

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

(Official Report)

Regular Meeting

December 5, 2017

Called for 6:00 PM in the Dr. Henrietta S. Attles Meeting Room, Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, 459 Broadway, Cambridge, for the purpose of discussing any and all business that may properly come before the Committee.

Members Present: Ms. Bowman, Ms. Dexter, Mr. Fantini, Mr. Harding, Ms. Kelly, Ms. Nolan and Mayor Simmons

Also Present: Dr. Salim, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Turk, Deputy Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Adams, Asst. Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction
Dr. Likis, Chief Planning Officer
Mr. Maloney, Chief Operating Officer
Ms. Spinner, Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Konjic, Facilities Maintenance Director

Also Present: Student School Committee Member Juliette Low-Fleury

Mayor Simmons in the Chair.

A quorum of the School Committee being present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

1. Public Comment:

The following individuals were heard:

- Kevin Fanning, Washington Street, re #17-277, District Plan Framework 2017-2020 Outcomes, as a member of the Parent's Advisory Council, he read an article published in the Cambridge Day newspaper. He is in support of using standardized tests to measure students' progress.
- Michelle Hicks, Magazine Street, re #17-16 (Putnam Ave. School long and short term plan for school improvement) Mr. Fantini motioned, seconded by Ms. Nolan to suspended the rules to take up an item that is not on the Agenda. On a voice vote, the rules were suspended for the reason stated. Ms. Hicks spoke on behalf of a group of parents about the consistent poor and low academic achievement at PAUS. The Order for short and long-term plans has not materialized. The students are disrespectful, she gave examples of a science teacher, hired in August that could not control the classroom and quit the following October; also a counselor and an ELA teacher, to name a few that have also left, resulting in a high turnover rate. It is having a grave impact on student performance. All three of the ELA teachers this current year are new to the school; support for new teachers is not what it should be. The test scores are not good. The Morse, Kennedy Longfellow and MLK are the feeder schools that transfer to PAUS, their performance expectations at PAUS are lower than the standard they are used to. The parents are asking for an update from Dr. Salim to give them some idea of what will be done.
- Dan Monahan, Lexington Avenue, CEA President, re #17-277, District Plan Framework Outcomes 2017-2020, asked for 7 minutes by himself to speak on this item. Mayor Simmons stated this is more of a presentation than public comment. There was a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Ms. Bowman to allow the speaker 12 minutes. Ms. Bowman asked if, going forward, the CEA President can be part of the agenda and give presentations. It was suggested that at the orientation meeting we will adopt the rules provisionally to have a sub-committee look at this issue.

Mr. Monahan read a statement (on file in the School Committee office) on unintended consequences. He went through a list of outcomes. The teachers he represents are against outcome #3 stating that it alarmed many teachers. He recognizes that the School Committee is in a difficult situation.

- Rose Levine, Larch Road, 5th grade teacher #17-277, read Kathy Greely's statement Ms. Greely does not support the MCAS to measure 3rd grade proficiencies. The MCAS has never given any useful info on assessments.
- Betsy Preval, CSUS teacher, she deeply hopes the following is taken into account. More funds are needed for interventionist, family liaisons and more supports staff is needed. More hands are needed in the schools.
- Karen Dobak, co chair of the Cambridge PAC, parent of a child with special needs, re #17-277, she hopes the School Committee read a letter written to the Cambridge Day. Measures in outcomes 1 and 2 are very important. She has not seen a significant change from the results of the outcomes, nor has she seen any significant change in the instruction in the classroom. There is a high percentage of students with special needs that do not perform on par with their peers. The same problems exist for the other sub-groups. They are all in the same classroom and should be performing at the same rate. On a motion by Ms. Dexter, seconded by Mr. Harding, she was given one additional minute to speak.
- Karen Ingalls, Wendell Street, re #17-277 Outcomes Document, she explained what it takes to get 3rd graders ready to take a test. It is complicated and time consuming. Both Math and ELA are hard to prepare for. This test is taken on a computer. On a motion by Ms. Dexter, seconded by Ms. Bowman she received one additional minute to speak.
- David Weinstein, South Normandy Street, #17-273, spoke in support of Ms. Dexter's motion on broadcasting, stating broadcasting will result in more effective communication for everyone and childcare would be minimal.

