

**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Monday, November 2, 2020 - Regular Meeting

7:00 p.m. – GoToWebinar

Members present: Ms. Krepchin, Ms. Barish, Ms. Normand, Mr. Green, Ms. Pitone, Dr. Ackman, Dr. Phillips and President McLaughlin

Members absent: Mayor Curtatone

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Normand called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with a moment of silence and a salute to the flag of the United States of America. Superintendent Skipper called the roll, results of which were as follows: PRESENT – 8 – Mayor Curtatone , Ms. Normand, Ms. Krepchin, Ms. Barish, Dr. Phillips, Ms. Pitone, President McLaughlin Dr. Ackman - ABSENT – 1 - Mr. Green

II. REPORT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Bryan Recinos and Natalia Salmeron's update included;

- Request for the school day to start at 8am instead of 9am and end by 2:15pm instead of 3:15pm.
- They are trying to gather a petition for this schedule change.
- The late day is interfering with jobs for students that work after school
- Some teachers are scheduling the Remote 7 Class for mornings and others for the afternoons. They would like it to have it scheduled always for the morning.
- Not all students have Remote 7 Class, it's more for Electives
- Next request is for private group breakout rooms for the Underclassmen that currently are only available to Upperclassmen.
- They feel it would be beneficial to be able to interact with peers in a small group setting as opposed to working individually.
- Student Elections for Class Author are going to happen, registration is open until Nov 12th and Natalia will share the Google Classroom called Elections and the code is CYCRXLI to submit an application on Social Media platforms and Aspen.

Assistant Superintendent Mazza stated that he will have a conversation with Principal LaGambina tomorrow to see what they can come up with regarding the schedule and the breakout rooms.

Mayor Curtatone, Jeff Curly and Rich Raiche, Director of Infrastructure Asset Management presented an update from the Town Hall meeting about where we are in the re-opening process;

- The City wants to create a legitimately safe and healthy environment
- We are working with a number of experts and advisors on topics around testing, school re-opening, the initial surge and how to open parts of the community safely.
- He presents the Venn diagram showing how we are aligning all our efforts, external factors that we continue to gage and continue to change.
- The diagram shows the internal factors which we do have leverage and control of and can influence to set the stage and environment to open schools
- Safety measures done already, classrooms rearranged, sinks and sanitizing stations installed, enhanced standardization and cleaning procedures as well as PPE materials for the district.
- Working with Transportation vendors to make sure they have safety protocols in place.
- Have sequenced and prioritized the work based on the technical difficulty of achieving the ventilation standards in the buildings and then what programs those buildings could support.
- Three groups; Group One - Capuano, Argenziano and West. Group Two – East and the Mods at the High School. Group Three – Healey, Kennedy and Winter Hill
- They want to achieve Low Risk status and open the buildings as quickly as possible. They are working with contractors to determine that timeline.
- Complexities of Group Three buildings require longer timeline and are working with contractors.
- The High School, when ready to open, will already meet the requirements.

