

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

(Official Report)

Regular Meeting

September 8, 2015

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. Cronin, Mr. Fantini, Mr. Harding, Ms. Kelly, Ms. Nolan, Mr. Osborne, Mayor Maher (**ABSENT**)

Also Present: Student School Committee Member: Griffin Andres

Mr. Fantini in the Chair.

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

1. Public Comment:

The following individual was heard:

Emily Dexter, Fenno St., re professional development, consultant contracts, clarification of initiatives, and creating a strategic plan (Memo on file in the School Committee office)

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

2. Student School Committee Report:

Mr. Fantini introduced Griffin Andres, one of the new Student School Committee Members. Mr. Andres shared with the members that he is a CRLS senior, plays basketball and volleyball, and became interested in participating on the Student School Committee through his work with the Cambridge Youth Council. He is interested in helping schools to engage families. He noted that today was the first day of school and that he is a freshman mentor.

3. Presentation of the Records for Approval:

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

- Regular Meeting – August 11, 2015
- Special Meeting – August 18, 2015

Mr. Fantini asked Superintendent Young to give an update on the opening of school. Dr. Young noted that it was a smooth opening and that he visited every single school in Cambridge. He thanked the principals, teachers, support staff and gave special thanks to Mr. Maloney, Mr. Ham and the custodial and maintenance staff. Dr. Young also thanked the students and their families. Mr. Fantini recognized Ms. Gist, President of the CEA.

Ms. Kelly moved, seconded by Ms. Cronin to suspend the Rules to bring forward Superintendent's Recommendation **#15-213, Approval of Private School – Wild Rose Montessori School**, that the

School Committee approve the Wild Rose Montessori School, located at 2284 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts as a private school, in accordance with the requirements of M.G.L. Chapter 76, Section 1, for discussion and adoption. The Rules having been suspended for the purpose stated, **#15-213** was brought forward. Mr. Fantini asked Dr. Turk to give a brief update on this process. She noted that under Massachusetts General Law, a private school located in a town is required to seek approval from the school committee of that town, whether or not children from the town attend the school. Dr. Turk responded to Mr. Harding's question that this approval is an acknowledgement of this school operating in the City but there is no oversight by CPS administration or the School Committee.

Dr. Turk introduced Castle O'Neill, Head of the Wild Rose Montessori School. Ms. O'Neill introduced her other colleagues present including Katie Tremblay, Assistant Head of School and Katelyn Shore, President of the Wildflower Network. Ms. O'Neill and her colleagues gave a brief presentation on the Wild Rose Montessori School and answered the Members questions. Ms. Nolan moved, seconded by Ms. Kelly, adoption of **#15-213**. On the following roll call, **#15-213** was adopted: Ms. Cronin YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Mr. Harding ~~ABSENT~~ YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Mr. Osborne YEA; Mayor Maher YEA. Mr. Harding asked for and received unanimous consent to be recorded in the affirmative on this missed roll call vote.

On a motion by Ms. Cronin, seconded by Ms. Kelly, on the follow roll call, it was voted to suspend the Rules for the purpose of moving reconsideration of the foregoing vote on item **#15-213**: Ms. Cronin YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Mr. Harding YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Mr. Osborne YEA; Mayor Maher YEA. The Rules having been suspended for the purpose stated, on a motion to reconsider the foregoing vote, hoping the same would not prevail, failed of adoption.

Mayor Maher in the Chair (6:39 PM) returned to the regular order of business.

4. Reconsiderations:

Having filed the proper notice as required by the Rules, Mr. Harding moved reconsideration of the vote taken at the Regular Meeting of August 11, 2015 that failed of adopting the motion: Superintendent's Recommendation **#15-182**, 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:

Harvard Graduate School of Education, 14 Appian Way, Cambridge, for the period August 15, 2015 to June 30, 2016, in the amount of \$125,000.00.

On the follow roll call, the motion for reconsideration prevailed and the matter was again before the Committee: Ms. Cronin NAY; Mr. Fantini YEA; Mr. Harding YEA; Ms. Kelly NAY; Ms. Nolan NAY; Mr. Osborne YEA; Mayor Maher YEA.