On a motion by Mr. Harding, seconded by Ms. Kelly, it was voted to close public comment.

2. Student School Committee Report:

Ms. Juliette Low Fleury reported that:

- Falcon Pride day went very well, students bonded well with various activities
- Seniors have begun getting responses from colleges
- The last round of SATs have closed
- Winter sports have begun

Due to a prior commitment, Mr. Paul Sullivan could not be in attendance.

3. Presentation of the Records for Approval:

On a motion by Ms. Nolan, seconded by Ms. Kelly, it was voted to accept the Minutes of the November 14, 2017 Special Meeting as presented.

4. Reconsiderations: None

5. Unfinished Business/Calendar:

On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Mr. Harding, it was voted to bring all motions from the calendar forward for discussion.

#17-267, Motion by Ms. Dexter, that whereas there is evidence that consumption of "sugary drinks," including chocolate milk or fruit juices with only natural sugar, contribute to childhood diabetes and obesity, the School Committee requests a report from the administration on the extent to which sugary drinks are made available to students in CPS cafeterias in the elementary, middle, and high school grades. (Mr. Fantini 11-21-17)

Ms. Dexter stated that she would like to hear from the administration. The father who spoke at the last meeting informed Ms. Dexter that he spent \$50.00 for childcare so that he could speak on the issue of sugary drinks. Ms. Mellisa Honeywood, Director of Food Services, spoke to this motion along with Mr. Maloney. Ms. Honeywood stated that she read the motion and came to offer any clarifying information she could. Her goal is to have all students healthy and if there is anything she can do to help, she is here tonight to hear all ideas. Fruit and milk have naturally occurring sugar, so you cannot easily get away from it. The fruit juices that CPS offer does not have any added sugars.

Mr. Harding thanked her for coming and stated that CNN reported 10 times more children today are obese than 40 years ago. We need to think about this seriously for the whole health of a child. There is a serious problem with juvenile diabetes. He supports any dialogue on this issue.

Ms. Kelly noted that we are talking about this separate from the rest of the choices on our menus, and she wonders what relationship the food services department has with the healthy children taskforce. She is interested in seeing a more comprehensive picture of healthy diets in the schools in written form.

Ms. Low-Fleury wondered what the difference is if the student drinks no milk to only drinking chocolate milk. Ms. Honeywood stated that it is a known fact that some students won't drink milk unless it is chocolate. The point was made that students sacrifice calcium and vitamin D by forgoing milk.

Ms. Nolan agreed with all prior comments, adding that she would like an annual report. She stated that although we work very hard to have healthy food and drinks, we can always improve. Annual updates will not hurt. Some students get their most nutritious meal at school, so we want to make sure what they get is good in all ways. We should be proud of what we do, and should try to do a little bit more.

Ms. Dexter thanked Mr. Maloney and Ms. Honeywell for coming and would like to know what happened to the food advisory task force.

Mr. Maloney informed the Committee that the Cambridge Health Alliance was also very helpful. The task force dissolved since it was not necessary once we got on track with serving the proper foods. We can start it again for input from a broad cross section of parents to get the full story. He stressed that Food Services at CPS works very close with nutritionists and dieticians at the Health Alliance.

Ms. Dexter stated these issues are always ongoing; obesity is huge and we need to see the differential impact. Ms. Dexter asked what the value is to serving fruit juice since we have fruit.

Ms. Honeywood stated that she prefers that students have the whole fruit. Some students will not eat an actual piece of fruit. CPS policy allows students to have one juice, however they have access to unlimited whole fruits and vegetables at no additional charge.

Mr. Fantini brought up the fact that CPS won awards for two years in a row for having the healthiest foods. Ms. Honeywood stated that if a parent does not want a child to eat the wrong foods, their accounts have allergies and dietary restrictions included in the student ID cards that alert the cashier to note what they are putting on their tray.