- The Brown School will be lumped in with the rest of the municipal buildings and assets and start long term planning on how to eventually occupy that building.
- We've received bids on Group One, working through some details and making sure the two potential contractors submitted are on an even keel so that we can award according to Massachusetts procurement law.
- The work projected for December 1st achieves ventilation thresholds to occupy those buildings.
- The Argenziano has an extensive centralized air handling system and is more easily modified than other buildings. It has three major zones of central air handling, and then some smaller zones from the gym, the library, cafeteria and kitchen. We will be upgrading the filtration on those systems from Mirv 8 to a 14. Mirv is a rating scale from 1 to 16, one being the least protective 16 being the highest efficiency. Upgrading to 14 essentially gets filtration of 75% efficiency down to particle sizes of 0.3 microns. Also installing in unit mounted UV disinfection and humidifiers that require some additional electrical upgrades.
- There are a handful of rooms not on the centralized system that will use portable filters and humidifiers.
- The Nurse's Suite where there will be presumptive positive cases will essentially be isolated from the rest of the system and exhaust the air from that up to the roof 10 feet stack to make sure that that exhaust does not get re-circulated back into the building.
- Installing wall mounted UV units as an additional precaution intended to help in cleaning the surfaces at night.
- The Capuano is a mix of centralized and in room air handling systems. We will be upgrading both centralized systems (there are four zones in this building) from Mirv 8 to a 14, installing in unit mounted UV disinfection and humidifiers.
- The in room units we will be increasing outside air flow percentage and putting in mobile filters and humidifiers. Once all that work is done, we have to rebalance and re-commission the systems.
- Again, in the Nurse's Suite, isolating the rooms from the rest of the system.
- West Somerville has a more complex system with different zones. It has a mix of centralized and in room air handling and smaller zones, including some rooftop units. We are increasing outside air percentage, improving the efficiency of the filtration and installing UV units where we can do that on the two zones and bringing in portable HEPA filters and humidifiers to a number of rooms.
- The Nurse's office will be isolated from the rest of the system with the exhaust stack up to the roof, and mobilizing the carbon dioxide centers to monitor performance in the wall mounted units for overnight disinfection
- There is a lot of equipment and filters that need to be ordered and manufactured with a longer lead time on some materials particularly the inline UV units.
- The filters and humidifiers have a shorter lead time and will be installed in November to hit the December 1st occupancy
- Starting this week, we'll be receiving bids for Group Two, following the same process with the contractors in determining what the delivery schedule is for those buildings.
- Regarding a release of a report, there isn't a report. We've been working with a document that is constantly updated as we worked with the with the engineers and contractors
- Benefits of routine public testing in schools – with an increase of numbers testing gives a better idea if we need to close one school or the entire district.
- Criteria used to select approach and testing partners – we need to be ready to adjust as better technology becomes available. Rapid results are important. Delays in test results inhibit the ability to break the chains of transmission.
- Symptomatic testing will be done on a different track for staff only, not students
- Individual tests \$12.50 (includes 50% cost share with Tufts), Pooled tests \$40 for pool of 8-13, plus Administration costs.
- Scheduled testing will be on Tuesdays and Fridays
- Pool testing will test up to 13 people combined and if it comes back positive, then each person will need to quarantine and be tested individually.
- Quarantine vs. Isolation; Quarantine for 14 days if you've been in contact with someone who tested positive. You cannot negative test out of quarantine because it can take up to 14 days for a positive test result. Isolation for 10 days if you've tested positive away from others, even in your home.
- Board of Health meeting (tonight) November 2 to draft an order requiring testing in K-12 schools. Requiring schools to submit a prevention plan, ongoing testing of staff and support staff and for students and staff to get the 2020 flu vaccine.

Dr. Phillips asked about the one other public school district in the country, Los Angeles, that is mandating the kind of baseline and surveillance testing of students and staff that we are talking about. To what extent the Incident Command Center has been reaching out to LA to get their policy so that we can learn from them and their experience.

Mayor Curtatone deferred comment to Mr. Boukili; he commented that our district is very different from LA, much smaller. The goal is to get as much data so the more people in the testing protocol, the better the data collection then the ability to formulate policy and make recommendations to the ability to make decisions.

Dr. Phillips asked a question from a constituent regarding the cost of the testing plan, if the Mayor could give us a sense of the testing plan, where will the money to come from and will an additional appropriation from City Council be required.

Mayor Curtatone answered there could be more than one source. We'll use the CARES money that we have to use by December 30th or lose and if needed, we'll use City funds.

Mr. Green commented that The Board of Health did pass the order this this evening with a minor change where the decision making bodies put in their plan how they will review the plan.

Ms. Pitone asked regarding the Board of Health order the plan was to include students in the acquired testing but now the current draft doesn't include students. Is the city or the public health looking for language from the School Committee Council regarding Special Ed or other exemptions? The understanding is that there won't be change to the board of Health Order, but that the city is going to provide language for the School Committee to consider in their own policy.

Omar answered that by Wednesday they will be able to provide very specific details and timelines about the policy language. There's a very specific protocol regardless of the framework, the Board of Health is adopting. The specificities to it, relates to the Somerville Public School district that would not be applicable to any other entity.

Mayor Curtatone clarifies that the Board of Health policies apply to both public and private schools in Somerville.

Chair Normand shared that in anticipation of the Board of Health's policy they had asked that our Special Education lawyer and our General Counsel lawyer develop language for very specific exemptions. She stated that it's likely they will be scheduling additional school committee meetings to address this.