Mr. Harding clarified his reasons for filing for reconsideration of the vote take at the August 11th Regular Meeting on Item **#15-182**. Ms. Kelly explained the questions that came up for her. She asked what is it that we are trying to achieve and why is this the best answer noting that we have a number of other initiatives around social and emotional learning in the district. She asked what the plan is that we have around social and emotional learning. Dr. Young spoke about the district social worker position. He indicated that he wanted to do something right away with a program which has been used in a number of schools across the country and indicated that they would have put this in as a budget recommendation last year if they had known about it. Ms. Kelly indicated her difficulty over this being more reactive than proactive and that it is not a plan. Dr. Young indicated that the goal is to create a safe and supportive learning environment where every child can have his or her emotional needs tended to so he or she can excel academically. Ms. Kelly asked how benchmarks can be set up which would inform us as to whether or not we are achieving this goal. Ms. Cronin was heard regarding missing mapping of services and the need for a better system of protocols to access services that we have. She indicated that it is almost premature to bring in this contract and that we have homework to do to know what our social and emotional needs are. Ms. Nolan expressed concern about the amount of time this will involve and the

overload on our teachers. The Members inquired about the possibility of having another opportunity to speak to Mr. Weissbourd, Making Caring Common consultant. Ms. Kelly asked if it would be possible to have an evaluation of present programming of social and emotional learning in the district.

Mr. Fantini moved the main motion, seconded by Mr. Harding, on the following roll call, **#15-182**, 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:

Harvard Graduate School of Education, 14 Appian Way, Cambridge, for the period August 15, 2015 to June 30, 2016, in the amount of \$125,000.00.

failed of adoption: Ms. Cronin NAY; Mr. Fantini NAY; Mr. Harding YEA; Ms. Kelly NAY; Ms. Nolan NAY; Mr. Osborne NAY; Mayor Maher YEA.

Having filed the proper notice as required by the Rules, Ms. Cronin moved reconsideration of the vote taken at the Regular Meeting of August 11, 2015, that adopted the motion: VOTED: Superintendent's Recommendation **#15-165**, 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:

Marilyn Friend, Inc., 415 Pisgah Church Road, Box 355, Greensboro, NC, for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, in the amount of \$44,250.00.

On a voice vote, the motion for reconsideration prevailed and the matter was again before the Committee.

On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Ms. Cronin, on a voice vote, the following was referred to the Superintendent requesting that he re-negotiate the contract price: **#15-165**, 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:

Marilyn Friend, Inc., 415 Pisgah Church Road, Box 355, Greensboro, NC, for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, in the amount of \$44,250.00.

Ms. Nolan asked for and received unanimous consent to withdraw her motion to reconsider the following: By Patricia M. Nolan, reconsideration of the vote taken at the Special Meeting of August 18, 2015, that adopted the motion: VOTED: That the School Committee adopt the Composite of End-of-Cycle Summative Evaluation Report on the Superintendent of Schools.

The vote taken at the Special Meeting of August 18, 2015, that adopted the motion: that the School Committee adopt the Composite of End-of-Cycle Summative Evaluation Report on the Superintendent of Schools prevailed.

5. Unfinished Business/Calendar:

On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Ms. Kelly, it was voted to remove from the Calendar and place on file **#15-167 Recommendation: Contract Award: IDEAL Consulting Services Inc. Response to Intervention Professional Development, C15-224, 8/11/15 (Fantini)** and to bring forward its replacement **#15-217, 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:

IDEAL Consulting Services, Inc., P.O. Box 3211, Westport, for the period August 20, 2015 to June 30, 2016, in the amount of \$90,190.00.

Dr. Young informed the Members that Dr. Huizenga renegotiated the cost of this contract with IDEAL. Dr. Young invited Assistant Superintendents Huizenga and MacDonald as well as the principals of the schools working with the IDEAL program: Principal Campbell- Haggerty School, Principal Harris– Fletcher/Maynard School, Principal Gerber–Kennedy/Longfellow School and Patty West, Early Literacy Interventionist at Haggerty, to speak about the IDEAL consulting contract and to answer the Members' questions. Each principal gave testimony as to how Dr. Parker's consultant services, workshops and the IDEAL Student Performance System (SPS) have helped to elevate student achievement in their specific schools. Rtl: Progress Report (select slides) Haggerty, Kennedy/Longfellow and Fletcher Maynard Grades K-5, 2013-2015 prepared by Dr. Parker were distributed as well as data of student progress in reading at Kennedy/Longfellow in grades 2, 3, 4 and 5 (on file in School Committee office). On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Ms. Cronin, on the following roll call, it was voted to adopt **#15-217**: Ms. Cronin YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Mr. Harding YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Ms. Nolan PRESENT NOT VOTING; Mr. Osborne YEA; Mayor Maher YEA. On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Ms. Cronin, it was voted to suspend the Rules for the purpose of moving reconsideration of the foregoing vote on item **#15-217**. The Rules having been suspended for the purpose stated, on a motion to reconsider the foregoing vote, hoping the same would not prevail, failed of adoption.

