

**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Monday, November 1, 2021 - Regular Meeting

7:00 p.m. – Zoom

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

Members Absent:

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 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 – 9– Dr. Phillips, Ms. Krepchin, Mr. McLaughlin, Mayor Curtatone, Mr. Green, Ms. Barish, Ms. Pitone, Dr. Ackman, and Ms. Normand

Mr. Green asked interpreters to introduce themselves:

Micaela Yang- Spanish

Elaine Metzker- Portuguese

Gina Miranda- Haitian Creole

II. REPORT OF STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Bryan Recinos – Announced that parent-teacher conferences would be on November 2, 2021. In addition, SHS has a new newsletter called "From the Avenue" with announcements and info about what is happening at the High school.

<https://somerlevillehighschoolnewsletter.blogspot.com/>. The quarter ends on Monday November 8, 2021, so students are finalizing their first quarter assignments.

Ms. Barish asked how the Halloween dance went. Mr. Recinos said that it went well: students had fun, it was a safe environment, snacks and water were sold for a fundraiser.

Chair Green asked for an update on the second student representative.

Superintendent Skipper said that Principal Buchanan is working on that and a report will be given at the next meeting as to when the starting date will be.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- September 27, 2021
- October 4, 2021

Tabled

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Molly Fraust-Wylie commented regarding the committee being put together for the policing committee, she is looking for transparency in the process.

Debbie Sheehan commented against the vaccine mandate, arguing that testing is more reliable than the vaccine. She said she was against the vaccine mandate for extracurricular activities.

Erich Ludwig requested more transparency around how the Special Subcommittee for policing is put together and asked for inclusion of those who have already been a part of the conversation.

V. Mayor Curtatone Heating Update (Not on the agenda)

The Mayor spoke to the issue of heating the school buildings and gave an update on where we are right now. There are some distribution chain issues and the City is working on obtaining all necessary parts. Seven of our nine buildings were still without heat as of Friday afternoon. As of Monday November 1, 2021, the city and the school administration have

procured hundreds of space heaters. They are arranging for HVAC contractors to be onsite to continue work and additional public works staff have been deployed for extra help.

Ms. Normand asked what measures are in place to ensure that heating systems are being serviced in a timely fashion. Mayor Curtatone explained that the city had some issues with Honeywell and has resolved those issues as of last week. Honeywell is back on, and the City accepted their bid Monday for the control work. There are other contractors as well.

VI. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

A. District Report

• Human Capital Professional Teacher Status Recognition

Superintendent Skipper introduced Sharon Ellis, Assistant Director of Human Resources, and asked her to explain what PTS is and to introduce the Principals and schools.

Ms. Ellis explained that PTS stands for Professional Teacher Status and teachers obtain it once they complete their third year teaching in Somerville. This year there are 42 teachers (2021-2022) and from last year, we have 35 teachers (2020-2021). She then asked Principals to congratulate and speak to the teachers obtaining PTS in their building. Below is the list of teachers who obtained PTS by year. Principals spoke in the following order: Principal Soto- Argenziano School, Principal Maguire- Brown School, Principal Piccirelli- Capuano, Principal Obed – East Somerville, Principal Green- NW/FC, Principal, Gosselin- WHCIS, and Assist. Principal Lartey- Healey

2020-2021	Last Name	First Name
Argenziano School	Baumgarten	Alyssa
Argenziano School	Campbell	Meredith
Argenziano School	Clohosey	Meghan
Argenziano School	Moreno	Michele
Brown School	Ledin	Amanda
Brown School	Melillo	Kate
Capuano E. C. Ctr.	Mousouli	Anastasia
Capuano E. C. Ctr.	Yiu	Matthew
Capuano E. C. Ctr.	Attolino	Deana
District-Wide	Given	Heidi
ESCS	Whitaker	Amelia
ESCS	Armira	Ghali
ESCS	Martinez-Garced	Aileene
ESCS	Woodcock	Rachael
ESCS	Wrانkmore	Trevor
Evaluation Center	Pucci	Diane
NW/FC	Dahlin	Julia
NW/FC	McCaul	Daniel
NW/FC	Artavia	Nichole
Healey School	Arlington	Michael
Healey School	Daniels	Emma
Healey School	Melo	Patrick
Healey School	Celestin	Marc
Healey School	Rathjens	Anthea
Healey School	Woldemariam	Selam
Healey School	Palmer	Andrea