Ms. Bowman added it would have been helpful to have a Roundtable on this issue to understand the historical aspects of how we make decisions and have a deeper discussion on how to move forward.

Ms. Dexter suggested amending the motion to add: *that a food advisory task force be re-established* and asked what parents serve at home, she also wants to know if other districts serve only white milk. Mr. Maloney proposed that if Members want additional information, it should be put in writing to the Superintendent's office and the answers will come out in the Weekly.

Mr. Harding hopes we are all thinking about the unintended consequences. He does not want to cause any child harm. There is a strong issue on nutrition and restrictions on a diet. He is in favor of re-establishing a food advisory. On a motion by Ms. Dexter, seconded by Ms. Nolan, on a voice vote, **item #17-267** was placed on file by Mayor Simmons.

#17-272, Joint Motion by Ms. Nolan and Ms. Bowman, that the budget guide be mailed to all households except dormitories.

Further, that the administration and School Committee work together on future mailings to include additional information on the district. (Ms. Dexter 11-21-17)

Mr. Harding in the Chair at 7:15 pm. Mayor Simmons spoke on **item #17-272** suggesting that this motion be decided collectively. She offered a motion that passed from the City Council which can be amended to include the City Council information on one side, School Committee information on the other side. We can save money in this fashion.

Ms. Kelly agreed wholeheartedly. She does not know why it was ever kept separate. Having it all together is a wonderful opportunity.

Mr. Harding wants to know who will pay for it. The assumption is since the City is mailing it anyway, they will most likely absorb the cost.

Ms. Nolan stated that there is useful information for parents. She worries about skipping this year and doing it with the City next year. It will only cost us \$2,200.00.

Mayor Simmons suggested that we check with the City first before we mail it out. We should use our money as wisely as possible; at the least amount of cost.

Ms. Bowman will get some language to the Secretary on this issue. There is a lot of competing interest in this district; we may only need to send it to families.

Mayor Simmons suggested it go to the taxpayers instead of the families. That way we broaden the range of information.

Ms. Dexter spoke on both prices \$7,000.00 to send to the families and \$2,200.00 to send it to the taxpayers and stated that she is in favor of sending it to only the families now and then re-visit the issue. She also suggested that this issue go to the Community Relations Sub-Committee.

The Superintendent stated most of the cost is in bulk postage.

Mr. Harding asked how do we do this tonight without duplicating a council order and make it a School Committee order. The Chair suggested that the Educational Liaison wordsmith it and create a companion Order.

Mr. Fantini stated the money would be better used for field trips and/or use in the gyms. He suggested that a presentation on the budget be aired on CCTV.

Ms. Low-Fleury asked if this information is available online in multiple languages. The Superintendent stated it is only in English, however it can be translated.

Ms. Nolan is still concerned about the mailing being distributed in a timely manner.

Mayor Simmons suggested that it go in the backpack express for free to families, the libraries, interfaith community and electronically.

Ms. Bowman asked to amend the motion to say *that the budget guide be mailed to incoming families or parents that applied to the 3 year old lottery, families with kids 1-3 yrs of age, and send home the document to families by backpack express.* **Item #17-272** was removed from the Calendar and placed on file.

Mayor Simmons in the chair at 7:30.

Mr. Fantini in the chair at 7:40 pm.

Mayor Simmons in the chair at 7:45 pm.

#17-273, Joint Motion by Ms. Dexter and Ms. Bowman, that whereas the School Committee and CPS administration have prioritized **expanding and strengthening family and community partnerships**; and

Whereas annual School Committee budget discussions held in public, along with public hearings at which family and community members are invited to speak, influence how educational resources and opportunities are distributed to CPS schools and students in the following year; and

Whereas not all family or community members can easily attend public meetings due to childcare responsibilities, physical disabilities, work schedules, lack of transportation, and other circumstances;

Therefore be it resolved that the School Committee will seek to increase community participation in the budgetary process by expanding community engagement efforts for the FY19 budget discussions by:

- 1) Providing childcare at budget hearings and publicizing childcare availability on notices about budget hearings;
- 2) Assessing the need for language interpreters, including sign language interpreters at meetings;
- 3) Holding at least one budget hearing on a Saturday in a location other than the School Committee Meeting Room;
- 4) Broadcasting, live streaming and video-archiving all budget-related roundtable discussions, workshops, retreats, and special meetings.

