayed their art and talked with guests about their art pieces, 2 students shared poems, and 4 strings music students played music during the event. Student artwork is being displayed at the Court house as part of this ongoing celebration and focus on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

We continue to be amazed by the incredible commitment of so many community partners. Last week, we received a generous donation of back to school supplies for the Special Education Department from Lyrics Champs, a local non-profit whose mission is to promote Autism awareness, acceptance, and education within our community. **Lyrics Champs** conducted their first-ever donation drive for items that could specifically support special education students, donating the first \$1,000 toward this supplies drive, and reaching out to the community for additional donations. They talked with special education teachers and other professionals to identify items that would be particularly helpful in supporting students with special needs. A sincere thanks from all of us in the district to Lyrics Champs and all the people who contributed toward this effort.

B. PERSONNEL REPORT

Ms. Pitone asked about the roles of the Therapeutic Specialist role at particular schools. Superintendent Skipper responded by explaining these are specialists who support Somerville Public Schools students as they transition from school to afterschool.

Ms. Normand asked about the number of part time positions at East Somerville Community School. Superintendent Skipper stated that because of the size of the school, they increased the number of part-time specialists.

At 7:17pm, Chair Green turned the chair over to Ms. Normand in order to present the Long Range report.

VI. REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEES

A. School Committee Meeting for Long Range Planning: August 29, 2018 (Chair Green)

Long range Planning – Meeting Minutes – August 29, 2018

Chair Green gave the following update on the Long Range meeting from August 29, 2018:

The meeting reflected a commitment to long-term focus on equity regarding school budgeting, enrollment, and human capital. The first equity Long Range was then held on September 17, 2018.

MOTION: Motion by Dr. Ackman to approve subcommittee report, seconded by Ms. Pitone.

Motion was approved via voice vote.

B. School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities September 19, 2018 (Mr. Futrell)

Finance and Facilities - Meeting Minutes – September 19, 2018

At 7:19pm, Chair Green returned to chair the meeting. Mr. Futrell gave the following report for the School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities of September 19, 2018.

The Finance & Facilities subcommittee met on September 19, 2018. Attending the meeting were subcommittee members Ms. Normand and myself, as well as School Committee members Ms. Pitone. Also attending from the district were Superintendent Skipper, Finance Director Fran Gorski, Chief of Staff Jeff Curley, Data Coordinator Kenya Avant, and Director of Food Services Lauren Mancini. The meeting convened at 6:43pm.

The agenda included a FY19 Budget Update, FY19 Entitlement Grants Circuit Breaker review, summary of Special Education expenses in FY18, a Summer 18 facilities update, and a discussion on school lunch debt and the Kennedy Pool.

- We reviewed our liability insurance and a couple updates that focus on the security of our kids.
- We were updated about the addition of a new section of Grade 1 at the Argenziano, taught by a teacher funded by efficiency dollars in the personnel line
- We discussed the recycling monitors for the pilot program
 - 4 schools are piloting recycling and composting: Kennedy, Healey, Argenziano, Brown
 - There have been issues with the time it takes to manage recycling/composting interfering with recess that are still being worked out.
 - The district and DPW are working closely on the logistics of composting to ensure that we aren't creating new rodent issues around the schools.
 - We should expect to hear an update on this pilot in December or January
- We've added additional Spanish language resources in the district, including 0.2 FTE at Argenziano, 0.5 FTE at Winter Hill, with additional need at the East, West, and Healey.
 - Class sizes now are 28-36, which the district is working to adjust.
 - This will be on a future Ed Programs agenda
- The district reported that there were about \$25k of savings in transportation due to a lesser need this year for an after school bus
 - Additionally, ELL bus monitors pay was increased from \$19.50 to \$30 in order to recruit a more stable and reliable working group. Estimated cost to the district resulting from this increase is \$28k.
- The district is partnering with the Harvard Kennedy School, specifically an Operations Management course, to look for efficiencies from school to school
- The district is looking into how we manage substitute teachers, specifically raising their pay to ensure that we can compete with nearby districts.
 - Specifically, the district may add a third lane for certified teachers.
 - The district is also considering a SKIP and/or a SEIP bonus, as well as a bonus for Mondays and Fridays when we experience a higher rate of sick/vacation days.
 - The district is looking at a potential cost for these changes landing around \$125k, but will update the district again before making any change.
- On Circuit Breaker and grants, the district is expecting level funding for entitlement grants, a decrease in title 1 (which will be helped by an offset from last year), and a slight increase in title 2.
 - We currently have \$2M of circuit breaker funds available. We pulled \$250k from these funds last year to offset higher than planned Special Education costs. Finally, we are expecting in FY19 that the Circuit Breaker will be funded at 75% reimbursement.
- In FY18, we closed with a \$834k deficit in Special Education funding, mostly to non-public schools and out of district placements (which drove \$1.5M out of the district).
 - In our full \$70M budget in FY18, we ended with a surplus of \$55k which was given back to the city, highlighting our tight financial management even in the face of unforeseen expenses. This truly was a team effort and something to be celebrated.
- Over the summer, the district and the city's DPW worked on our school facilities. The list of needs were compiled by Principals and Administrators from across the district, and all items identified as critical were completed.
 - There remains an issue at the Winter Hill. Specifically, the library still leaks and there are issues with stairwells and the sealant around door frames.
 - They've had issues with the vendor and the roofer in getting this work completed.