2021 - 2022	Last Name	First Name
Argenziano School	Geisler-Tubridy	Meaghan
Argenziano School	O’Connor	Caroline
Argenziano School	Jaenicke	Leah
Argenziano School	Saddawi	Meaghan
Brown School	Bourne	Rachel
Brown School	Stattel	Andrew
Brown School	Melillo	Kate
Brown School	Ledin	Amanda
Capuano E. C. Ctr.	Harrington	Meghan
Capuano E. C. Ctr.	Strezynski	Ava
ESCS	Hughes	Maureen
ESCS	Alcott	Emily
ESCS	Howland	Catherine
ESCS	Quintanilla	Diana
ESCS	Pires	Jessica
ESCS	Scimemi	Gabriella
Evaluation Center	D’Ambrosio	Sarah
Healey School	Simmons	Dayshawn
Kennedy School	Attard	Hannah
Kennedy School	Matteis	Melissa
Kennedy School	Ward	Lauren
SHS	Demariano	Jennifer
SHS	Dietrich	Theresa
SHS	Downer	Jill
SHS	GINIVISIAN	David
SHS	McElroy	Richard

Healey School	Marino	Amanda
Kennedy School	DeAngelis McNulty	Jennifer
Kennedy School	Stein	Brittany
Capuano E. C. Ctr.	Santomauro	Angelique
Somerville High School	Courier	Brittaney
Somerville High School	Dutton	Katarina
Somerville High School	Ensdorf	Stephen
Somerville High School	Genova	Corinne
Somerville High School	Jabour	Charles
Somerville High School	Konstantopoulos	Maria
Somerville High School	LaRossa	Maria
Somerville High School	Leary	Karen
Somerville High School	Masterson	Sarah
Somerville High School	Ross	Kathleen
Somerville High School	Rowlinson	Veronica
Somerville High School	Viola	Toni
WSNS	Darrell	Aaron
WHCIS	DiPaolo	Caroline
WHCIS	Rothstein	Meredith

SHS	Umansky	Ian
WHCIS	Luna	April
WHCIS	Berkowitz	Jacquelyn
WHCIS	Glynn	Keveny
WHCIS	Paley	Marah
WHCIS	Starr	Melissa
WHCIS	Starr	Melissa

Superintendent Skipper thanked the teachers and added a few remarks regarding the tough work that has happened, particularly in the last few years for this set of teachers.

VII. NEW BUSINESS – ITEM A (Taken out of Order)

A. Vaccine Policy update

At this time, Superintendent Skipper introduced Dr. Curley for a vaccine testing update.

Dr. Curley reported 75 positives overall in the last 2 months: 15 staff members and 55 students. Testing participation rate continues to go up; the District is at 96% right now. He shared a slide show presentation, showing percentages across schools.

The district is working with a new HIPPA compliant data collection platform called Crowd Pass, which was rolled out on October 10, 2021. As of October 3, 2021 93% of staff were fully vaccinated. This number fluctuates as new staff come in or as staff leave the district. Seventy staff members are not vaccinated. Those staff continue to be tested weekly and continue to wear KN95 masks. Dr. Curley announced school-based clinics being held soon.

East Somerville Community School

Friday November 12, 2021 at from 4-7 p.m.

Additionally, students can be vaccinated at:

CHA Vaccine Center

176 Somerville Ave

Monday and Tuesday from 11-6 p.m. and Wednesday, Thursday, Friday from 8:30-4 p.m., Walk- ins are welcomed.