Mayor Maher and the Committee wished Dr. Huizenga a happy birthday.

Mr. Fantini moved, seconded by Mr. Harding, to bring forward **#15-183 Recommendation: Contract Award: SchoolCity: Assessment Management System Software Implementation & Maintenance**, C15-239, 8/11/15 (Fantini) for discussion and adoption. Ms. Nolan asked how this software interfaces with our existing systems. Mr. Smith, Chief Information Officer, explained that this district-wide assessment system will address 80 to 90 percent of our need in getting benchmark assessments into one system and shared across classrooms and schools and the results would be there longitudinally. On the following roll call, it was voted to remove from the Calendar and adopt **#15-183**: Ms. Cronin YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Mr. Harding YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Mr. Osborne YEA; Mayor Maher YEA.

Ms. Nolan moved, seconded by Mr. Fantini, to bring forward for discussion and adoption **#15-189 Recommendation: Contract Award: uAspire: Educational Support Services**, C15-245, 8/11/15 (Fantini) Ms. Nolan asked how this vendor was selected and if it replaces the TERI program. Dr. Young explained that it does replace TERI and that they have explored other providers of this service. Principal Smith and Dr. Young met with uAspire representatives and were most impressed with their dedication in seeking out seniors and having one on one counseling with them to help guide them through the college and financial process. On the following roll call, it was voted to remove from the Calendar and adopt **#15-189**: Ms. Cronin YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Mr. Harding YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Mr. Osborne YEA; Mayor Maher YEA.

On a motion by Ms. Cronin, seconded by Mr. Fantini, it was voted to remove from the Calendar and refer to the Budget Sub-Committee, **#15-206, Motion by Ms. Nolan**, that whereas the investment in outside consultants and in professional development has been a large portion of the district budget, that the School Committee conduct a review of how the effectiveness of all such expenditures is measured. Further that the review be done in conjunction with the administration and be completed by December 2015. C15-262, 8/11/15 (Fantini)

On a motion by Ms. Nolan, seconded by Mr. Fantini, it was voted to remove from the Calendar and accept **#15-114**, Report of the Meeting of the May 20, 2015 Building & Grounds and Curriculum & Achievement Joint Sub-Committees, C15-151, 6/2/15 (Nolan)

Building & Grounds and
Curriculum & Achievement
Joint Sub-Committee Meeting
Amigos School Library (2nd Floor)

Wednesday, May 20, 2015
4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Called for the purpose of discussing and prioritizing issues related to the Amigos School.

Members Present: Ms. Cronin, Chair Curriculum & Achievement; Mr. Fantini, Chair Building & Grounds; Ms. Kelly, Ms. Nolan, Mr. Harding (~~Absent~~)

Also Present: Mr. Maloney, COO; Ms. Sercombe, ASC Co-Chair and Amigos School Principal; Mr. Marco Curnen, Assistant Principal; Mr. Juan Lozada, Amigos School Council Co-Chair and parent; Lillian Rater, member – Family Liaison; Ms. Sarah Bartels-Marrero, Amigos School Council Member; Mr. Jose Luis Rojas, Amigos School Council Member and parent; Ms. Helen Bryant, Amigos Council Member and parent; Adel Daghmouri, Amigos School Council Member & parent; Angelita Mireles, Amigos School Council Member & parent; Ellen Davis, Amigos School Council Member & teacher

Ms. Cronin and Mr. Fantini presided as meeting Co-Chairs.

A quorum of the Sub-Committees being present, the Chairs called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. All in attendance introduced themselves. Mr. Fantini turned the meeting over to Ms. Sercombe, who thanked everyone for coming and stated that she will be attending the Upper Schools Roundtable, 5/26, and hopes to partner with the district to articulate short and long-term goals in addressing academic excellence for students and building needs at Amigos.

Curriculum and Achievement

There was a conversation about providing a pathway for more students to attend the Amigos upper school. A recommendation was made to admit 5 to 7 new students per year. These students would qualify as bilingual/biliterate and be recruited from the CPSD elementary feeder schools. The current Upper School Pathway policy does not allow students to transfer into Amigos in the 6th grade. A policy level change for the Amigos should be reviewed.