Dr. Phillips asked when can the public expect an update about a public health campaign regarding the flu vaccine and the testing policy by the Immigrant Services Department and where will it be delivered?

Mayor Curtatone answered that he does not have an update at this time but will follow up the Chair tomorrow.

Mr. Green asked if when we're back in the buildings, will there be on site vaccines available for the students that were not able to get them instead of sending them home.

Omar answered that he believed that we would have a number of vaccines available but he would have to check on that to be sure.

Ms. Pitone asked what factors are being considered regarding opening and closing, and can we create some kind of documentation about who will be monitoring these factors? Will it be the public health department? Are we expecting the superintendent to monitor this? And then, what expertise will be necessary to do that? And at what point would this be shared publicly with this School Committee or the general public?

Mayor Curtatone answered that we will continue to clarify, understanding that there is not one threshold data point. This is still a public health matter, there has to be a collaboration unit. Approaches are changing and we're learning along the way. He stated that they are working to expand on that in a short window and they will be

having meeting strategy sessions and working together with Superintendent Skipper, Chair Normand, President McGlaughlin, as well as City Council.

Chair Normand requested that whatever was passed at the Board of Health meeting be shared with School Committee members tonight or tomorrow.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- June 22, 2020
- July 27, 2020

MOTION: There was a motion by Mr. Green, seconded by Ms. Krepchin to approve the minutes of June 22nd, 2020, and July 27, 2020.

Motion was approved via a unanimous roll call vote.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Normand read the Public Guidelines and invited those who signed up to comment to do so in the order called and allotted each person 3 minutes.

Jess Ferris - I live in Revere, and I am a Pre-K Teacher at the Healey School. (Submitted to be included in meeting minutes)

Thank you School Committee for your time this evening, I have some questions and concerns about the district plans for re-opening.

According to the district proposal, the grade levels and student populations that are slated to return between Dec 1-10 includes classes where students and teachers will need to relocate to different buildings.

How will the district gather data on which students and teachers plan to return? Who will contact them and what messaging will they receive? When will this information be shared with the teachers and families?

How will transportation needs affect the students slated to return to a school that is not within neighborhood walking distance?

What kinds of issues of equity will this raise?

If a majority of students in a class plan to remain remote, is there an opportunity for that teacher and class to stay together and build upon the virtual community and remote learning practices that they have successfully implemented?

Before September, families were told that when the district returns a hybrid model, a Learning Management System would be available for students in grades K-12 who will remain fully remote. What programming will be available for Pre-K students who want to remain fully remote?

According to the proposal, teachers will have to relocate materials, teach remotely, plan for lessons for both in-person and remote learning, I do not personally believe that all these things can be done well in a 3-week preparation period.

Certain school districts are planning to close between Thanksgiving and December break due to holiday related travel and potential transmission of the virus (since we know that family households and family gatherings are where transmissions have been traced) Is now the right time to bring students back?

I would also like to echo committee member Pitone's questions about the need for clarity and transparency about the threshold for opening and closing with specific indicators, identified roles and responsibilities and expertise and the importance for this to be create and shared as soon as possible. Thank you for those clear and important concerns.

These are just a few of the questions my colleagues and I have about the districts proposal to return to school.

Thank you for listening. I yield my time.

Roxanne Scrima – 33 Partridge Ave. Kennedy School Kindergarten Teacher

She's been with the school system for 33 years, and has never had such a challenging yet rewarding year teaching. She finds cheer in pretending to be a kindergartener most of the time. She states that she and her students don't watch the news, get involved in politics, never worry about pressing the wrong button on the iPad and especially, love going to school. She has close to 24 families who live all over the city that come to outdoor learning twice a week, rain or shine, under a tent sitting at desks that she carried out herself. She states that she is not sure if the School Committee and the Mayor understand the amount of work it is to run a Kindergarten class. She has trained three people to work with her in the past 26 days and doesn't believe that teachers can be ready in the next month to go back and questions if it equitable. She is concerned about the students being able to get to a new school. She attended an hour long Town Hall meeting where her understanding was that she is going to have to clean out her classroom of 25 years to move to another school from December 10th to the end of the school year. She stated that she is dedicated and does want to return to school but feels that Administration is not working with staff or checking in with them. She requested that when the parents are surveyed, that the families are informed if their teacher will be returning or if they're going to be meeting a new person to work with their child. She closed by stating the she's been glad to listen to everything that's been updated, but all the testing that is being done is one thing, but getting us to support all the kids is the most important.

