



SCHOOL COMMITTEE

(Official Report)

Regular Meeting

January 3, 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 (~~ABSENT~~)
Ms. Kelly, Ms. Nolan, and Mayor Simmons

Also present: Student School Committee Members Mari Gashaw and Paul Sullivan

Mayor Simmons in the Chair.

A quorum of the School Committee being present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

1. Public Comment:

The following individuals signed up to speak on the topic of the Putnam Ave. Upper School which was not an agenda item.

Michael Bellomo, Allston St.
Kathryn Codd, Brookline St.
Michelle Bean, Fresh Pond Pkwy.
Kimberly Mancino, Auburn St.
Michelle Hicks, Magazine St.

Mayor Simmons explained that citizens who wish to speak to the Committee during public comment may sign up to speak on an item that is listed on the agenda.

Mr. Fantini moved, seconded by Ms. Kelly, to suspend the Rules to allow members of the public to speak on an item that is not on the agenda. It was voted to suspend the Rules for the reason stated.

The following individuals were heard:

- Ms. Hicks spoke on behalf of Mr. Bellomo, Ms. Codd, Ms. Bean and Ms. Mancino. She noted that they represent a group of Putnam Avenue Upper School parents who are deeply concerned with the current state of that school. They are concerned about discipline issues and compromised and inconsistent learning environment in core classes. They have discovered that PAUS is the lowest performing Upper School in the district by a wide margin and among the lowest performers in the state. They are requesting an emergency budget for co-teachers in Math and ELA; the hiring of a family/community liaison; the creation of a robust summer school program for Math and ELA; and asking Members to visit their school to observe classrooms, talk to teachers, students and parents to understand what is going on (statement on file in the School Committee office)
- Mr. Crutchfield, River St. building substitute, spoke in support of motion #16-303 for childcare at public hearing on the budget. He added that it is unfair to assume everyone will be able to come

to this site for public budget hearings. He encourages the Committee to visit each school regarding the budget priorities to talk to teachers and to listen to their concerns.

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

2. Student School Committee Report:

Mari Gashaw reported that on this Saturday at 7 pm, "DriqueSide", led by CRLS Senior Andrique Fleurimond, will be having a fundraising event called, "The Phoenix: Arise from the Ashes" at the Cambridge Community Center to raise money for the York Street fire victims. There will be a Visual Arts show at the Multicultural Arts Center in East Cambridge showcasing the work of Cambridge students. The opening reception is this Thursday, January 5, from 4-7 PM. Student leaders have been meeting with administration to come up with solutions and to create a plan on how to address hateful graffiti and to make CRLS more inclusive and welcoming for all students.

Paul Sullivan reported that on this Saturday at 6 pm, there will be a march led by a group from STARS called "take back the night" focusing on sexual assault and harassment. The group will be walking from CRLS to the Mass. Ave. Bridge. A CRLS group called "issues and education" is working with administration on how to create safe spaces for students who are feeling overwhelmed throughout the school day.

3. Presentation of the Records for Approval:

On a motion by Ms. Nolan, seconded by Mr. Fantini, it was voted to accept the Minutes of the following meetings as presented:

- Roundtable Meeting on High School Staffing – December 13, 2016
- Special Meeting – December 20, 2016
- Regular Meeting, December 20, 2016

4. Reconsiderations: None

5. Unfinished Business/Calendar:

On a motion by Ms. Nolan, seconded by Ms. Bowman, it was voted to bring forward Calendar **item #16-303** for discussion.

#16-303, Motion by Ms. Dexter, that whereas the School Committee strives to engage the community inclusively so we can benefit from the diversity of views in Cambridge; and whereas the budget is the Committee's most important annual policy document; the School Committee and administration will work together to provide childcare and snacks at the budget hearing scheduled for Tuesday, January 17, 6:00 pm. Furthermore, the Committee asks the administration to work with the city's Community Engagement Team to publicize the hearing and childcare availability to all CPS parents and Cambridge residents, as the administration has done for prior hearings. (Mayor Simmons, 12-20-16)

Ms. Dexter spoke in support of her motion. Ms. Nolan suggested this will be a good opportunity for this. Ms. Kelly supports this idea and noted that she and Mr. Harding are already working with Mr. Maloney Ms. Spinner and the Superintendent. Mr. Harding indicated that he would like as many people as possible to attend the public hearings on the budget. Mayor Simmons shared that she would like this to be thought out first rather than just done and would like to refer this to the Budget Sub-Committee Co-Chairs and the Superintendent to do the work. Mr. Fantini added that childcare was provided for some past meetings. Mr. Harding noted that although he would like this to happen, we have to do certain things to make sure this is done the right way and suggested a pilot may be the way to proceed. He indicated that the Budget Co-Chairs are meeting weekly with the Superintendent and will be discussing this.