These rules will apply to the FY19 budget convenings, to be reviewed for permanent status in Fall, 2018. (Mr. Fantini 11-21-17)

On a motion by Fantini, seconded by Ms. Bowman, on a voice vote. **Item #17-273** was passed over and remains on the Calendar.

6. Awaiting Reports: None

7. Superintendent's Agenda:

7a. Presentations: Cambridge Public Schools
District Plan Framework Outcomes.....Dr. Kenneth N. Salim,
Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Salim began his presentation. He passed out a CPS Strategic Plan Outcomes Dashboard Fall 2017 (on file in the SC office). He explained that back in July, the Committee expressed that a very important component that needed to be included was Outcomes and Measures. There were 2 retreats in September and October. Since the October retreat, the newest data has been included. He spoke on grade 3 literacy. It is not just reading but includes writing and listening skills. Dr. Salim went on further to explain that there is a plan to narrow the proficiency gap. There will be another meeting next Tuesday to discuss the MCAS results. Many issues were raised to speak to the unintended results. There are a lot of assessments currently being used; we need to see if engaging in a new set of assessments is really a good idea. It does not seem to be a good idea at this time. He also informed the Members that the State has not finalized their accountability plan, they will be presenting to the DESE board in the next few months. Dr. Salim went through the presentation bringing attention to examples of Outcomes.

Ms. Nolan stated we need outcomes in order to move forward with the action plan. She observed that literacy is a goal. She was struck by the testimony that maybe something else may not be good for 3rd graders. We don't want keyboarding skills from our 3rd graders, we want to know if they can read and write. She wants Dr. Salim to tell us what he thinks is best.

Mr. Fantini in the chair 8:10 pm.

Dr. Salim stated that his purpose of an assessment and how it is utilized is that it is only an assessment, not a performance regulator.

Mayor Simmons in the chair at 8:15 pm.

Ms. Nolan stated that certain students don't take the exam in high proportions.

Dr. Salim stated she makes good points. They were mindful of having a data dashboard. There are other elements around the data and the charts show that there are fewer numbers of students that are taking the exams. In AP physics course a conversation came up about other ways of thinking about course delivery. Ms. Nolan asked whether we should expand AP or not.

Ms. Bowman admitted that there is a lot of tension around whether or not MCAS is the answer. Are we thinking about piping in any skills sets before they need them? What are we going to do about having our assessments be in relation to our overall district assessments? How do we manage standardized tests and how we approach MCAS to set the kids up for success?

Dr. Salim responded that technology preparation is to support student exposure to keyboarding etc. Another challenge is the issue of time in the day. It has to start somewhere, so 3rd grade is it. The PARCC assessment was a learning curve. The hope is to get results in a timely manner. To a broader point, our intervention model is about looking at each individual student. The biggest harm is tracking intended use.

Ms. Low-Fleury pointed out there is no incentive to take the test. Most students don't feel the need to spend \$90.00 to take a test that schools don't even accept anymore.

Ms. Kelly stated that we are going to have to live with the tension; it is not going to resolve. There are concerns that students be identified.

Ms. Dexter thanked Dr. Salim and his team for all of the obvious hard work that went into this presentation. She also thanked the teachers and parents that came out. She wants to know why this is a 5 year plan instead of the 3 year plan that was expected. She wonders why we are all gathered here. We don't need to vote on this, it has already been decided for us. She is unclear about who are we reporting out to and why? Will it influence the way we do the work? We have control over the input. The measures are very unstable; she wonders why the scores go up or down. We don't have a consistent baseline because some kids tested on paper; some tested on a computer. 7th grade math is what the teachers want to look at, not 8th grade. We have no school climate measure. She suggested we not vote on this document tonight. She cannot vote for this, we can just move it forward

Mr. Harding thanked the Superintendent for the work that was put into this presentation. He added that the CEA needs to improve; remembering back to when Paul Toner was CEA president that it was acknowledged that teachers need to own part of the responsibility for making sure the achievement gap is closed. Mr. Harding reiterated the importance of how effective the Rooney Rule is. We will continue to fight with these same issues if we don't change. 10% of children of color not being at grade level is an indictment against the school system.