There was also a conversation about long-term plans to work with the district to support the IA's goal of strong and effective Upper Schools. There is a desire to increase African American and low-income student enrollment in Amigos' primary grades. Amigos participants felt no child should start Spanish instruction at the upper school level when the Amigos School is here to provide Spanish at the elementary level.

Buildings and Grounds

It was agreed Mr. Rojas, Mr. Fantini and Mr. Maloney should meet with Mr. Rob Steck, from the city's Open Space planning department to work with Amigos and its neighborhood community to determine how best to enhance Amigos outside play area. Ms. Kristine Jelstrup and Ms. Angelita Mireles will represent the Amigos council in launching a discussion with the city and developing next steps. The Assistant Principal, Mr. Marco Curnen, is thankful that there is a new fence that keeps balls inside the playground.

Mr. Fantini read an excerpt from an email from Ms. Peterson, Asst. City Manager, which included the following information: Funding for playgrounds comes from the Community Preservation Act. Projects recommended to the Community Preservation Act should be submitted on or before June 16 in order for these funds to be available for September 16. There is an Open Space committee and the priorities are based on the Open Space committee review of playgrounds for next year. Because of handicap accessibility interest at the Morse and Graham & Parks, these two schools will be given priority. The Cambridgeport and the Haggerty also have funding for renovations. The Amigos could be scheduled for 2017. This project would need to be designed and constructed once the funds are identified.

The Amigos administration requested a bathroom be renovated to attach to a kindergarten class. A convenient and safe bathroom does not currently exist for them to use. Mr. Maloney agreed to look into whether or not state regulations on kindergarten bathrooms exist.

Mr. Maloney also confirmed that over the summer a new adult bathroom will be installed in the basement where the custodian's closet exists. This will restrict the need for contractors and other non-school based personnel to enter the building proper and interact with students.

Discussion

Parents and staff present felt that a nicer playground and more bathrooms will not solve Amigos space issues or provide for growth. They felt the current building is not sufficient in size or location to accommodate their school's growing needs.

Amigos expressed frustration at difficulty in enrolling new students in the school. The Controlled Choice sibling policy was used as an example to show how difficult it is for low-income families to find spaces if a full-paid lunch family with 3 kids starting at kindergarten gets in first.

There was a discussion about teaching Math in a dual immersion setting. Math is taught in Spanish in the lower grades, but not in the upper grades. Upper grade math is taught only in English. It was stated that the Amigos is the only school that does not have a co taught 6th grade.

The need for a bigger building came up often. Some of the reasons include:

- To accommodate students with interrupted formal education. How do teachers prioritize large differences in grade levels inside the same classroom.
- SIFE placement at the high school is popular but SIFE students would benefit from beginning at the Amigos before the high school because the staff is qualified to teach students without formal education;
- teachers have to share classrooms but the classes being used every day for every period;
- Lack of a whole-school meeting space. Amigos cannot have an assembly and phys. ed. at the same time

It was also mentioned that although there is new housing going up, there are no new schools going up. Mr. Fantini thanked Ms. Nolan for bringing in the motion for this meeting. There was a consensus to figure out how to get past the perception of the IA and Amigos, the Upper Schools and the Amigos etc. The perception should be the 5 upper schools.

On a motion by Ms. Nolan, seconded by Ms. Cronin, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Distributed Documents (on file in the School Committee office)

- Amigos Enrollment Statistics SY14-15 as of May 20, 2015
- Amigos School Council Members List
- Agenda

Dosha Beard
Confidential Secretary
to the School Committee

6. Awaiting Reports: None

7. Superintendent's Agenda:

7a. Presentations: None

7b. Innovation Agenda:

7c. Consent Agenda:

Mr. Harding moved, seconded by Ms. Nolan, to bring forward **#15-210 to #15-212, #15-214 to #15-216, and #15-218 to #15-223**. Ms. Nolan removed **#15-214 and #15-220**. Mr. Harding and Ms. Kelly removed **#15-216**. On the following roll call, **#15-210 to #15-212, #15-215, #15-218, #15-219** and

#15-221 to #15-223 were adopted: Ms. Cronin (YEA); Mr. Fantini (YEA); Mr. Harding (YEA); Ms. Kelly (YEA); Ms. Nolan (YEA); Mr. Osborne (YEA); Mayor Maher (YEA).