Ms. Bowman suggested to vote on this rather than to refer it and added that the Committee needs to think strategically about letting people know about this. Ms. Nolan would like childcare to be in place for the public hearing on January 17th and noted that the district has experience in providing childcare for other meetings such as CPAC and school council meetings. She suggested leaving it up to administration to come up with the implementation. Ms. Bowman noted her appreciation of the comments around engaging the public and asked about other ways we could leverage technology. Ms. Dexter suggested using the Family Resource Center as the space for childcare and noted that this is a message about being family friendly. Mari Gashaw suggested that CRLS students training in childcare may be able to provide the childcare.

On a motion by Ms. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Harding, on a voice vote, **item #16-303** was removed from the Calendar and referred to the Budget Sub-Committee Co-Chairs to work with the Superintendent.

Ms. Dexter brought forward **item #16-306** for discussion.

#16-306, Motion by Ms. Dexter, that whereas Cambridge Public Schools strives to provide equitable opportunities to learn; whereas Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School offers numerous extracurricular activities to enhance student learning; and whereas the CPS administration and School Committee strive to make data-informed decisions; the School Committee requests a report from the CPS administration on the demographics of extracurricular participation at CRLS based on data from the current or previous school year. The Committee requests this report by April 15, 2017, or sooner. (Dexter, 12-20-16)

Ms. Dexter spoke in support of her motion. She asked whether our lower income students are participating at a lower rate than our higher income students. She added that being in a play, on a sports team, etc. are all achievements. Students learn 21st century skills. We have no idea how children actually participate in our extracurricular activities or if it differs by race, gender, income, ELL or disability status. She noted that this is a very simple statistical analysis if we have the data available. She estimated that the entry of data may take one day and the analysis could take 30 minutes. She noted that the Aspen system can have extracurricular activity added to it. We would have baseline data to compare with the future years. She added that the Committee's job is also to ask questions and to get information from data and this is also a budget issue.

Ms. Nolan noted that she is interested to know how difficult this data is to gather. She would like administration to estimate how large a task this is. She added that it is really important for children to be engaged and this is important at the high school level. She noted that the National Honor Society requires a certain amount of extracurricular activity and asked if there was a policy for high school students to participate in extracurricular activities to graduate.

Mayor Simmons expressed concerns that the Committee would be taking the Superintendent and his staff away from something more important. She suggested referring this to the Curriculum and Achievement Sub-Committee to do more fact finding.

Ms. Bowman noted that she would like this motion attached to an outcome or a goal and not just have this be a request for information for the sake of information. We need to be strategic to help our teachers and administration and work with them. We should do the due diligence.

Ms. Kelly, Chair of the Curriculum Sub-Committee, indicated that this sub-committee has a number of motions already referred to it. There is a major meeting of the Curriculum Sub-Committee next week regarding the model for 9th grade English and History.

Mr. Fantini suggested referring this to the Superintendent with the agreement that the Committee ask him not to spend more than 3 hours on this. Mr. Fantini shared that we are the only school system that doesn't charge for sports. We have many opportunities for extracurricular activities and different levels of participation at the high school. Mr. Fantini noted that some students can't participate because of childcare for younger siblings or the need to work to help their families.

Paul Sullivan shared that most extracurricular activities at CRLS are student run and have a faculty leader. This would have to be coordinated with them. Mari Gashaw noted that there isn't a roster for clubs and that the same student could be in five different clubs.

Mr. Harding added that it's about what we are trying to accomplish and what the obstacles are preventing a student from taking advantage of clubs or sports. He indicated that sometimes you have to prioritize things and wanted to caution the Committee of not coming to a foregone conclusion on a motion of what you may think will come out of the information without the data.

Mr. Fantini in the Chair (7:10 PM)

Mayor Simmons in the Chair (7:14 PM)

Ms. Nolan's offered a motion to refer this to the Superintendent to pass on to the CRLS school improvement council for a decision.