Mr. Fantini appreciates the fact that the Superintendent met with the union members and communicated that the MCAS is only once a year; it serves as a tool for professional development. He emphasized that there is a strong relationship between the Superintendent and the teachers. He also gave a lot of credit

to CEA President, Dan Monahan. He agrees with Ms. Bowman that it is time for the president of the CEA to sit at the table with the School Committee. Mr. Fantini asked what the benchmarks are showing. Since this is a progress and monitoring report, when will we see the results?

Dr. Salim responded that there is an idea around a data dashboard. There is no assessment or measure that is perfect. We will always have to use other assessments to make adjustments and decisions. We get a good summative snapshot, but there are other evidences and data points of change.

Dr. Salim spoke on the school improvement plans and what was in the district action plans. There is no one assessment that is foolproof. There will always be different ways of assessment and progress monitoring to reach the benchmarks that give feedback to the schools.

Mr. Fantini asked if students will be setting their own goals. Dr. Salim confirmed this to be true. He stated that we try to identify ambitious, yet attainable practices. Mr. Fantini referred to page three stating there is nothing written in the three year target. Why not have a policy that every child has to take at least one AP exam. Why just teachers of color? We should also monitor custodians and other staff of color. Mr. Fantini suggested a Grow Your Own Teacher program and work with Lesley University to train the students at a discount.

Dr. Salim responded to the educators of color issue stating we are improving.

Ms. Dexter referred to page three, looking at the growth from eighth grade math. Looking at the line for Asian students, during the first three years they were high; then went down to moderate and then targeting stopped. Why is high growth not targeted?

Dr. Salim mentioned that this chart was focused on closing the gap for students. Having moderate growth instead of high growth is the way to close the gap; admitting that we have sub groups that have alarmingly low growth.

Dr. Salim stated growth is a normative measure that gives us a picture of where we meet the mark and where we have not. Most of all, the purpose of the outcomes are in the interest of being honest about performance and transparent about what we are trying to do.

Ms. Nolan stated that we are going to have quarterly updates but the measures are annual. These are not the only measures that will be used across the district. It is unfortunate that we don't know which school climate survey will be used. She suggests that we work with the administration to adjust along the way.

Ms. Kelly stated these conversations are taking us toward equity across the district. We look at the numbers and have concerned reactions; which is good because it will move us to create a system for higher expectations. Ultimately, we will stay on top of what we really need to do to make sure our students succeed.

Mr. Harding stated that the Committee is in agreement on changing the statistics. Is there anything obvious that we can do in order for us to see an improvement? Could the Budget or Professional Development be used as a tool for progress?

Mr. Fantini in the chair 9:25 pm.

Dr. Salim spoke on the shift around the MCAS data. He proposed tiered school support in order to have a pro-active approach to unanticipated problems that may arise. We already know that 10% of our African American and Black students in 8th grade have met the expectation. The district is trying to figure out what we should do different this year to improve this percentage instead of waiting for a year to address it.

Mr. Harding stated that he believes in excellent teaching in every classroom. Instruction is supposed to be the focus. There are always changes and many other things are always happening. How do we support the core of excellent instruction in the classroom?

Dr. Salim responded that the district plan is to figure out what is paramount and begin with problem solving in that area. They are pulling the coaching staff together on a quarterly basis and using the professional development plans to build on work that has already been done.

Ms. Bowman appreciates that we have the numbers in front of us in this way. If we need to see them and be horrified, maybe a change will happen. Having the dashboard, having to do the work to see growth will make the Committee work hard to figure out how it is possible that our kids can sit in the same classroom leading up to the 8th grade exam, have a 60% learning difference. We need to perfect the teaching experience. We need to bridge the gap between pedagogical thought.