Cristiana Morgan – 21 Berkley St. Parent to a High School student and Counselor Educator at Capuano

She is also concerned about the timeline. She is pleased to hear that the buildings are moving forward, and the health and safety concerns are being addressed, but she is concerned about bringing the students in for only a few sessions before they have December Break. She believes that a January 4th start date makes more sense, because it would give six weeks until the February break to get into a routine and introduce the children to all the new protocols that everyone will be learning. She also stated that there are many unanswered questions about the logistics and how it's going to work with educators returning. How will it work for Support Staff providing services? Can they visit multiple rooms a day? What will the protocols be? She shared that there is a lot of anxiety amongst educators and how they can do their jobs. She ended by saying that it sounds like more conversations are needed on a logistical level.

Pria Pline – She lives in Arlington and is a Kindergarten Teacher in the Healey School

She is in her 4th year teaching and is in the first group of teachers being asked to return. She has a number of concerns. First is the timeline about moving classrooms to another school and they are not being given enough time to move and set up a new class and she feels that a lot of details were not considered.

Her next concern is the families that are being asked to travel to a further school and the inequities of families without a car that have to take busses and are uncomfortable taking the bus and increasing exposure so they'll just end up staying home. She believes that moving classrooms to other school buildings is going to add a lot of anxiety for families, students, teachers, and all staff.

Anne Berkowitz – She is a 4th-8th Grade Special Ed Teacher at the Kennedy School

She stated that in her classroom there is constant bickering and fighting and there are all different levels and abilities. She was thinking to herself, wouldn't it be wonderful to be able to take each student for half an hour one on one and be able to get so much done. During this pandemic she said there has been a peaceful existence in her class. They start at 8am in a class meeting and then immediately break off into small groups for reading, math, science, social studies. She stated that they are getting incredible one on one help and they are thriving. She thinks that moving the classes will just cause chaos and that it is best for the students to stay virtual than to uproot and move to another school. She would like to stay remote until the Kennedy School is ready to open.

Chair Normand acknowledged that Counselor Valentine had joined the meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS (Taken out of Order)

I. Acceptance of FY2021 Grant Funds (Recommended action: approval)

State Grants

DESE Teacher Diversification Grant \$80,000 - to support educator diversification efforts in the district.

Ms. Morgan stated this is the third year that Somerville Public Schools has been awarded this grant and believes this

will be the final year DESE will offer this funding opportunity. Part of the work over the last couple of years has been to strengthen recruitment and retention efforts and to develop a list of competencies and interview questions that can be used across the district. Funds are also used to continue to support some of the equity task force work and to support paraprofessional to teacher pipeline, providing MTL exams and tuition reimbursement for paraprofessionals.

This year the district is also developing a student pathway into education and would spend the fall developing the plan, working with existing clubs, and other partner organizations to develop awareness of the program, and to design the program in a way that meets students, interests and needs.

Federal Grants

Federal Perkins Grant \$75,519 – from DESE; This is an annual allocation grant that supports our existing career and technical education programs. Funds would be used to support professional development, purchase software to support specific CTE programs and support a Co-Op Coordinator that would help facilitate beyond the classroom learning experiences, as well as stipends to support students' participation in the skills ELSI program.

Private Grants

Educators for Black Lives Rapid Response Grant (Nellie Mae Education Foundation) \$20,000 - The Foundation's Vision really focuses on anti-racism and the work needed to address systemic racism and they have been issuing rapid response funding opportunities to support this work.

Ms. Morgan addressed that a proposal was submitted for a multi-faceted project that would involve students, staff, and the community with the goal being to shift practice and therefore experiences and outcomes for black students. The work proposed under this grant would include participation and conference's offered by organizations whose work focuses on equity and social justice. The conferences would be attended by a group of students and teachers, and could include such conferences as the National Race Amity conference, which happens this month, and the Harvard Graduate School of Education's Alumni of Color Conference.

Also funded would be consultants to provide professional development on critical consciousness, and to facilitate community conversations about race and additional professional development on social justice.