Dr. Salim added that students can be part of club when they are able to attend and don't have to make a commitment to it. Important work has been done with the upper schools in this area and it is being tracked. We work with out-of-school time partners and the Agenda for Children. We have school based stipended coordinators with an infrastructure that exists that helps us collect and analyze this data. Some students may choose to have jobs after school. The larger question is how students are engaged outside of school and how it contributes to their learning and education. If this becomes a goal that rises to surface, then it's something we may want to track.

Ms. Dexter offered an amendment to refer this to the Superintendent for consideration asking him to consult with Dr. Adams and our newly hired research manager as well as the CRLS Principal.

Mayor Simmons offered an amendment to remove the date of April 15, 2017 from this motion. She indicated that she would still not support this motion because of so many other things the Committee has as priorities. She asked the Committee to decide that even though this is important, is it important to do right now.

Mari Gashaw offered that the student government at the high school takes this on since they have already been asked by administration to take a look at school clubs.

Ms. Nolan offered an amendment that of issue of diversity and demographics of representation for extracurricular participation at CRLS be referred.

Paul Sullivan indicated his support for Mari Gashaw's suggestion.

On a motion by Mari Gashaw, supported by Mr. Harding and Mr. Fantini, seconded by Ms. Nolan and Ms. Kelly, on a voice vote, **item #16-306**, was removed from the Calendar and voted as amended: **#16-306, Motion by Ms. Dexter**, that whereas Cambridge Public Schools strives to provide equitable opportunities to learn; whereas Cambridge Rindge and Latin High School offers numerous extracurricular activities to enhance student learning; and whereas the CPS administration and School Committee strive to make data-informed decisions; that the issue of diversity and demographics of representation for extracurricular participation at CRLS be referred to the CRLS Student Government through and with the Superintendent for further discussion and that a report be brought back to the School Committee by Student School Committee representatives Gashaw and Sullivan at a later date.

6. Awaiting Reports: None

7. Superintendent's Agenda:

7a. Presentations: None

7b. Innovation Agenda:

7c. Consent Agenda:

On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Ms. Kelly, it was voted to move the entire consent agenda forward for discussion and adoption. Ms. Dexter removed **item #17-02**. Mr. Fantini removed item **#17-06**. On the following roll call, **items #17-01, #17-03 through #17-05** were adopted: Mr. Harding YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Mayor Simmons YEA.

#17-01, 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 on the attached 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># Active Contracts</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Day	1	\$44,521.59
Residential	0	
45 Day Program	<u>0</u>	
Total	1	<u>\$44,521.59</u>

#17-03, Approval of Gift of \$150.00, that the School Committee accept and approve a gift of \$150.00 to the Kennedy Longfellow School made from Target's Take Charge of Education program for the general support of the school.

#17-04, Grant Award, that the School Committee accept and approve the grant award in the amount and for the period indicated:

Massachusetts Cultural Council-STARRS , for the period January 3, 2017 to June 30, 2017, in the amount of \$11,400.00. Project/Grant SC17894.

Description: This grant will support residency artist series at the Cambridgeport School (\$3,800, Underground Railroad Theater); Rindge Ave Upper School (\$5,000, Cambridge Creativity Commons Science activity); and CRLS Media Lab (\$2,600).

#17-05, Grant Award, that the School Committee accept and approve the grant award in the amount and for the period indicated:

Title III English Language Acquisition: Immigrant Grant, for the period January 1, 2017 to August 31, 2017, in the amount of \$50,550.00. Project/Grant SC17126.

Description: Due to the recent increase in enrollment of Immigrant students, the district is now eligible for the Title III Immigrant grant. This grant will fund staff for a Summer Enrichment program for English Language Learners (ELLs) in grades K-8 in ESL, math and science. It will also provide an English as a Second Language class for ELL parents at CRLS during the school year to strengthen language skills and family engagement. Supplies for the program and registrations for teachers to attend the MATSOL annual conference will also be provided.

8. Non-Consent Agenda:

#17-02, Contract Award, that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor for Professional Development, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

EDCO Collaborative, 36 Middlesex Turnpike, Bedford, for the period August 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017, in the amount of \$27,420.00.

Ms. Dexter indicated that she sent the Superintendent the following questions on this contract:

How many sessions did this include
How many sessions did each teacher participate in
What would be the follow up for this type of work
How would this professional development be evaluated

Dr. Salim responded that the EDCO contract is around cultural proficiency work and includes all high school staff for 2 sessions of 4 ½ hours each; this school year there will be an additional 6 hours. There is feedback gathered after each session using Google forms.