Ms. Pitone said she is excited to hear that vaccinations are ready for when younger students are eligible. She also spoke to the concern of extracurricular activities requiring vaccines and the number of students vaccinated across the district. Chair Green then spoke to the Vaccine Policy and said they have been in conversations with the city’s Health and Human Services Department. He posed the following two questions to the body:

- 1) Should this body ask Rules to take up a vaccine Mandate policy draft?
- 2) Should they ask HHS to also draft a policy to support School Committee?

Dr. Ackman said she is hesitant to comment on this until there is more information on the power of this body. Ms. Normand asked if this would be for this year or the next and commented that the timing would be very important and we need to gather more information. Ms. Pitone wondered if there is a percentage amount that would make the district healthy enough not to need to mandate it. She requested more information from experts on this.

Chair Green then officially requested for the board take up a draft of a policy and for the Rules subcommittee to also take up a draft for a vaccine policy.

Ms. Barish asked for a timeline for this and asked for clarification on whether the Rules subcommittee be taking it up or the new subcommittee established in January? Chair Green stated that it is at the subcommittee chair's discretion. The more time we dedicate to this the better.

- **Career and Technical Education (CTE) Introduction/ Update** (Mr. Bourgeois)

Superintendent Skipper introduced Mr. Roger Bourgeois and spoke to his new role as interim CTE Director. She asked Mr. Bourgeois to speak to the CTE Program and recent updates.

Mr. Bourgeois mentioned that CTE teachers, in addition to going through the difficult time this past year has offered, they survived the move over to Edgerly and then lost their former director who was very popular and very beloved. He thanked the superintendent for the beautiful and touching ceremony dedicating the wing to Leo DeSimone.

He then spoke to a handout he provided for tonight's packet speaking to industry recognized credentials. Here is the information provided on the handout:

**Somerville High School
Center for Career and Technical Education
Industry Recognized Credentials (IRCs) Update**

1. Advanced Manufacturing
 - a. OSHA 10-hour Health and Safety Credential for General Industry
 - b. MACWIC Levels 1 and 2 (Manufacturing Advancement Center Workforce Innovation Collaborative) Certified Onshape Professional (CAD Modeling)
2. Automotive Technology
 - a. OSHA 10-hour Health and Safety Credential for General Industry
 - b. Program is NATEF Certified (National Automotive Technology Education Foundation)
 - c. Graduates are prepared to take ASE (Automotive Service Excellence) technician tests after fulfilling work experience requirement
 - d. S/P2 Automotive Service Credentials
 - i. WD40: Cleaning, Storage, and Maintenance of Tools and Equipment
 - ii. Valvoline Motor Oil 101
 - iii. Advanced Auto Parts Identification
 - iv. Lifting It Right (Automotive Lift Institute)
3. Carpentry
 - a. OSHA 30-hour Health and Safety Credential for the Construction Industry
 - b. 1-year credit toward MA Construction Supervisor License work experience
 - c. 1-year advanced placement in Union Carpentry Apprenticeship Programs
 - d. Ramset Powder Actuated Tools Certification
 - e. First Aid and CPR/AED
 - f. Ladder Safety Certificate (American Ladder Institute)
 - g. Career Connections Levels 1-3 (New England Carpenters Training Center)
4. Cosmetology
 - a. OSHA 10-hour Health and Safety Credential for General Industry
 - b. 1,000-hour MA Cosmetologist License (COSL) requirement to sit for test
 - c. CPR/AED
5. Culinary Arts
 - a. OSHA 10-hour Health and Safety Credential for General Industry
 - b. ServeSafe Food Handler Certification
6. Dental Assisting
 - a. OSHA 10-hour Health and Safety Credential for General Industry