Mayor Simmons in the chair at 9:45 p.m.

Ms. Dexter responded that by the States standards, we will close the achievement gap in 18 years. She wants to shift the whole paradigm up, and our standards should be higher than those of the state.

Mayor Simmons stated this is a living document that will be revisited. The document will not matter unless the School Committee puts the work into it.

Dr. Salim stated that he appreciates the discussion and reiterated that these are not the only data that they will be looking at or the only seven outcomes. No individual measure or outcome is perfect, the purpose is to be able to have discussions and make plans for students to be successful.

7b. Innovation Agenda:

7c. Consent Agenda:

Ms. Nolan moved, seconded by Ms. Bowman, on a voice vote, the Superintendent's Consent Agenda was brought forward for discussion and adoption. Ms. Dexter removed **item #17-277**, on a Motion by Ms. Nolan, seconded by Ms. Kelly, on the following roll call; **items #17-278 to #17-284** were adopted: Ms. Bowman YEA; Ms. Dexter PRESENT; Mr. Fantini YEA; Mr. Harding YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Mayor Simmons YEA.

#17-278, Approval of Revisions to Weapons and Assaults on School Staff Policy: that the School Committee approve the revisions to the Weapons and Assaults on School Staff Policy, as detailed in the document (second reading).

#17-279, Approval of Revisions to the Criminal Offender Record Information Policy, that the School Committee approve the revisions to the Criminal Offender Record Information Policy, as detailed in the document (first reading).

#17-280, Special Needs Contracts for Day and Residential Program Services not Available from the Cambridge School Department, that the School Committee award contracts to the institutions as detailed as detailed in the list in amounts not to exceed the shown rates, having been approved by the Operational Services Division of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget and/or Grant Fund Budget.

| | <u>#</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---------------------------------------|----------|--------------------|
| Day Program Tuition Contracts | 2 | \$93,614.76 |
| Residential Program Tuition Contracts | 0 | |
| 45 Day Program Contracts | <u>0</u> | |
| Total | 2 | <u>\$93,614.76</u> |

#17-281, Contract Award that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor for student tuition and transportation, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical School, 562 Maple Street, Hathorne, for the period July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018, in the amount of \$32,962.00.

#17-282, Contract Award, that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor for HVAC supplies, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having complied with:

Filter Sales & Service, 15 Adams St., Burlington, for the period November 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018, in the amount of \$30,000.00.

#17-283, Approval of Gifts to Cambridge Public Schools, that the School Committee accept and approve the following gifts and receipts as described.

1. \$8,745.00 to the Amigos School made from the Friends of Amigos to be used for Chromebooks for students in grades 2-5.
2. \$750.00 to the Rindge Avenue Upper School made from an individual donor to be used to purchase standing desks for students.
3. \$417.92 to the Kennedy Longfellow School made from Recycle That, LLC, in return for items collected in the school's clothing/book collection box. Funds will be used for the general support of the school.
4. \$400.00 to the Morse School made from A Plus Insurance Agency, LLC to support the school's Annual Coady Award Dinner.

#17-284, Grant Award: that the School Committee accept and approve the Grant Award for the period and amount indicated:

Title I Distribution, for the period 9/1/16 – 6/30/18 for the increase amount of \$691. Project/Grant (SC17604).

Description: Title I funds provide academic, instructional and support services for all low-achieving students in either reading or math, professional development activities for staff, support for parent involvement activities, as well as supplies for homeless students.

This is the second increase to our FY17 Title I allocation, the end date for which has been extended to June 30, 2018. This increase in grant funds will be used for supplemental instructional materials and for supplies for homeless students.