#15-210, Approval of a request from the School Committee to the Election Commission for mailing addresses, that the School Committee approve a formal request to the Cambridge Election Commission for mailing addresses.

#15-211, Approval of Anti-Cyberbullying Policy, that the School Committee approve the Anti-Cyberbullying Policy as detailed in the document (second reading).

#15-212, Approval of Revisions to Smoking on School Premises, Prohibition Against Tobacco Use in School Buildings and Tobacco Use on School Property by Staff Members Policies, that the School Committee approve the revisions to Smoking on School Premises, Prohibition Against Tobacco Use in School Buildings and Tobacco Use on School Property by Staff Members Policies as detailed in the document (second reading).

#15-215, 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:

Commonwealth Learning Center, 220 Reservoir Street, #6, Needham, for the period September 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, in the amount \$43,250.00.

#15-218, Contract Award, that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor for assessment kits and forms, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Pearson Education (NCS), 8860 E. Chaparral Road, Scottsdale, AZ, for the period September 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 in the amount of \$46,235.00.

#15-219, Contract Award, that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor for computer software maintenance, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

PJ Systems dba HiQ Computers, 477 Riverside Avenue, Medford, for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, in the amount of \$26,000.00.

#15-221, Grant Award, that the School Committee accept and approve the grant award in the amount and for the period indicated:

FY16 Kindergarten Enhancement, for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, in the amount of \$292,030.00. Project/Grant SC16663.

Description: This grant provides professional development and support for kindergarten teachers in the areas of curriculum, instruction and assessment. It also provides for initiatives to promote the successful transition to kindergarten for children and families. Direct classroom curriculum support and guidance is provided as well as workshops/trainings that target specific topics and areas of need. The grant funds a 1.0 FTE Kindergarten Staff Developer, contracts with several professional development specialists in the field, training stipends, substitute costs, and supplies for kindergarten classrooms.

#15-222, Grant Award, that the School Committee accept and approve the grant award in the amount and for the period indicated:

FY16 Early Literacy Intervention, for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, in the amount of \$41,176.00. Project/Grant SC16632.

Description: These funds support ongoing professional development in Reading Recovery for Early Literacy Interventionist teachers who provide individual tutorial assistance to at-risk first grade students. The .23 FTE Teacher Leader (a 1.0 teacher split-funded by this grant and the Title 1 grant), in addition to part-time teaching duties, supervises, trains, and conducts professional development for reading recovery teachers both in district and out of district.

#15-223, Grant Award, that the School Committee accept and approve the grant award in the amount and for the period indicated:

FY16 Special Education Early Childhood Allocation, for the period September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016, in the amount of \$55,812.00. Project/Grant SC16607/608.

Description: The SPED Early Childhood Allocation grant funds a paraprofessional (1.0 FTE) in inclusionary classrooms, plus instruction materials/supplies and a small stipend for program coordination.

8. Non-Consent Agenda:

#15-214, Contract Award, that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor for Translation Services; funds to be provided from the General Fund.

International Translation Company, 1807 Washington Street, Boston, for the period November 20, 2014 to May 31, 2015, in the amount of \$87,361.07.

Ms. Nolan asked how this company was chosen and could there be a preference for people who live in Cambridge to provide these services. Dr. Greer, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, noted that we use a variety of services for translations including our bilingual department. She explained the immense work required in translating the number of pages involved in IEP documents. Dr. Greer indicated that this is a minority-owned company which provides services in a timely manner to translate over 100 different languages. Ms. Spinner, CFO, noted that the selection of this vendor followed the appropriate bid process. Mr. Harding asked for more background on this company and for more information to be provided on vendor contracts in the future. On the following roll call, it was voted to adopt **#15-214**: Ms. Cronin (YEA); Mr. Fantini (YEA); Mr. Harding (YEA); Ms. Kelly (YEA); Ms. Nolan (YEA); Mr. Osborne (YEA); Mayor Maher (YEA)

#15-216, Contract Award, that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor for Consultation services; funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

The Guidance Center, 111 South Street, Somerville, for the period September 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, in the amount of \$134,640.00.