- Overall, the district reports that DPW has been a good and responsive partner in maintaining school buildings in Somerville.

Finally, we discussed school lunch debt - that is, debt incurred when a student does not have money to pay for lunch but receives lunch anyway under our policy that every child should have food. The sum of these debts across all K-8 schools and the high school has increased over the last 3 years with EOY amounts in 2016, 2017, and 2018 at \$17k, \$42k, and \$55k respectively.

This increase results from two factors - the accounting system that records this debt has improved such that we believe we are more accurately determining the total over the last two years; but also there are more kids receiving lunch without paying than previously. We suspect that part of the driver of the last factor - the increase in kids receiving lunch - is coming from immigrant or undocumented families who are less willing to fill out district documentation for free & reduced lunch due to the current political climate and a fear of continued interaction with governmental systems like the school district.

Additionally, we've begun tracking debts at the student level at the High School, something that had been done in K-8 schools but had not been done at the High School. Which brings us to our last point - repayment.

The district reported that they feel effectively toothless in enforcing repayment, which is by design of the School Committee. Other districts have been willing to withhold transcripts or diplomas, for example, which we've not been willing to do to force repayment. The district also reported, however, that they believe they can have a positive impact in the debts written off annually with a more focused and frequent effort in reminding parents of the debt and their optional methods for repayment. Throughout this, the district is committed to not stigmatizing kids or families in poverty, as well as ensuring that all kids have a meal available to them, while working to stay fiscally responsible.

The district recommends that, instead of simply writing off the amount at the end of every year as we have done, that we include a line in our budget for bad debt in order to track this amount more explicitly and focus on ensuring that this amount does not grow unreasonably. We should expect to revisit this in the budget process for FY2020. Even with these lunch debts, the food service department remains a net financial gain to the district in the amount of \$1.2M.

Regarding the Kennedy Pool, the district is in discussion with the city to examine whether the city should take over day-to-day management of operations. There is a draft MOU in progress between the district and the city, and we are working to ensure that there is no negative affect in availability or otherwise for our students. We should expect to hear more about this as both parties near final agreement.

Looking forward to future Finance Subcommittee meetings, we drafted an agenda for the remainder of the calendar year and by the end of the year, will create a draft agenda for the remainder of the school year for the next Finance Subcommittee to work from. Our current plan includes the following topics:

- Weighted student funding overview
- FY18 EOY report
- Enrollment
- Budget timeline
- After school expenses and revenue
- Review of midyear personnel additions
- Athletics expenses

We reviewed the expenditure report and Bill Rolls, but declined to pass the Bill Rolls due to a technology issue that prevented all subcommittee members from reviewing the Bill Rolls ahead of our meeting. We agreed to review and pass the Bill Rolls at our next Finance Meeting.

Ms. Normand moved and I seconded adjournment at 7:59pm.

MOTION: Motion by Mr. Futrell to approve Subcommittee Report, seconded by Ms. Normand.

Motion was approved via voice vote.

There was question as to whether there is decreased demand for after school transportation. Superintendent Skipper and Dr. Curley assured that there is not a decrease in demand for after school transportation, but there has been opportunity to find efficiencies in transportation.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. MASC Conference Resolutions

Chair Green reminded the group that Ms. Pitone has been selected as the MASC Resolutions Committee. He then read the resolutions and asked the body for general guidance. The body supported the first resolution.

Mr. Futrell asked about Resolution #2 and whether there was any context for this. Chair Green stated that there has been some talk about regionalization for small and rural districts.

Ms. O'Sullivan recommended that Resolution #3 be reworded to say "Rejecting the Elimination of the Department of Education". The body supported the resolution.

Chair Green asked for clarification on Resolution #4. Superintendent Skipper explained that smaller and regional districts can have difficulty securing competitive transportation contracts. The body supported the resolution.

The body supported Resolutions #5, 6 and 7.

Ms. Pitone asked about Resolution #8, she is generally concerned about education funding and supports wagering. Ms. Palmer agreed and wondered if we could ask the delegate to clarify that supporting this resolution doesn't support endorsing sports wagering. Chair Green seconded Ms. Palmer's comment that we should not advocate for the expansion of gambling. Mr. Futrell agreed, but pointed out "If enacted..." language. Sense of the body is for Ms. Pitone to ask for clarification but generally support this resolution.

The body supports Resolution #9. Ms. O'Sullivan said that while she fully supports this resolution, she has concerns about complicated information being sent over email. Ms. Normand stated that lots of IEP's are sent via email and there is a process for doing this securely. Superintendent Skipper added that the easiest way will be to put this into the ASPEN system, which parents can see at high level for their student. Alderman Ballantyne recommended adding language that this resolution include "secure email". The body supported Resolution #9.

There was a proposal to amend MASC By Laws, the body supports.