#17-289, Approval to Re-establish a Cap of Students at the Kindergarten and/or Junior Kindergarten Grade Level for the SY 18-19 JK/K Lottery, that when enrolling students for kindergarten and/or junior kindergarten each school or program will admit no more students per grade level than the number of seats that the school or program has in its first grade classrooms plus 2. Once the number of students admitted to kindergarten or junior kindergarten reaches the number of seats in that school's or that program's first grade plus 2, only children from the other grade level will be admitted. In other words, if a school or program with two first grades with a capacity of no more than a total of fifty (50) students, the assignments of students to junior kindergarten would not exceed 52 and the assignment of students to kindergarten would not exceed 52.

In a situation where the maximum capacity of kindergarten or junior kindergarten students have been assigned to a school and a vacancy occurs the first student on the wait list shall be assigned unless his/her assignment brings the kindergarten or junior kindergarten enrollment over the maximum capacity number of the schools' or a program's first grade. If the assignment of the first child from the waitlist would result in a grade level enrollment number greater than the first grade capacity, the Family Resource Center shall move down the waitlist until a child from the other grade is reached or leave the seat open (second reading).

8. Non-Consent Agenda:

#17-277, Superintendent's Recommendation #17-277, Approval of Cambridge Public Schools District Plan Framework Outcomes 2017-2020: that the School Committee approve the Cambridge Public Schools District Plan Framework Outcomes 2017-2020, as detailed in the document.

On a motion by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Fantini, on the following roll call, **item #17-277** was adopted. Ms. Bowman YEA; Ms. Dexter PRESENT; Mr. Fantini YEA; Mr. Harding YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Mayor Simmons YEA .

9. School Committee Agenda (Policy Matters/Notification/Requests for Information):

On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Mr. Harding, on a voice vote, the entire School Committee Agenda was brought forward for discussion and adoption. On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Mr. Harding, on following roll call, **items #17-285 through #17-288** were adopted: Ms. Bowman YEA; Ms. Dexter NAY; Mr. Fantini YEA; Mr. Harding YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Mayor Simmons YEA.

On a motion by Ms. Dexter, seconded by Mr. Fantini, for permission to suspend the rules in order to change her vote, on a voice vote of six members voting YEA, one member voting NAY, the motion to suspend the rules was accepted. On a motion by Ms. Dexter, seconded by Mr. Fantini, on a voice vote with unanimous consent, Ms. Dexter changed her vote on **items #17-285 through item #17-288** to YEA.

#17-285, Motion by Mr. Fantini, That the Superintendent work with the Athletic Director and provide a written process of how Coaching positions are filled in a timely manner and have parents actively involved in the hiring process.

#17-286, Motion by Ms. Dexter, Mr. Fantini and Ms. Kelly, that the Superintendent provide a report by February 1st to the School Committee that details the following;

- 1) The number and demographics of Cambridge students attending charter schools, the schools they are attending, and the grade levels in which they are enrolled.
Demographics should be grouped by preK-5, 6-8, and 9-12.
- 2) For the past 3 years combined: 5th grade MCAS ELA and Math scores of students who have attended CPS schools in 5th grade, but enrolled in charter schools in 6th grade;
- 3) CPS efforts, including those planned for the coming winter and spring, to reach out to parents entering the preschool lottery, the JK/K lottery, 4th-5th grade parents considering middle school options, and 7th-8th grade parents considering high school options.

This motion aligns, in particular, with Strategic Goals #1 (Access and Equity); #4 (Parent and Community Partnerships); and #5 (Progress Monitoring, Evaluation, and Data).

#17-287, Motion by Mr. Harding, that the Superintendent forward the latest MCAS results to the School Committee in preparation for the December 12th Special Meeting to review the Spring 2017 MCAS results for Cambridge Public Schools.

#17-288, Motion by Mr. Harding that the Superintendent report back to the School Committee on the progress he has made on creating a Parent University for Cambridge Public Schools

10. Resolutions:

#17-266, Motion by Ms. Dexter, that whereas this has been an unusually difficult year for the City of Cambridge and for the Cambridge Public Schools community; and

Whereas the adults who work in our schools—educators, staff, administrators, parents, volunteers, and others—are often the emotional first-responders when negative events and tragedies affect our community;

The Cambridge School Committee wishes to express its deep appreciation to all those who work in our schools, who have done so much this past year to uphold the values of our city and of our public school system, and who, in addition to performing their regular jobs, have been repeatedly called upon to

provide extra emotional support to our students, our students' families, and to their colleagues, in response to unusually difficult local, national, and global events and circumstances. We are very grateful. (Mayor Simmons 11-21-17)

Emily Dexter stated that the Order should be sent to all principals.