- b. CPR
 - c. Radiology Certification (Tufts Dental School)
 - d. MA Dental Assisting License
7. Drafting
 - a. OSHA 10-hour Health and Safety Credential for General Industry
 8. Early Education and Care
 - a. OSHA 10-hour Health and Safety Credential for General Industry
 - b. Early Education and Care (EEC) Certification
 - c. Pediatric First Aid / CPR AED the from American Heart Association
 9. Electrical
 - a. OSHA 30-hour Health and Safety Credential for the Construction Industry
 - b. Credit toward MA Electrician License work requirement up to 2,000 hours
 - c. Credit toward MA Electrician License theory requirement up to 300 hours
 10. Graphic Communications
 - a. OSHA 10-hour Health and Safety Credential for General Industry
 - b. Adobe Certifications
 - i. Photoshop
 - ii. Illustrator
 - iii. InDesign
 11. Health Assisting
 - a. Certified Nurse Assistant Pathway
 - i. OSHA 10-hour Health and Safety Credential for General Industry
 - ii. Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA)
 - iii. Healthcare Provider CPR
 - iv. National Safety First Aid
 - v. Caring for the Resident with Alzheimer’s
 - vi. Mental Health First Aid
 - vii. Registered Behavioral Training
 - viii. COVID Certification
 - ix. American Sign Language
 - b. Pharmacy Technician Pathway
 - i. OSHA 10-hour Health and Safety Credential for General Industry
 - ii. Seniors on co-op and scheduled to sit for either (or both) their National PTCB and/or State PTCB exam in June/July (Pharmacy Technician Certification Board)
 - iii. Juniors are on track with the Pharmacy Technician Curriculum to complete by March 2022
 - iv. March 2022 Juniors begin the CVS Modules Curriculum
 - v. April 2022 Juniors begin onboarding process for co-op for 4th quarter and into senior year
 12. Metal Fabrication
 - a. OSHA 10-hour Health and Safety Credential for General Industry
 - b. Hot Work Safety Certification (approved by MA Fire Marshall’s Office)
 13. Plumbing (new program – grades 9 & 10)
 - a. OSHA 10-hour Health and Safety Credential for the Construction Industry
 - b. Credit toward MA Plumbing License work requirement up to 1,600 hours
 - c. 220-hours credit toward MA Plumbing License theory requirement (Tiers 1 & 2)
 - d. Hot Work Safety Certification (approved by MA Fire Marshall’s Office)

**Work-Based Learning (WBL)
Cooperative Education and Internship Placements**

- 9 students participating in the co-op program
- 12 students pending approval to begin co-op on November 8th
- 68 students placed in industry specific internships
- 89 of 129 grade 12 students participating in WBL = 69% participation rate

Mr. Bourgeois explained that it is important to understand that each of the 13 CTE programs has its own technical

educational framework, all different based on occupation. Teaching the learning standards, many align with the different credentials. COVID has caused additional credentials to be added that can be taught online. He noted that at the end of document one can see the Work-Based Learning. He acknowledged Meghan McDevitt's outstanding work who also has 68 students placed in internships specific to their area of study, like a capstone of Career Tech Education.

Ms. Krepchin asked how many hours students spend in CTE in a typical school day versus at regular school. Mr. Bourgeois explained that students are on a 1-2-3 schedule; sophomores and freshmen get one block of CTE per day, juniors get two and seniors get three blocks, with the exception of cosmetology, which gets four. Students have less in freshman and sophomore year because of preparation for MCAS exams. Then it gets heavier in junior and senior years.

Ms. Normand asked if we have seen a fluctuation in students enrolling in CTE; did students stay in their shops and were they able to complete them? Mr. Bourgeois said that he expects some increase based on seeing the new state-of-the-art spaces - so that means a bump in 9th grade enrollment in exploratory. 65% of the SHS population is involved or enrolled in CTE, this includes many freshmen. 9th graders are exposed to every CTE program, so that's going to increase the number. He noted that there are 4-5 females in automotive and they are loving it.

Ms. Krepchin said that her daughter is in 8th grade and there is BUZZ about doing the exploratory next year. Then she asked about the positions open in CTE. Given that the skills are so specialized, would they be hard to fill? Mr. Bourgeois reported that they filled the carpentry and the tech positions. The only vacancies are the Director's position and the Advanced Manufacturing position. Instead of advertising only on School Spring as teaching positions, advertisement is also happening on Indeed.