Chair Green thanked Ms. Pitone and Ms. Normand for their service.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Goal Program- Alternate Education Program Application

Dr. Abeyta talked about circulating new codes for Full Circle and Somerville High School certifying the Extended Diploma Program. The Goal Program is for students who have had interrupted education. These learners are enrolled at the high school to build their language capacity; then they go to SCALE as a cohort. Dr. Abeyta stated that we have applied to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to certify the programs. Ms. Pitone asked what is the importance of certifying these programs with DESE. Dr. Abeyta responded that we are certifying these programs to acknowledge the importance of these programs. She added that this is in the interest of transparency and accountability for what we offer students. Superintendent Skipper stated that anytime you have a program invoking flexibility (schedule, completion, capstone, etc.), it is useful to acknowledge this with DESE for self-accountability. This formalizes and documents the program for continuity. This helps the district develop reports and understand the data and effectiveness of these programs. Chair Green mentioned that he brought this to Superintendent Skipper 3 years ago as a priority for creating more effective options for students.

B. Field Trips (Recommended action: approval)

June 5, 2019 to June 7, 2019

West Somerville Neighborhood School 8th Grade Students will visit Washington DC. Transportation via coach bus. Student cost is \$300.

Ms. Pitone is excited to see students go to Washington DC and wants to praise the leadership at West Somerville Neighborhood School. Ms. Normand echoed this praise and laud the educators at WSNS.

MOTION: Motion to approve this field trip by Ms. Pitone, seconded by Ms. Normand.

Motion approved via voice vote.

C. FY2018 SCALE/ADP Graduate – (recommended Action: approval)

The Superintendent of Schools recommends that the following students, who has successfully completed the requirements for graduation from SCALE, be granted his diploma:

Carmen R. Rosato Haverhill, MA 01835

MOTION: Motion by Mr. Futrell to approve the SCALE/ADP graduate, seconded by Ms. Normand.

Motion was approved via voice vote.

D. 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	Congregation B'nai Brith	Somerville, MA	\$100	El Sistema Somerville

MOTION: Motion by Ms. Pitone to accept the donation, with gratitude, seconded by Mr. Futrell.

Motion was approved via voice vote.

VII. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Normand

Expect translation for Fall office hours this week. This year’s Post-Secondary Fair is Tuesday, October 16 at 1:00-3:30 p.m. at the Somerville High School Field House. Every year there are colleges and post-secondary options at this fair.

Alderman Ballantyne

Alderman Ballantyne has been in the Somerville Public Schools for 17 years and has seen many positive changes, particularly after school enrichment and more options for students, adding languages to middle school, and a real effort to engage parents and to increase the diversity of staff. Eight more years before her young daughter graduates, she is really hopeful that the district can push the needle on recess time. Alderman Ballantyne is eager to be involved in this issue and continue to improve.

Dr. Abeyta has a draft recess policy which will go to the next Ed Programs. Ms. Palmer wondered why this policy isn't coming to Rules first.

Ms. Pitone

Ms. Pitone pulled up the School Committee office hours for October 28 – November 3rd.

- **Saturday October 27, 4:00-5:30 pm**, Carrie Normand with Ald. Katjana Ballantyne, Sen. Pat Jehlan, and Rep. Christine Barber at Angelina's Pizza (230 Holland St.)
- **Sunday October 28, 12:30-2:00 pm**, Laura Pitone with Ald. Mark Niedergang, Armory Café (191 Highland Ave.)
- **Monday October 29, 7:45-8:45 am**, Andre Green, Winter Hill Community Innovation School drop-off
- **Monday October 29, 7:00-8:00 pm**, Dan Futrell, Gracie's Ice Cream (22 Union Square)
- **Tuesday October 30, 7:45-8:45 am**, Carrie Normand, West Somerville Community School drop-off
- **Tuesday October 30, 8:30-10:00 am**, Laura Pitone with Ald. Mark Niedergang, Armory Café (191 Highland Ave.)
- **Wednesday October 31, 7:45-8:45 am**, Laura Pitone and Paula O'Sullivan with Ald. Mark Niedergang and Ald. Lance Davis, Kennedy School drop-off
- **Thursday November 1, 7:45-8:45 am**, Paula O'Sullivan and Laura Pitone with Ald. Lance Davis, Brown School drop-off
- **Thursday November 1, 7:45-8:45 am**, Andre Green, Healey School drop-off
- **Friday November 2, 7:30-8:30 am**, Dan Futrell, Bloc Cafe, 11 Bow St.
- **Friday November 2, 1:30- 3:00 pm**, Emily Ackman with Ald. Matt McLaughlin and Rep. Mike Connolly, Dunkins (220 Broadway)
- **Saturday November 3, 3:00-4:00 pm**, Lee Erica Palmer with Ald. Ben Ewen-Campen, Rep. Denise Provost, and Sen. Pat Jehlen, 17 Pitman St.

- **Saturday November 3, 10:00 am-12:00 pm**, Andre Green with Ald. Clingan and Rep. Christine Barber, Winter Hill Brewing, 328 Broadway

Ms. Pitone and Chair Green thanked Ms. Normand for organizing this effort. Ms. Palmer wanted clarification on how office hour dates will be promoted. Ms. Normand responded that all that will happen in the usual manner, including posting them in schools. Ms. Pitone encourages residents to attend any office hours, not just the hours of their representatives.

Ms. Pitone also added that the following Friday is homecoming. Somerville High School vs. Revere, including the marching band.