Mr. Fantini moved, seconded by Mr. Harding, on the following roll call, **item #17-266** was adopted: Ms. Bowman YEA; Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Mr. Harding YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Mayor Simmons YEA

11. Announcements:

12. Late Orders:

#17-290, Revised Order by Ms. Nolan, (C17-356), that whereas how siblings are assigned to immersion programs should be aligned with the district goals of supporting families and prioritizing sibling togetherness in schools, beginning with the January 2018 Lottery for **new students entering CPS** in the 2018-2019 school year, the internal JK to K transfer program from King Ni Hao to King Chinese Immersion and King Open to King Open Ola will be eliminated. This means that JK students registering for the 2018 Lottery for school year 2018-2019 will not have the opportunity to transfer for their K year between programs at King and King Open during their 2019-2020 school year.

Furthermore, all internal transfer rules in place for the two programs at the time of the 2017 Lottery for the 2017-2018 school year will govern the current JK to K transfer rights for internal transfers between King Ni Hao and Chinese Immersion and King Open and Ola. This means that current JK students in King Ni Hao and King Open retain their internal transfer rights for their K year for the 2018-2019 school year.

Further, that the administration will work to ensure that all siblings affected by the internal transfer policy be assigned to their siblings' school for the 2018-2019 school year (second reading). on a Motion by Ms. Nolan, seconded by Ms. Kelly, on a voice vote, **item #17-290** was adopted.

On a voice vote, the following motions were adopted:

Motioned by Mayor Simmons, that the School Committee send a letter of condolence to the Williams family for the passing of Anita Williams.

Motioned by Mr. Harding, that the School Committee send a letter of condolence to the family of Kathleen Carlisle who was a Cambridge teacher for 42 years at the King school.

Distributed Back-up Documents/Handouts:

- CPS Strategic Plan Outcomes Dashboard Fall 2017
- CPS District Plan Framework Outcomes: Update November 2017
- CPS Strategic Initiatives SY 2017-18 Purpose, terms, and Key Commitments *November 2017*
- Proposal the Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment

Public Comment Statements:

- Parents from the Putnam Ave Upper school, concerns of underperformance
- Kathy Greeley, Literacy Coach Graham & Parks, Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System
- Kevin Fanning, District Plan Framework Outcomes
- Dan Monahan, CEA Presidents, District Plan Framework Outcomes

E-mail Communications Received:

- ✓ Michelle Hicks, concerns of underperformance at PAUS
- ✓ John Summers, sugary drinks

- ✓ Ryuji Morishita, broadcasting of Roundtables
- ✓ Mary Shilue, broadcasting of Roundtables
- ✓ Kimberly Mancino, PAUS update request
- ✓ Leslie Brunetta, MCAS scores
- ✓ Daniel Michaud Weinstock, District Plan Outcomes

The communications are on file in the Office of the Executive Secretary to the School Committee and can be viewed.

The Chair entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining for CEA Units C, D, E, Cambridge Liaisons Invested in Families & Education, AFSCME Council 93 Local 1611, Cambridge Safety Specialists, and Cambridge Food Service Employee Association, as an open meeting may have detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee on of each of these units.

On a motion by Ms. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Fantini, on the following roll call, it was voted to enter into Executive Session for the purpose stated: Ms. Bowman YEA; Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Mr. Harding YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Mayor Simmons YEA.

The Chair announced that no votes will be taken and we will not reconvene in open session.

On a motion by Ms. Bowman, seconded by Ms. Nolan, it was voted to adjourn the Regular Meeting at (10:00 PM).

Dosha Beard
Executive Secretary to the School Committee