Dr. Phillips brought the conversation back to the admissions policy presented earlier, she knows our CTE program is amazing and asked how much space in our program is being occupied by Somerville students and how many spots are taken by students outside the community. Mr. Bourgeois responded that he believes all of our students are Somerville students but he has not asked specifically. The admissions policy was predicated on DESE changing their admissions guidelines to try to make them free of bias. We have got about 18 kids in the 13 programs for exploratory, and we could take up to 22. If the cladded begin to be too big, we might add a couple of cohorts for them to rotate into. When students choose their major in 10th grade, which is when a few of the shops get oversubscribed. When a program is oversubscribed, rather than by going by selective criteria that could be biased, we have a lottery (assuming they passed exploratory). Once the lottery is done, waitlisted students pick another program to go in if they so desire. Superintendent Skipper added that to her knowledge there are no students from outside Somerville. We had one student from Cambridge who was interested but that student did not come.

Chair Green noted that one of the few programs we do not have is agricultural. Do we have students who go to other districts for that?

Superintendent Skipper said she thinks we have one. It is an Ag program, might be vet tech. It is one student. Mr. Bourgeois said that Essex Aggie became a state school for 5-6 years. While it was a state school, it was open to everyone and the state paid 100% of the agricultural part. Those programs are still open to anyone to come in; you can live anywhere in the state. Therefore, there are students from many different communities who attend.

Chair Green concluded by saying that the admissions policy would be up for a vote at the next meeting.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Somerville Public Schools Policy Manual

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

- File ACAB: Harassment Policy (Out of Order)
- File ACAB-R: Title IX Grievance Procedures

Policies attached below.

MOTION: There was a motion by Dr. Ackman, second by Ms. Normand, to approve File ACAB: Harassment Policy and File ACAB-R: Title IX Grievance Procedures.

The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.

B. Structure of 'School Committee Special Subcommittee on Policing Policy'

Chair Green announced that although he had hoped to provide the names for the policing subcommittee tonight, he is working on gathering members. He shared that for student representatives on the committee he has reached out to SHS and Teen Empowerment, and for parents to groups like SSEPAC and ELPAC. He will wait hear back from those groups before appointing members.

Ms. Pitone asked if the meetings would be public and Chair Green responded that they would be treated like any other subcommittee, so yes.

He then announced that from the body he has asked Ms. Barish and Dr. Phillips to join the subcommittee, and hopes to announce the rest of the subcommittee at the next meeting.

IX. REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES

A. School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities: October 20, 2021 (Ms. Krepchin)

Finance and Facilities Subcommittee of the Oct. 20th, 2021

Via Remote Participation

Members Present: Ilana Krepchin, Carrie Normand and Sarah Phillips

Also in Attendance: Superintendent Mary Skipper, Director of Finance Fran Gorski, Sean Callanan and Regina Bertholdo

Audience Members: There was 1 audience member

Ilana Krepchin called the meeting to order at 6 pm

There were five items on the agenda

There was an unresolved question from the last meeting - about a prenatal program - it is a contract for SFLC for a birth to age three plan.

Facilities Update

Introduction to Sean Callanan, who is working on educational Infrastructure. It is his 30th year in education and he is a proud graduate of CTE. His new role involves supporting building principals, making our buildings better, more effective, and safer. Working on air quality at different schools. Playground design - Brown is now the focus for the next 2-3 weeks. Traffic problems at all the schools. Particularly bad at the Healey. He worked with the city traffic dept. to change the traffic pattern. Excited about possible drone use to get up on roofs and be able to see things that you can't safely get to otherwise. It's really exciting to have someone who knows so much about education but also a deep knowledge of buildings.

Comment - the Healey playground took too long. With a dedicated staff member, hopefully we can do these things faster in the future.