Chair Green

Chair Green made a request to the administration to ensure that we're providing quality sex and consent education. Memo to talk about how sex and consent education are being implemented. Ms. Pitone gave kudos to the district for a strong improvement of the curriculum. She would like to see sex and gender education moved to younger grades. Chair Green asked that Ed Programs put this on the agenda. Ms. Palmer added that Somerville Women's Commission has reached out to discuss the sex and consent curriculum.

Chair Green reminded the body that Ms. Normand represents the building committee and SHORE Education Collaborative, and he represents the School Committee on the Tufts PILOT negotiating committee. Ms. Pitone made a request for a brief blurb from the building committee before office hours take place. Superintendent Skipper offered district services to clarify any talking points or questions before office hours. Ms. Pitone wanted to make sure the Somerville Building Committee website is updated. Susana Hernandez-Morgan, Director of Communication and Grants, will provide a 1-page Somerville High School building update to the body.

Ms. Pitone

Ms. Pitone asked about the new OST Coordinator. Dr. Curley provided an introduction to Jose Mendez and updated that more than 30 providers went to the OST Taskforce that day. Superintendent Skipper added that Winter Hill Community Innovation School had a goal of 40 students and have 70 students enrolled in the new Citizen Schools Program.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. via voice vote.

Related Documents:

Agenda
Personnel Report
MASC Conference Resolutions
Goal Program- Alternate Education Program Application

**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
BOARD OF ALDERMEN CHAMBERS
REGULAR MEETING – OCTOBER 15, 2018 – 7:00 P.M.**

Amended 10/15/18

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. REPORT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- September 17, 2018
- September 24, 2018
- October 1, 2018

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

V. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

A. District Report

B. Personnel Report

VI. REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEES

A. School Committee Meeting for Long Range: August 29, 2018 (Chair Green)

MOTION: To accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Long Range of August 29, 2018.

B. School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities: September 19, 2018 (Mr.

Futrell)

MOTION: To accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities of September 19, 2018.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. MASC Conference Resolutions

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Goal Program – Alternate Education Program Application

B. Field Trips (Recommended action: approval)

June 5, 2019 to June 7, 2019 West Somerville Neighborhood School 8th grade students will visit Washington DC. Transportation via coach bus. Student cost is \$300.

C. FY2018 SCALE/ADP Graduate – (Recommended Action: Approval)

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

Carmen R. Rosato Haverhill, MA 01835

D. 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	Congregation B’nai Brith	Somerville, MA	\$100	El Sistema Somerville

IX. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

X. ADJOURNMENT



Somerville Public Schools
Education • Inspiration • Excellence
PERSONNEL REPORT
2018-2019 School Year
October 2018

RESIGNATION FOR PURPOSE OF RETIREMENT FOR SY 2018-2019:

SCHOOL	POSITION	INCUMBENT	DATE OF RETIREMENT	YEARS OF SERVICE
SHS	History/Biology Teacher	Ana Nogueira	10/31/18	12
ESCS	Physical and Health Education Teacher	Timothy Cronin	03/09/19	18
SHS	Assistant Principal - Beacon House	Jane Cummings	06/30/19	31
SHS	Special Education Teacher	Joanne Dunn	06/30/19	39
SHS	Adjustment Counselor	Barry Friedman	06/30/19	28
WSNS/Food Services	Cafeteria Helper	Linda Russell	08/06/18	30
WHCIS	Grade 5 Teacher	Ana Potter	06/30/19	33

RESIGNATION NOTICES FOR SY 2018-2019:

SCHOOL	POSITION	INCUMBENT	DATE OF RESIGNATION
CAP	Library Aide	Tyler Holmes	09/28/18
District Wide	Student Insights Developer	Alex Soble	09/24/18
District Wide	Information Technology Specialist	John Ankwicz	10/26/18
ESCS/AFAS Comm Schools	PT Therapeutic Specialist	Danielle Carroll	06/21/18
ESCS/Comm Schools	PT Assistant Teacher	Kelin Valesquez	06/30/18
ESCS	EI Sistema Brass Teaching Artist	Eric Bowman	09/17/18
ESCS	EI Sistema Woodwinds Teaching Artist	Anastasia Mousouli	10/05/18
Kennedy School	Library Aide	Chelsea Rein	08/27/18
KEN/Comm Schools	PT Therapeutic Specialist	Alyssa Murphy	06/25/18
Kennedy Pool	Pool Attendant	Daniel Conley	09/24/18
Kennedy Pool	Pool Attendant	Diana Matthews	09/24/18
SHS	SPED Autism Para	Benjamin Spath	08/28/18
SHS	Freshman Girl's Volleyball Coach	Kathlyn Almeida	08/22/18
SHS	Freshman Girl's Basketball Coach	Karina Duran Johanson	10/10/18
SHS	Culinary Arts Teacher	Melissa Nova-Rosario	10/05/18
WHCIS	Autism Para	Jaclyn Manoogian	09/21/18
WHCIS	Autism Para	Brianna Velasquez	09/21/18
WHCIS	AM Bus Monitor	Linda Lombardo	09/14/18
WSNS/Comm Schools	FT Lead Teacher	Marie Altidor	09/28/18

ASSIGNMENT ENDED BY 2018-2019:

SCHOOL	POSITION	INCUMBENT	EFFECTIVE DATE

LEAVES OF ABSENCES FOR SY 2018-2019:

SCHOOL	POSITION	INCUMBENT	EFFECTIVE DATE
Healey	Grade 1/2 (2) SEI Integrated Teacher	Leonora Studley	09/30/18-06/11/19 - Revised
Kennedy	Site Coordinator @ Kennedy	Colleen Lyons	12/25/18-03/29/19
SHS	Adjustment Counselor	Anne Eden	09/25/18-12/21/18 - Revised
WSNS	Grade 1 Teacher	Tiffany Frentzos	08/27/18-11/19/18 - Revised

INTRA-DISTRICT PERSONNEL TRANSACTIONS FOR SY 2018-2019:

SCHOOL	POSITION	INCUMBENT	EFFECTIVE DATE
BR/Comm Schools	FT Lead Teacher	Ashley Marks	08/28/18
Central Building	Principal Account Clerk/Payroll Coordinator	Sabrina Caprigno	10/15/18
District Wide	Bus Monitor	Jessica Lopez	08/29/18
District Wide	Bus Monitor	Michelle Perry	08/29/18
District Wide	Bus Monitor	Linda Lombardo	08/29/18
District Wide	Bus Monitor	Karla Cabrera	08/29/18
District Wide	Bus Monitor	Elaine Joyce	08/29/18
District Wide	Bus Monitor	Marie Bates	08/29/18
District Wide	Bus Monitor	Virginia Chirco	08/29/18
PIC	PIC Liaison	Erika Da Silva	10/15/18
SFLC	Parent Outreach Leader	Erika Da Silva	09/10/18
SHS	Security Monitor	Lorne Murphy-SPS Retiree	08/27/18 - PT to FT
SHS	ELA Teacher/Data Coach	Meagan Spinelli	08/27/18 - Reassignment
SHS	Math Teacher/MCAS Coordinator	Rachel Chagnon	08/27/18 - Reassignment
SHS	ELA Teacher/Data Coach	Amber Karlin	08/27/18 - Reassignment
SHS/Athletics	Cross Country Coach	Mark Drago	08/16/18 - Additional Assignment
WHCIS/Comm Schools	PT Lead Teacher	Christina Carroll	10/09/18 - Additional Assignment
WHCIS/Comm Schools	PT Lead Teacher	Francisco Reyes	09/11/18 - Additional Assignment

NEW HIRES FOR SY 2017-2018:

SCHOOL	POSITION	INCUMBENT	VICE	EFFECTIVE DATE	Dual/SEI
AFAS/Comm Schools	FT Lead Teacher	Ilsa Bradley	Antonella Prifti	08/28/18	NA/NA
AFAS/Comm Schools	PT Assistant Teacher	Neelam Sahli	X Wang	09/24/18	NA/NA
BR/Comm Schools	Therapeutic Specialist	Alemesh Tamirat	New Position	10/09/18	NA/NA
BR/Comm Schools	FT Lead Teacher	Ashley Marks	New Position	08/28/18	NA/NA
CAP	.80 ECIP Paraprofessional	Michelle Scott	Darlene Richardson	09/24/18	NA/NA
CAP	Library Utility Aide	Kristopher Rodriguez	Joanna Samayoa	10/02/18	NA/NA
CAP	Library Utility Aide	Raymond Devereaux	Tyler Holmes	10/01/18	NA/NA
CAP/Comm Schools	FT Lead Teacher	Alexandra Carlino	Deborah Chaplin	09/10/18	NA/NA
CAP/Comm Schools	Door Monitor	Gabriella Gonzalez	Alex Mendoza	09/24/18	NA/NA
Central Office	Supervisor of Attendance	Christine Campbell	Sheila Freitas Haley	10/01/18	NA/NA
Central Office	PT Writing Communications Specialist	Abigail Luthin (Rehire)	New Position	10/01/18	NA/NA
EEC	Senior Clerk	Danille Lynch	Linda Yarasitis	09/26/18	NA/NA
ESCS	SPED Paraprofessional	James Harvey	Maura Merrill	09/24/18	NA/NA
NA/NA	EI Sistema Assistant Director	Evan Perry	Silas DeOliveira	10/09/18	NA/NA
ESCS	EI Sistema PT Cello Teaching Artist	Alexander Ullman	New Position	09/06/18	NA/NA
ESCS	EI Sistema PT Brass Teaching Artist	Ismael Sandoval	Eric Bowman	10/01/18	NA/NA
ESCS	.30 Library/Media Specialist	Kristopher Rodriguez	New Position	10/02/18	NA/NA
ESCS	.40 General Music Teacher	Lynn Rubin	New Position	10/29/18	NA/NA
ESCS	PT Utility Aide - Reception	Jennifer Martinez	New Position	08/28/18	NA/NA
ESCS	Senior Clerk	Luz Lopez-Rodriguez	Yuris Guzman	08/22/18	NA/NA
ESCS	Homework Helper	Diana Posada	Yearly Appointment	09/24/18	NA/NA
ESCS	Homework Helper	Nathalya Castillo-Salmeron	Yearly Appointment	09/20/18	NA/NA
ESCS	PT Utility Aide	Jose Santos-Bonilla (Rehire)	James Powers	10/05/18	NA/NA
ESCS	PT Utility Aide	Altigracia Lugo	New Position	10/15/18	NA/NA
HLY/Comm Schools	PT Assistant Teacher	Lipasha Pradhan	New Position	09/18/18	NA/NA
KEN/Comm Schools	PT Assistant Teacher	Manuel Santiago	Amanda Marino	09/17/18	NA/NA
KEN	PT Librarty Utility Aide	Duygu Aytac-Mullin	Chelsea Rein	09/10/18	NA/NA
SFLC	Schools Based Family and Community Liaison	Alexandra Carlino	Ana Bautista	09/07/18	NA/NA
SCALE	PT ELL Level 2 Teacher	Shelley Weiss	Mike D'Abramo	08/29/18	NA/NA
SCALE	PT ELL Level 3 Teacher	Dimitrios Karagiorgas	Arylee Menzies	08/29/18	NA/NA
SCALE	PT ELL Level 2 Teacher	Anna Hadingham	James Leveccio	08/29/18	NA/NA
SCALE	Reading and Writing Teacher	Christina Dennis	Brettany DiMatteo	08/31/18	NA/NA
SCALE	PT Computer Operator-Technology Integration	Lydia Mitchell	Simone Braga	10/02/18	NA/NA
SHS	ELL Tutor	Arin Rogers	New Position	10/01/18	NA/NA
SHS	Temporary Guidance Counselor	Kayla Schutte	Anne Eden	10/01/18	No/NA
SHS	SPED Paraprofessional	Tung "Janissa" Yan Hui	Benjamin Spath	09/26/18	NA/NA
SHS/Voc	Culinary Arts/Baking Instructor	Paul Piantadosi	Melissa Nova-Rosario	10/09/18	NA/NO
WHCIS	SPED Autism Paraprofessional	Sean McKenna	Brianna Velasquez	10/02/18	NA/NA
WHCIS	SPED Autism Paraprofessional	Joanna Ambeliotis	Jaclyn Manoogian	10/02/18	NA/NA