MOTION: There was a motion by Dr. Ackman, seconded by Dr. Phillips to accept all federal entitlement and continuation grants and all state continuation grants awarded to the Somerville Public Schools.

The motion was approved via a unanimous roll call vote.

VI. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

A. District Report

- COVID-19 Testing Plan Update (Dr. Curley)

Dr. Curley gave an update on the Covid 19 Testing. The partnership with Tufts is groundbreaking will be the most extensive surveillance testing program rolled out of any K-12 school in the Commonwealth. It will be using the gold standard PCR tests that one would get from their primary care physician. It will be a non-invasive test and the District will be working with principals to integrate it into the day with the least amount of disruption. All students and staff returning to the buildings will be tested weekly.

Chair Normand asked if the slides are only on the City's website or if they are also posted on the School's website.

Dr. Curley answered that he would check immediately and if they are not there, he will have them posted tonight.

- Reopening Plan Update

Assistant Superintendent Mazza started by thanking parents, guardians and staff members that attended the Town Hall meeting and stating how appreciative the District is of all the time and energy this community gives toward bringing everyone back safely. The video and slides from the Town Hall meeting are available at www.somervillema.gov/virtualtownhall. The District will also schedule additional Town Hall meetings this month to

provide additional details on what the baseline and regular Covid testing will look like for students and staff as well as the safety protocols that will be in place inside of our school buildings.

Mr. Mazza spoke about the work teachers and staff have done over the last several months including summer months to develop a strong Remote Learning Plan. Safety has been at the forefront of the planning and decision making.

Tomorrow morning is a Professional development day for teachers, and in the afternoon, students will be hosting parent teacher conferences.

This week, the District will be reaching out to families of students who have the opportunity to move to in person instruction, in the initial phase of a return to our schools, that includes high needs, special education students, skills who are Level 1 and 2, CI English language learners, and pre K and kindergarten students to learn how many students will be going back to in person learning and how many prefer to stay remote. Once that information is gathered, classroom and transportation plans can be finalized.

VI. REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEES

A. School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities: October 14, 2020 (Mr. Green)

Mr. Green stated that the report is four pages long and asked to just give a summary, which Chair Normand agreed to. Meeting began by reviewing the Book Bureaus, which were approved unanimously. They then moved on to do the expense reports. Highlights includes the Healey budget looks larger because it involves the money for the Becoming a Man Initiative. They then reviewed specifically Covid expenses and that enough PPE has been purchased to last teacher for 24 weeks. The District has purchased tents that had not been installed yet because DPW stated the weather was an issue.

As of October 14th, the District had roughly \$670,000 remaining in grant money to spend on Covid expenses.

Mr. Green stated that the majority of the meeting was a presentation by Mr. Rache about the bidding process for the work in the buildings and that the City hired an engineering firm. He stated also that this was the first time it was acknowledged by the City that people would be coming into the buildings in a phased process and not all buildings will be ready at the same time.

Mr. Green also shared that there were questions to the status of the Mods and the High School, and it perhaps not being used as a High School, that the report may not be a physical document, the progress of lowering the scores of the buildings and a lot of questions about the process of financing this project.

MOTION: There was a motion by Mr. Green, seconded by Dr. Ackman to accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities of October 14, 2020.

The motion was approved via a unanimous roll call vote

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. MASC Resolutions

Dr. Phillips addressed this resolution stating that although it had been discussed and passed at the last meeting, there are several bills at the State House calling for an MASC moratorium she's been told that Legislations look to School Committees to see who has passed resolutions and support that legislation in order to decide which way they may like to vote. She stated that the only change between the MASC version and the one she has is that MASC has been replaced with Somerville School Committee and added a line about distributing it widely to the Somerville Legislative Delegation, the Commonwealth Constitutional officers, and otherwise widely distributed.

MOTION: There was a motion by Dr. Ackman, seconded by Ms. Krepchin to approve the resolution. Mr. Green stated that this is the resolution that he will be voting in favor of on behalf of Somerville at the General Assembly on Saturday. The district has historically supported custom moratoriums. It has been historically a priority of this Committee to work on alternatives to MCAS. The district is one of the founding members of the Massachusetts Associate for Innovative Educational Assessment. This year the test will show that students that

have been most disrupted will have the most learning loss.