Question about HVAC in the high school gym? Humidity problems? This is still on-going. There is a full time facility manager at the high school. They have to wait till there is more humidity (the spring) to see what that will look like. When is the gym going to be open? There were some sections that needed to be re-surfaced.

The floor itself is now satisfactory. The DPW is working on training for maintenance going forward. The issue with the bleachers - there was a mechanical issue - that was fixed. The other problem is that when the bleachers come out, they are sitting in part on the track area - so we need to figure out how to do this so it doesn't wear down the track. They proposed putting special flooring down everytime the bleachers come out.

Enrollment

Regina Bertholdo with an update on enrollment. We have more gains than losses. About 25 more students than last time she presented. Primarily these are newcomers from the border, which is impacting the Healey School - 15 new students already this year, entering the sheltered English immersion program there. Argenziano has also seen some gain, for the same reason. Winter Hill has gained 38 students since the beginning of the school year. The High School has had 101 new registrations this year - many of them are newcomers. Projection is that we will continue to see an influx of newcomers. We had our first unaccompanied minor (10) arrive from Haiti. We also registered our first Arghani family. The most new immigrant families are coming from Brazil.

Are we getting languages that we don't have staff who already speak it?

We have a pashtu interpreter available on call. We are actively looking for more Portuguese capacity. Do we have enough resources overall for this influx? - We've planned for this and have staffed more heavily for this. What we've been doing is triggering resources as we see the need (for example the SLIFE teacher we added at Winter Hill). HS just

triggered a new ESL class. We meet around this weekly. It can be hard because space is an issue at many of the schools.

End of Year Financial Report

Mr. Gorski and his team are working on this report now. Every district must file this with DESE. It is the basis for all the information you see on the DESE website. It is the baseline for projecting chapter 70 funding. We filed for an extension and should be done by Nov. 30th. There are DESE function codes built into our system, which makes this process easier.

September Bill Rolls

Local bill rolls - \$62,450 - cataldo ambulance - they were providing nursing services for our summer programs. The contract is still open in case we need it, but it is unlikely that we will. Copiers - we have an aging fleet, so we used a surplus from last year to purchase these. Basically one per school. Copiers are now owned outright. We looked at some leasing options, but if we have the money, it is more cost effective to buy straight out. Market Basket charge for the summer program at NWFC - this allowed the students to draw up a menu and then just go out and buy lunches for their program. Grant Bill Roll - \$10,000 for artist services. MASS cultural council grant for interactive music at Healey and Kennedy.

Motion to approve the Sept. Bill Rolls - Motion by Carrie Normand, seconded by Sarah Phillips, passed unanimously.

Revenue & Expenditures Update

How the ESSER Dollars are distributed - the Federal government releases the money to the state, who manages the funds, then they release the funds to the local agencies (ie school districts). It is distributed based on title 1 numbers.

They held back a small amount to use on other things and are distributing about 90% of the money now.

Entitlement grants - these are funds that are based on a formula (which is different then competitive grants). The rules are strict about reporting on how these funds are used.

Title 1, which strives to close educational achievement gaps, we received \$1,098,301 Spent on math and reading teachers and related benefits.

Title 2 - to reduce class size, we receive \$150,666 - two teachers to support multilingual student integration.

Title 3 - language instruction - we received \$147,027 - typically used for the summer SPELL program as well as parent outreach leaders.

Title 4 - we received \$79,545 - used to fund AP fees for disadvantaged students, stipends for math/science curriculum development and BPIS.

Expenditures so far (as of October 15th) - we've spent 25.8%, which is about right for this time of year. We are a little over budget in student services - related to the nurses. SPED – typically spends a lot at the beginning of the year. We may end the year in surplus in that dept.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Submitted by Ilana Krepchin, Chair, Finance and Facilities Subcommittee

Documents Used:

YTD Exp Detail 10-15-21

September 2021 Revolving Bill Roll

September 2021

MOTION: There was a motion by Ms. Krepchin, seconded by Dr. Ackman, to accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Finance and Facilities of October 20, 2021 and the September bill rolls.

The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.