report of the resolutions committee

The MASC Resolutions Committee met on Monday, July 9, 2018 to consider resolutions proposed by member districts and the MASC Board of Directors for consideration at the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Association. Members present were: Devin Sheehan, (Holyoke), Chair; Beverly-Hugo (Framingham), ex officio; Carrie Greene (Mt. Greylock); Irene Feliciano-Sims (Holyoke), Mildred Lefebvre (Holyoke); Jake Oliveira (Ludlow); Jason Fraser (Plympton); Brian O'Connell (Worcester); Laura Fallon (Northampton); William Fonseca (East Longmeadow); Brendan Walsh (Life Member); Kim Hunt (Plymouth); Denise Schultz (Franklin).

The following resolutions were moved forward by the Resolutions Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.

RESOLUTION 1: Rejecting the Arming of Educators (Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts Association of School Committees has been a strong advocate of providing students, faculty and staff a safe and supportive school and classroom; and

That this working group propose modifications to the Foundation Budget and other elements of the Chapter 70 financial assistance program; designate specific instances where excessive regulation interfere with the ability of school leaders to direct the academic improvement of children; identify and advise on eligibility for state and federal programs to support public education; and find strategies to ameliorate the impact of forces that jeopardize the growth, stability and success of these school districts; and further

MASC oppose legislation or unlegislated regulations that would attempt to undermine the right of any city, town or regional district to have imposed upon it a mandate to restructure, expand, regionalize, or dissolve its school district without its consent.

WHEREAS: Attention has been focused recently on the mass killing of students in schools in Florida and Texas; and

WHEREAS: The President of the United States and other policy makers have given support toward equipping educators with firearms;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that: The Massachusetts Association of School Committee rejects the notion of providing firearms to any educators.

RESOLUTION 3: Elimination of the Federal Department of Education (Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

RATIONALE: The safest environment would be to provide additional mental health resources and violence prevention programs in public schools.

WHEREAS: The current Administration has made proposals to merge the U.S. Department of Education with the U.S Department of Labor to create the Department of Education and the Workforce; and

RESOLUTION 2: Small and Rural Districts (Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

WHEREAS: Massachusetts has a number of small and rural school districts that have special academic, social, financial, and operational needs, and, yet, operate with an enviable measure of success; and

WHEREAS: The role of the Department of Education is to serve as a fiduciary agent over federal education funding, drive education policy for the country and protect the rights of all students; and

WHEREAS: The merger of the two government agencies could diminish the work of the current Education and Labor Department;

WHEREAS: Some of the factors that create disproportionately severe impact upon small and rural districts are declining population, lower bases upon which to set property taxes, loss of employment, inequitable access to technology including wireless and traditional internet access, costs of transportation, access to social supports and major health care centers, and isolation of the population; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that: the Massachusetts Association of School Committees works with the federal delegation to reject any notion of combining the U.S. Department of Education with other government departments.