Ms. Nolan asked how many total hours are involved. Dr. Salim responded that it is 10 ½ hours total for all high school staff. Ms. Nolan asked if we have a per diem. Dr. Salim responded that it is a total scope of services contract. Ms. Nolan asked how many EDCO staff members are present at each session. Dr. Turk will check on the accurate number of EDCO staff involved at each session.

#17-06, Grant Award, that the School Committee accept and approve the grant award in the amount and for the period indicated:

Focus on Early Literacy-Shore Ed. Collaborative, for the period January 3, 2016 to June 30, 2016, in the amount of \$17,875.00. Project/Grant SC17132.

Description: This subcontract from Shore Educational Collaborative, awarded as part of Shore's "Focus on Early Literacy" grant from the MA DESE, will fund substitutes for Kindergarten staff to participate in state sponsored professional development trainings on early literacy.

Dr. Salim indicated there was a typographical error and the period of the contract should be for the period January 3, 2017 to June 30, 2017. On the following roll call, **item #17-06** was adopted as amended: Mr. Harding YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Ms. Bowman YEA; Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Mayor Simmons YEA

#17-06, Grant Award, that the School Committee accept and approve the grant award in the amount and for the period indicated:

Focus on Early Literacy-Shore Ed. Collaborative, for the period January 3, 2017 to June 30, 2017, in the amount of \$17,875.00. Project/Grant SC17132.

Description: This subcontract from Shore Educational Collaborative, awarded as part of Shore's "Focus on Early Literacy" grant from the MA DESE, will fund substitutes for Kindergarten staff to participate in state sponsored professional development trainings on early literacy.

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

On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Ms. Bowman, it was voted to move the entire School Committee Agenda forward for discussion and adoption. Ms. Nolan removed item **#17-07**.

#17-07, Motion by Ms. Kelly, that the School Committee receive a report on the work accomplished to date by the Early Childhood Education Task Force on or before January 27, 2017.

Ms. Kelly noted that she is following up on a motion she brought in during September where the School Committee agreed to all the recommended goals by the Early Childhood Task Force. She noted that the last time we had a report on the ECE Task Force was November 15th. She contacted the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent for Elementary Education to ask about the work done to date; the status

of the collaboration and if there any budget implications to consider for this budget process. Both Dr. Salim and Ms. MacDonald were amenable to providing this report by January 27th.

Ms. Dexter offered an amendment that in addition to a written report that the administration makes a brief presentation at the School Committee Meeting of February 7th. Ms. Nolan seconded Ms. Dexter's amendment. Discussion followed about having a roundtable meeting on early childhood education with the city side. The Mayor indicated that Superintendent Salim and Assistant City Manager Ellen Semonoff are working on finding a date for a roundtable with the City Council on this topic. Ms. Dexter asked and received unanimous consent to withdraw her amendment. On a voice vote, the main motion **item #17-07** was adopted.

On a motion Ms. Nolan, seconded by Mr. Harding, on a voice vote, **item #17-08**, the report of the December 15, 2016 Sub-Committee on School Climate was accepted as presented:

Meeting of the School Climate Sub-Committee
School Committee Conference Room
Thursday, December 15, 2016
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Called for the purpose of hearing from Cambridge Public School administrators about their ideas for enhancing school climate in all Cambridge Public Schools.

Members Present: Ms. Dexter, Chair; Ms. Bowman, Ms. Kelly

Also Present: Dr. Carolyn Turk, Deputy Superintendent; Ms. Alice Cohen, Lead Teacher for Social Emotional Learning; Ms. Melody Brazo, Welcoming Schools Coordinator and Mr. Dan Monahan, CEA President

Ms. Dexter in the Chair.

A quorum of the Sub-Committee being present, Ms. Dexter called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Ms. Dexter turned the meeting over to the administration, asking how this Sub-Committee and the full School Committee could be most helpful to them.

Ms. Cohen began by sharing that she has visited all school principals and they conclude many students are dealing with toxic stress and trauma. There is a large need for work to be done on trauma sensitivity. She shared a universal definition of what social emotional learning is: *"A process through which students and adults acquire and apply skills, knowledge and attitudes to understand and manage emotions; set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others; establish and maintain positive relationships and make responsible decisions"*. Ms. Cohen emphasized the importance of establishing and maintaining relationships. Without strong relationships with teachers and adults, these students cannot acquire the needed skills for learning. She explained the different skills that are needed and used at different grades levels.