Dr. Ackman asked if there has been communication with members of the delegations that represent Somerville and she addressed Dr. Phillips through Char Normand asking how she would recommend that if people also agree that it is unethical to encourage students to take the MCAS this year and what they should do.

Dr. Phillips responded that she has been told that our delegation entirely supports the moratoriums and that we are just trying to help influence other delegations by showing that there is widespread support for a moratorium. She stated that if people in the community wanted to also share their support for a moratorium her recommendation would be to reach out to the Senate President and the Speaker of the Massachusetts House, as well as write a letter to Commissioner Riley and the Secretary Advisor.

Chair Normand stated that she would also add to that list, the Chair of the Senate (Alex Pice) and Chair of the Senate Committee (Jason Lewis).

Ms. Pitone stated that she would like to hear from the District how these assessments will be done to make sure we understand where our students are.

Assistant Superintendent answered that the District is gathering information on students and though it is difficult because we cannot perform the regular assessments being remote but once in person learning resumes there will be baseline testing to find out if there has been loss of learning and create strategies and teachers will collaborate to make sure students will get the support they need. Right now teachers are getting to know their students through engagement, conversations and their written work.

Chair Normand asked if there is any objection to waiving the second reading and going to a vote. There was none.

Motion was approved via a unanimous roll call vote.

VIII. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Barish announced that she attended the first meeting of the Memorialization Committee as a representative from School Committee and the next meeting is in November to discuss a couple of things that need to be named in the City. If anyone has suggestions for people that should be honored, the email address is Memorial@Somervillema.gov.

Ms. Krepchin addressed the often stated goals of making the policies easier to find and understand and volunteered to do some research of other district websites but wanted to check with the Committee before she started doing any work.

Ms. Pitone stated that the decision was made a year ago to have the MASC post the district's policies. There was some administrative work that needed to be done to transition all the files. That was in progress and pretty close to it and then Covid happened. We need to check in with Mr. Curly to follow up and report on it.

Ms. Santiago spoke that everything Ms. Pitone said was correct and that she would look into it.

Ms. Pitone followed up and stated that the reason they chose MASC was because it will not only be easier for our constituents and community members access the policies, but they'll also be able to be accessed by all other districts.

Dr. Ackman invited Ms. Krepchin to go through the Rules Subcommittee files because she does not have the bandwidth to do it.

Mr. McGlaughlin commented that he wondered if there was anyone on the City side that could help make the website easier and more streamlined to be able to find meetings, policies and procedures. He stated that Mr. Long at City Hall would be able to help with creating a page.

Mr. Green commented that a conversation has happened in the past about city side being happy to help but that bandwidth is an issue and it may be a matter for next year's budget discussion.

He then gave an update about the hiring committee looking for their first Racial and Social Justice Director. The committee has been meeting weekly and they just hired a recruiting agency and started the process of collecting resumes. He made the statement that if anyone knows of a good candidate for the position to encourage them to apply.

IX. CONDOLENCES

The Somerville School Committee extends its deepest condolences to the family of *John Leach*, brother to Julie Sahlas, Teacher at WHCIS

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 pm.

Related documents:

Agenda

Submitted by: S. Duggan

ATTACH DOCUMENTS STARTING ON THE NEXT PAGE

**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE GoToWebinar
REGULAR MEETING – November 2, 2020 – 7:00 P.M.**

Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. C. 30A, s. 18, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone’s Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this meeting of the Somerville 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 (SCAT).

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://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3135158861181559821>

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. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- June 22, 2020
- July 27, 2020

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

V. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

A. District Report

- COVID-19 Testing Plan Update (Dr. Curley)
- Reopening Plan Update

VI. REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEES

A. School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities: October 14, 2020 (Mr. Green) **MOTION:** To accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities of October 14, 2020.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. MCAS Resolution

B. Acceptance of FY2021 Grant Funds (Recommended action: approval)

MOTION: To accept all federal entitlement and continuation grants and all state continuation grants awarded to the Somerville Public Schools below.

State Grants

DESE Teacher Diversification Grant \$80,000

Federal Grants

Federal Perkins Grant \$75,519

Private Grants

Educators for Black Lives Rapid Response Grant (Nellie Mae Education Foundation)
\$20,000

VIII. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

IX. CONDOLENCES

X. ADJOURNMENT