WHEREAS: The already onerous compilation of state regulations imposes an added burden on small and rural districts with small staffs and fewer administrators to comply with the many reporting requirements and standards imposed by the Commonwealth;

RESOLUTION 4: Regional School Transportation (Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that: MASC call for the creation of a working group to advise the legislature on the best public policy solutions to support small and rural school districts; and further

WHEREAS: Among the transportation cost concerns for regional school districts is the lack of competition for bus contracts for regular day ("yellow bus") services, as well as the steadily mounting cost for special education transportation; and

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WHEREAS: M.G.L. c. 71, § 7C prohibits certain uses of regional transportation authorities to provide school district transportation services; and

WHEREAS: Youth should be committed to feel empowered to make healthy and informed choices about their bodies and their relationships; and

WHEREAS: Elimination of M.G.L. c. 71, § 7C would free the Regional School Districts and Regional Transportation Authorities to collaborate on plans to provide safe and efficient transportation alternatives that lessen the financial impact on the both the districts and the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts Association of School Committees supports a medically accurate and age-appropriate

reproductive health curriculum; and

WHEREAS: The lack of bidders on school transportation

contracts requires a deeper analysis by the appropriate state officials;

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts Association of School Committees rejects the federal government's' plans to redirect

funding from evidence-based programs to prevent teen pregnancy to programs that teach abstinence-only and rhythm method-based sex education initiatives;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that: To promote greater competition for bus service contracts, the Legislature should eliminate M.G.L. c. 71, § 7C, and authorize a deeper analysis of the lack of bidders on school transportation contracts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that: the Massachusetts Association of School Committees supports evidence-based reproductive health curricula. Further, we call upon the U.S Department of Education and the Executive Branch to stop their support of abstinence-only education.

RESOLUTION 5: Reporting and Accountability Standards (Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

RESOLUTION 7: Gender Identity Inclusive Athletic Participation Policy (Submitted by the Framingham School Committee)

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts Association of School Committees recognizes and upholds the right of any group to establish and maintain schools so long as such schools are fully financed by their own supporters; and

WHEREAS: Public school leaders need to provide educational access and maintain safe environments for all, including LGBTQ students; and

WHEREAS: Private and home schools should be subject to governmental regulation that assures a minimum standard of instruction under state law; and

WHEREAS: All students must be protected from discrimination, harassment and bullying; and

WHEREAS: LGBTQ students experience adverse incidents at alarming rates compared to their counterparts; and

WHEREAS: Private schools or other entities that receive public subsidies, funding, or support under state or federal law, whether directly or indirectly, should be held to the same reporting and accountability standards, including the same annual assessments of student proficiency, required of public schools as a condition of continued eligibility to receive public subsidies or funding; and

WHEREAS: It is the job of the schools to provide safe and supportive environments for optimal wellbeing; and

WHEREAS: There are instances in athletics where LGBTQ students do not have protection nor the opportunity for privacy;

WHEREAS: Schools that receive any public funding should be subject to the same statutory and constitutional requirements as public schools;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that: the Massachusetts Association of School Committees works with the legislature and Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to ensure that all students or persons in schools that receive public funds under the authority of the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education or a local public school district are held to the same standards and requirements in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that: MASC help file legislation which would have the effect of protecting LGBTQ students from discrimination, harassment and bullying by that schools should treat students based on their gender identify, protecting their privacy, providing access to gender-neutral restrooms, locker rooms and private stall showers, using their preferred pronouns, embedding sensitivity training in professional development and providing uniform accommodations.

RESOLUTION 6: Reproductive Health Education (Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

RATIONALE: The at-risk behavior for LGBTQ students, which includes suicidal ideation, is sharply reduced with some basic interventions. With federal laws that are vague with the protections for our vulnerable students, public schools in Massachusetts should take steps to ensure their

protection. With guidance from the legislature, LGBTQ students throughout Massachusetts will have better protections and will have reduced adverse behaviors.

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts Association of School Committees supports the health of all students; and

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RESOLUTION 8: Sports Wagering (Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

WHEREAS: The General Court, in its effort to fund public education to the full extent of the law, including partially funded and unfunded mandates imposed upon school districts, is limited in its ability to do so by the limits to revenues generated from the current tax codes; and

children are protected, to ensure that educators and parents have the necessary tools to improve educational results for children with disabilities by supporting system improvement activities; coordinated research and personnel preparation; coordinated technical assistance, dissemination, and support; and technology development and media services; and

WHEREAS: Advocates for public education have articulated several important strategies to improve public schools, many of which require additional funding appropriated by the General Court; and

WHEREAS: Parents are also members of the team during the IEP process and should but do not always have access to the assessments and other information related to their child(ren) with sufficient advance time to review them, consult with experts or advocates, or prepare for meetings at which Individual Education plans are discussed;

WHEREAS: The Commonwealth has begun implementing casino gambling as a means of generating additional tax revenues; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that: MASC urges the legislature to amend state law to require that parents and students be provided with a copy via email or mail of all the assessments that are performed for students in the families' preferred language, at least five days prior to any meeting at which parents and students will review a proposed Individual Education Plan (IEP).

WHEREAS: In Nevada, sports wagering has provided an additional element to legalized gambling that has generated additional revenue; and

WHEREAS: A recent decision by the Supreme Court of the United States (Murphy vs. National Collegiate Athletic Association) has overturned federal restrictions on wagering on the outcome of sporting events; and

PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE MASC BY-LAWS The Board of Directors of the Association has recommended to members that the by-laws of the Association be amended as follows:

WHEREAS: The Commonwealth has had a long and successful history of administering a public lottery program that is convenient, accessible, and locally based, as well as easily adaptable to accommodating wagering;

The following change to Article IX-Meetings of the Association, Subsection 1. Annual Meeting

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees requests that, should the General Court enact legislation to legalize wagering on sporting events, the General Court, shall commit a portion of the revenues generated from sports wagering to public education.