Ms. Cohen & Ms. Brazo gave a partial progress report with goals and initiatives from May to the present as follows:

- 866 CPS staff members and 60 parents have been trained on the Effects of Trauma and Brain Development
- Best Practices for Trauma Sensitive Schools
- Responding to Challenging Behaviors
- Baldwin, Cambridge Street Upper School, Amigos, Haggerty and High School Extension are the 5 schools participating in a long term model based on training, observation and coaching with follow up training for next steps
- Goal for SEL to be embedded directly into regular classroom instruction
- Ms. Cohen has ordered bullying prevention booklets for parents in multiple languages

- Increase mindfulness in the lower grades
- There will be a Bullying Prevention power point for staff every Fall
- More social workers needed in schools
- Crisis Intervention plans are in place in all schools

Ms. Cohen explained that she constantly visits schools and talks with teachers and students. Since all schools are autonomous, all have different cultures with different types of training and intervention. Therefore the schools use different models for social emotional learning. Second Step, Responsive Classroom and Developmental Design are some models being used. There is an alignment in the models used from grade to grade for regular stability. Most important is the consistency of actually using a model rather than identifying what model is being used.

Issues and progress on the following topics were shared:

Toxic Stress: knowing the circumstances that the students bring to the schools is the most important aspect of learning how to help the student. They all deal with their stress in different ways and it affects day to day behavior and brain development.

Bullying: can be looked at as social incompetency. It is not always overt; it can be as subtle as exclusion. There is a huge amount of cyber bullying that adults cannot control.

Gender Dynamics Training: focuses on finding your own identity and how to treat other people. This training began for 7th and 8th graders at the CSUS as a result of unruly boys laughing at a health video with girls in the media. The girls were upset and would not accept their behavior. Ms. Cohen, using videos, taught the girls how to facilitate their own training, which was very successful. She is hoping to do it again in other schools. She is also meeting with 8th grade boys of color at RAUS and not only are they learning from her, she is learning from the boys as they talk about many issues which include: bombings, public safety, public crying, relationships with their mothers, sex, drugs, etc.

Bullying Prevention and Conflict Resolution work: Ms. Brazo stated she just finished a training for bus monitors and bus drivers along with Ms. Chandra Banks, District Conflict Mediator and Ms. Tina Fisher, Transportation Supervisor. She said it was a pleasure to have the time for conversations on the different styles of conflict and management. The district is also investing in classroom break boxes for a chill out space. It was stated that keeping kids in the classroom is the key to a positive climate, rather than sending the child out and then introducing them back into the class.

Dr. Turk brought up the fact that through BU School social work, there are new interns. It began with 3 and because 2 had to leave, they are now down to 1 at the Haggerty, doing her clinical experience. These 4 people are doing extraordinary team work: Kim Deandrade, Alice Cohen, Melody Brazo and Chandra Banks. They try to meet monthly.

Ms. Bowman mentioned a motion that was passed regarding integrating curriculum around sexual harassment and assault. Dr. Turk responded that on October 25th and 26th, the work was begun with a training with attorney Richard Cole. Administration members are expected to take the training back to teachers. The importance of recognizing the option of repair was emphasized. Kids need to know they can make mistakes and then fix them. It was stated that SEL is not about one person, it is about the whole classroom; all schools need to have different ways to negotiate peace. One example is the peace bench at the Fletcher Maynard.

Mr. Monahan asked about the adult culture as well, stating the struggle does not only belong to the student, teachers are struggling with SEL also. He asked what should the teacher do when the principal sends the kid back to class? What happens when the teacher feels that someone else needs to deal with this kid. It was stated that teachers need trauma training. The process needs to be transparent so that the teacher knows what is happening to the child while she/he is out of class and what will happen when the child comes back. Kids do well when they know the grown-ups are all getting along and talking to

each other. The grownups need this too; they also function better when they feel supported and understood by their peers.

A lot of attention is always on the student that acts up. It was mentioned that attention is just as important for the student that shuts down or withdraws. They both are cries for help, and as long as the teacher is tuned in to the child and notices a change in behavior, successful intervention is possible.

The question was asked regarding how to integrate self with social competency. It was stated that most elementary age kids take their cues about what is happening in the world from their parents. There is a strong desire for social justice in the middle schools.

Ms. Kelly left the meeting at 6:30 PM
Ms. Brazo left the meeting at 6:30 PM

Dr. Turk responded by speaking about a 2 hour workshop that will be happening soon called Cultural Proficiency Developing our Lens.