Mr. Harding inquired why these services weren't provided district-wide. Dr. Greer noted that there are other district-wide hours as needed which are available. She indicated that this contract is targeted to Tier 3 supports based on data reviewed over the past 2 years of schools which have demonstrated the greatest need in this area and it is also targeted to support the upper schools. Ms. Kelly indicated that mental health in the district remains an area of concern for her. She asked about the amount of time between recognition and when the student actually receives services. Ms. Cronin asked about referral and protocols for referrals for outside mental health services. She asked how close this gets us to wraparound services. On the following roll call, **#15-216** was adopted: Ms. Cronin (YEA); Mr. Fantini (YEA); Mr. Harding (YEA); Ms. Kelly (YEA); Ms. Nolan (YEA); Mr. Osborne (YEA); Mayor Maher (YEA).

#15-220, Contract Award, that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor for Virtual Classroom software, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Edgenuity, Inc., 8860 E. Chaparral Road, Scottsdale, AZ, for the period July 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016, in the amount of \$30,375.00.

Ms. Nolan asked for clarification on this software which is used with Algebra I instruction. She inquired if there are limits on the number of students who could access it. She asked why the documentation lists Edgenuity as the primary curricula tool for teaching Algebra I. Dr. Turk assured the Members that our Algebra courses are being taught by teachers and supplemented by the use of technology and that we have not encountered a limit to the number of students having access to this software at one time. Dr. Young will check on the wording used on the documentation which indicates 2013-14 school year and clarify it. On a motion by Mr. Harding, seconded by Ms. Kelly, on the following roll call, **#15-220** was adopted: Ms. Cronin (YEA); Mr. Fantini (YEA); Mr. Harding (YEA); Ms. Kelly (YEA); Ms. Nolan (YEA); Mr. Osborne (YEA); Mayor Maher (YEA).

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

#15-224, Motion by Mr. Fantini, that the School Committee direct the Superintendent to hold the next CRLS graduation outside in front of our public library. Mr. Harding offered a friendly amendment to Mr. Fantini to give more flexibility to the Superintendent and ask him to explore the possibility of this. Ms. Nolan offered an additional friendly amendment asking that the CRLS faculty council and CRLS school council be consulted. Mr. Fantini accepted both friendly amendments. It was voted that **#15-224, Motion by Mr. Fantini**, be adopted as amended: That the School Committee ask the Superintendent to explore the possibility of holding the next CRLS graduation outside in front of our public library and that the CRLS faculty and school councils be consulted.

#15-225, Motion by Ms. Cronin and Mr. Harding, while the School Committee received a response to the approved Motion #15-260, requesting the Superintendent explore the feasibility of developing a financial literacy course and a life skills course for CRLS students, the School Committee requests a report on the Motion's findings for further review. Dr. Young asked for clarification on this motion. Mr. Harding commented that the ultimate goal is to determine whether there will be courses offered that will be designed for these purposes or are there courses already available that are aligned to the spirit of the motion. Ms. Cronin questioned students' awareness of these courses and whether these courses are addressing the needs of the students. She indicated that there seems to be disconnect with the students. Dr. Young noted that the disconnect could be on the course content or around communication and awareness. The Superintendent would explore this issue. On a voice vote, **#15-225, Motion by Ms. Cronin and Mr. Harding**, was adopted.

On a motion by Ms. Cronin, seconded by Mr. Fantini, it was voted to refer the following to the Budget Sub-Committee: **#15-226, Motion by Ms. Nolan**, that the School Committee schedule a roundtable or special meeting before budget deliberations begin, where partners can present and discuss their work to the community and the School Committee; further that the Mayor confer with the Superintendent on which partners should be included.

10. Resolutions: None

11. Announcements:

Ms. Mallon, Mayor's Education Liaison, announced the upcoming CPS community meetings on the Super's Search 2015, beginning on Wednesday, September 9th through Wednesday, September 16th.

12. Late Orders:

It was voted to adopt the following:

Motion by Mr. Harding, seconded by the entire Committee, that the School Committee send a letter of condolence to the family of Zelda Lashley, long time city employee and son of retired Cambridge Police Sergeant, Leon Lashley.

On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Ms. Kelly, it was voted to adjourn (9:28 PM).

Judith T. Martin
Executive Secretary to the School Committee

Distributed Back-up Documents (copies on file in the School Committee office):

- Rtl: Progress Report (Select Slides) Haggerty, Kennedy Longfellow & Fletcher Maynard Grades K-5, 2013-2015 IDEAL Consulting Services. Inc.
- Kennedy/Longfellow School data for grades 2, 3, 4, and 5 indicating progress levels in reading.
- Creating a Strategic Plan memo from Emily Dexter to School Committee (presented at public comment)