B. School Committee Meeting for Rules Management: October 18, 2021 (Ms. Barish)

Report of the Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting of October 18, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm

In addition to subcommittee members Ilana Krepchin, Emily Ackmand and Ellenor Barish, Superintendent Mary Skipper, Assistant Superintendent Chad Mazza, Attorney Peter Sumners, and Sebastian LaGambina were in attendance. There were three people in the audience.

There were three items on the agenda.

1. Approve minutes from September meeting Emily Ackman moved to approve the minutes. Ilana Krepchin seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Policy LBC Relations with Non-Public Schools

The School Committee has received a proposal for a new private school in the city. State law requires the local School Committee to review the proposal and approve it "when satisfied that the instruction in all the studies required by law equals in thoroughness and efficiency and in the progress made therein, that in the public schools in the same town..." Attorney Sumners explained that while an extensive policy is not required, it would be helpful in ensuring a consistent process as required by law. Mr. Mazza outlined the timeline for the review of the application, which is to happen via the Education Programs Subcommittee with a presentation by the prospective school's founder to the full school committee in January. Attorney Sumners advised that the policy need not be revised before beginning the application review but that any new policy must be in line with that process.

There was a brief discussion of who would support the subcommittee in this work and more broadly going forward. Superintendent Skipper said that this policy work falls within Mr. Mazza's purview. She added that she would plan to attend future Rules meetings, likely joined by a new participant in Harvard University's Education Leadership Doctorate program, Billy Thayer.

The subcommittee agreed that Mr. Mazza should use Franklin's policy LB as a starting point and reconcile it with our own process to create a new policy for the review of private school applications; Attorney Sumners will provide input.

3. CTE Admissions Policy

DESE has revised the guidelines for admissions to career and vocational programs. Interim CTE Director Roger Bourgeois has written a new policy accordingly. If a program is oversubscribed there will be a lottery rather than relying on grades, attendance, etc. for selection. Superintendent Skipper explained that this process prevents any kind of bias and insulates SPS in the rare case that there is a waitlist. Emily Ackman asked if there is a way to ensure that students intending to pursue a career in the field have priority over those who are more interested in a course for enrichment. Superintendent Skipper explained that the latter was only possible in undersubscribed shops. Ilana Krepchin asked how many students could participate in exploratory in ninth grade. There is room for 280 students; before the pandemic, 65% of ninth graders were participating. Ellenor Barish requested that the policy be revised to use positions in place of people's names in case of personnel changes and to clarify information about languages of applications. Emily Ackman moved to approve the policy with the changes noted above. Ilana Krepchin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:16 pm.

Documents used September Report, Relations with Private Schools

MOTION: There was a motion by Ms. Barish second by Dr. Ackman, to accept the report of the School Committee Meeting for Rules Management of October 18, 2021.

The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.

X. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

B. Somerville Public Schools Policy Manual

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

- CTE Program Admission Policy

Tabled.

C. School Committee Fall Office Hours Report Out (Ms. Krepchin)

Tabled.

D. ACCEPTANCE OF FY22 GRANT FUNDS (Recommended action: approval)

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

Federal Grants

FY22 Perkins Grant (FC: 400) \$73,901 – To support the Career and Technical Education Program

State Grants

Early College Support Grant (FC: 460) \$30, 000 – To support the Early College Program with Cambridge College

- \$15K is allocated for stipends to support a transportation and emergency liaison through SHS
- \$15K is allocated for Cambridge College for program delivery

The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.

XI. ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

None.

XII. CONDOLENCES

George Peter Yankov, Father of Noelle Pino teacher at Healey

Susan J. DiNovis-Truitt, beloved cousin of Jenna DiNovis, District-wide Math Interventionist.

Jane Terranova. Jane was Margaret "Peggy"(AFAS utility aide) and Loretta McGonagle's (AFAS lunch aide) sister

XIII.ADJOURNMENT

The Meeting adjourned at 9:15p.m.

Related documents:

Submitted by: K. Santiago