Some behavior is a cry for help and teachers need to be very careful about how they intervene. There was a discussion about whether or not boys of color cause all of the trouble. Ms. Cohen stated she is not having that experience. She stated that there are students that disrupt their classrooms. They are not predominately students of color. Toxically stressed students act out, regardless of race. It was stated that we all need to learn not to lose our tempers. Teachers get triggered by students and that is not good.

Ms. Dexter asked how to support the SEL work. The responses are as follows:

It was stated SEL workers need to look at what they have and make sure they are using it effectively
It was stated they need administration and teachers to ask questions and listen to the answers
A team is needed to be effective
There is a budget to spend on instructional materials which feels very good
They feel supported by the school department, they feel progressive, it just takes more training, support and observation.

On a motion by Ms. Bowman, seconded by Ms Dexter, the meeting adjourned at (6:55 PM)

Distributed Documents: None

Adjourned
Dosha Beard
Confidential Secretary to the School Committee office

10. Resolutions:

Mr. Harding moved, seconded by Ms. Nolan, to suspend the Rules to allow a member to go back to a previous item on the agenda. It was voted to suspend the Rules for the reason stated.

On a voice vote, the following motions were adopted:

Motion by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Fantini, that the School Committee goes on record in extending its appreciation to CRLS Varsity Football Coach, Ryan Saulnier, who has recently resigned due to family obligations. The School Committee thanks him for helping student athletes excel in the classroom and for his commitment to our school district.

Motion by Mayor Simmons, seconded by Mr. Harding, that the School Committee goes on record in extending its appreciation to Representative Katherine Clark of Massachusetts 5th Congressional District for coming to speak at the Cambridge Peace Commission's Martin Luther King Day Commemoration at St. Peter's Episcopal Church on January 16, 2017.

11. Announcements:

Ms. Dexter announced that she is a member of the Healthy Children's Task Force and at a recent meeting there was a long discussion regarding student attendance and absence issues for immigrant students. She is sharing information from this meeting with Dr. Turk and Dr. Salim.

Ms. Dexter announced that she, Ms. Nolan, and Mr. Fantini attended a launch party for a Cambridge Street Upper School 8th grade student, Andrine Pierresaint, who had written a poetry book entitled "Even Pears Speak to Me" which was published by a youth publishing firm. Ms. Dexter distributed one of the poems entitled "CRLS" (on file in the School Committee office).

Ms. Nolan and Ms. Kelly announced that there will be a Curriculum and Achievement Sub-Committee held on Tuesday, January 10th, at 6 pm in the Henrietta S. Attles Meeting Room to discuss the proposed FY2018 model for 9th grade English and History.

Ms. Kelly announced that there will be an Educator Public Hearing on the FY2018 School Department budget priorities on Wednesday, January 11th, from 3:30 to 5:00 pm.

Ms. Bowman announced that on Sunday, January 1st, she and CRLS students Sophie Harrington and Juliette Low Fleury were on Urban Update on Channel 7. They had the opportunity to go on the program to discuss the work they are doing on sanitary hygiene products in our school district. Ms. Bowman noted that they did a great job and it was a privilege to be on the show with them.

Mari Gashaw announced that there have been many newspaper articles re "take back the night", dealing with sexual harassment and assault and other items which Club 1 has been focusing on.

Ms. Nolan reminded everyone that a listing of future meetings and public hearings on the FY 2018 proposed school budget are posted on our website.

Mayor Simmons reminded everyone of *Many Helping Hands MLK Day of Service* which will launch on the steps of City Hall on January 16th. There will be food donations and blankets and book marks being made. Mayor Simmons noted that Ms. Bowman has participated in the past and that she has an extraordinary singing voice.

Mayor Simmons also reminded everyone that at 11:00 a.m. on January 16th, there will be a Martin Luther King Day Commemoration at St. Peter's Episcopal Church under the direction of Brian Corr, Executive Director of the Peace Commission.

Ms. Kelly noted that Representative Katherine Clark of Massachusetts 5th Congressional District will be offering her remarks at the Martin Luther King Day Commemoration at St. Peter's Episcopal Church.

12. Late Orders: None

Distributed Back-up Documents/Handouts:

Poem by Andrine Pierresaint (distributed by Ms. Dexter)

E-mail communications received: None

On a motion by Mr. Harding, seconded by Ms. Kelly, it was voted to adjourn the Regular Meeting (7:45 PM).

Mayor Simmons announced that there will be a Roundtable Meeting on the Office of Student Services after a 5 minute break.

Judith T. Martin
Executive Secretary to the School Committee