The annual meeting of the Association, to be known as the Delegate Assembly, shall be held at such hour on such business day, not earlier than September 20 nor later than November 30, in each year and at such place within Massa

achusetts as the Board of Directors shall determine. Resolutions and other purposes for which an annual meeting is to be held additional to those proscribed by law, by the agreement of the association, and by these by-laws may be specified by the Board of Directors and by written application made to the Secretary-Treasurer not later than

July 1 in any year by at least five active members located in at least two Divisions. Resolutions submitted by a single school committee may be presented to the Delegate Assembly upon approval by the Board of Directors, on the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee. If an annual meeting is not held within the dates specified above, a special meeting may be held upon call by the Board of Directors with all the force and effect of an annual meeting.

RESOLUTION 9: Access to Information for Parents and Students Who Are Clients of Special Education (Submitted by the MASC Board of Directors)

WHEREAS: The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a law that makes available a free appropriate public education to eligible children with disabilities throughout the nation and ensures special education and related services to those children; and

The Board asks to amend the by-law by changing the July 1 date (noted in the text in bold face) to no later than June 1.

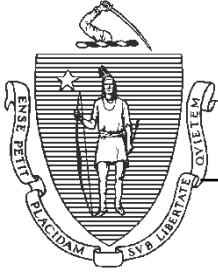
WHEREAS: In the law, Congress states that Disability is a natural part of the human experience and in no way diminishes the right of individuals to participate in or contribute to society. Improving educational results for children with disabilities is an essential element of our national policy of ensuring equality of opportunity, full participation independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities.

Rationale: Moving the submission date of resolutions to June 1 will give adequate time for the resolutions committee to meet and report out. It also aligns with the submission date for nomination of officers.

WHEREAS: The stated purpose of the IDEA is to ensure that the rights of children with disabilities and parents of such

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Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

350 Main Street, Malden, Massachusetts 02148-5023
2370

Telephone: (781) 338-3000
TTY: N.E.T. Relay 1-800-439-

NOTIFICATION OF AN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM OR SCHOOL

Please complete this form and mail or fax signed form to:

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Attn: Lisa Harney
75 Pleasant Street
Malden, MA 02176
or
FAX: 781-338-3090

Questions? Please contact Lisa Harney at lharney@doe.mass.edu or 781-338-3903

- Does this program *only* serve students eligible for Special Education services? If yes, please do not complete this form. For Special Education Public Day Program application contact Barry Barnett at bbarnett@doe.mass.edu

All Alternative Education programs must be affiliated with a district and a school:

District code: 0274 **District name:** Somerville
School code(s): 02740505 (SHS) **School name(s):** Somerville High School/SCALE

Alternative Education program or school name: GOAL Program

Program coordinator/director name: Sarah Davila/Lisa Cook

Program coordinator/director email address: sdavila@k12.somerville.ma.us or
lcook@k12.somerville.ma.us

Phone number: 617-629-5200 **FAX number:** 617-629-5661

Website: Somerville.k12.ma.us

Mailing address: 8 Bonair Street, Somerville, MA 02143

Grade levels served (check all that apply):

5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Maximum age of students permitted in this Alternative Education program/school:
22

Capacity for the program/school (maximum number of students that can be served at one time): 40

Is a waiting list available for this program/school? yes no

Eligibility criteria (check all that apply):

- Expelled Frequent truancy Involved with DSS Involved with DYS
Pregnant Parenting Poor academic record
Returned dropout – formerly out of school Suspended
Other – please describe: High school aged students with limited/interrupted formal education who are ELLs.

How are students enrolled in the program/school? (check all that apply):

- Outside service provider referral Parent/family referral
Required by school policy Self-referral Teacher or staff referral
Other – please describe: The program is designed as such that the students start at the high school until they gain the language skills necessary to complete a diploma program or hi-set program at SCALE (Somerville Center for Adult Learning Experience).

What are the main components of the program/school? Please check all that apply.

- Academic remediation or tutoring Behavior management training
Community college participation Community Service-Learning
Conflict resolution training Core academic classes Crisis intervention
Drug/substance abuse prevention training Elective classes
In-house counseling Life skills training Parent/family involvement
Peer mediation Referrals to external counseling
School-based work and learning Social skills training
Services provided through a partnership with a community-based organization
Technology-based instruction Work participation – not school-based
Other – please describe:

When does the Alternative Education program/school operate? Please check all that apply.

- Before school Regular school hours After school – afternoon
After school – evening Weekend Summer
Other

Name of person completing form: Dr. Almi Abeyta

Title of person completing form: Assistant Superintendent

Phone: 617-625-6600 x6030

Email: aabeyta@k12.somerville.ma.us

Name of Alternative Education Contact (Coordinator/Director): Dr. Almi Abeyta
email: aabeyta@k12.somerville.ma.us

Signature of Alternative Education Contact
Approval from ESE:

Lisa Harney

Signature