

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

(Official Report)

Regular Meeting

March 15, 2016

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

Mayor Simmons in the Chair.

Also present: Student School Committee Member Griffin Andres

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

The Chair announced that the order of tonight's meeting would be changed. The regular order of business would be first followed by the Superintendent's presentation of the proposed FY2017 School Department budget. At the conclusion of the Regular Meeting, it is anticipated that the Members would entertain a motion to enter into Executive Session and not reconvene in an open session.

1. Public Comment:

- David Smith, Ossipee Rd., Somerville, a 6 year tutor at the CRLS Tutoring Center, expressed his support for the Director of the CRLS Tutoring Center, Rene Meshon. He is concerned that the Tutoring Center may be moved under the control of another outside non-profit organization starting next academic year. He expressed his desire that the CRLS Tutoring Center should remain a CRLS program to maintain the Center's academic integrity. (Hand-out on the CRLS Tutoring Center Facts on file in the School Committee office)
- Jeff Quateman, Cambria St., Somerville, tutors pre-calculus, calculus and AP physics at the CRLS Tutoring Center, expressed that it is important for the CRLS Tutoring Center to have an experienced CRLS teacher manage the program who knows the system and the students.
- Lavinia Chase, Garfield Rd., Concord, a 4 year tutor at the CRLS Tutoring Center, noted that Cambridge has a rich group of tutors and Cambridge is lucky to have them. She expressed her support for Rene Meshon who founded this program and ran it for 23 years. She indicated that there is nothing broken and nothing to be fixed in this program and that she hopes Cambridge doesn't lose Ms. Meshon.
- George Kent, Foster Pl., Cambridge, a 9 year tutor at the CRLS Tutoring Center, spoke in support of Rene Meshon and noted that the CRLS Tutoring Center is a very well run program. He indicated that the Tutoring Center needs someone like Rene Meshon who has been a high school teacher and has the ability to instruct the tutor on how to reach the student. The tutors need the support of a teacher who knows the students and how to get subject matters across.
- Helen Young, Heald Rd., Carlisle, indicated that Cambridge has an excellent program and should do everything to maintain it as it is
- Alan Blitz, Commonwealth Ave. Newton, an 11 year tutor at the CRLS Tutoring Center, he has tutored other places and indicated that Rene Meshon is the best at managing the program. Ms. Meshon shows the students love and respect.
- Shannon Bober, Mt. Pleasant St., Cambridge, mother of a 9th grader at CRLS, also a clinical psychologist and behavior researcher, spoke on clarification of the possible new wellness class

requirement at CRLS. She noted that it is important to take an evidence based approach to what we do and that there is robust research about what works and what doesn't in terms of substance abuse prevention. She asked that the administration take a step back to evaluate what works and when to provide it.

- Dan Penrice, Rindgefield St. Cambridge, indicated his desire for a community discussion about the possible new wellness class and supports postponing it. His high school children are having a difficult time putting together an honors and AP schedule. Not enough kids of color are in the honors and AP classes. He questioned if we have enough teachers in general education at the high school since there is no change in this budget in FTE for general education teachers even though enrollment has increased.
- Tri Ho, Pleasant St. Attleboro, a graduate of CRLS class of 2006, he indicated that the Tutoring Center was helpful to him while a student at CRLS. He noted that Ms. Meshon is an amazing organizer and she knows what the student is struggling with. She knows the syllabus and what the teachers expect. He stated that he graduated as a salutatorian in 2006 thanks to the help from the Tutoring Center and CRLS.
- Elaine Schear, Amory St., Cambridge, Executive Director of Friends of CRLS (FOCRLS), she explained that the CPS webmaster recently rejected a request from FOCRLS to publicize an upcoming 5% day at Whole Foods for FOCRLS in the CRLS daily newsletter website because it was deemed as fundraising and in violation of school department policy and she was informed that only Friends of Cambridge Athletics (FOCA) had been granted a temporary exemption. She is requesting that the School Committee approve Mr. Fantini's Motion, #16-53, to grant FOCRLS the same exemption (statement on file in the School Committee office).

Ms. Nolan moved, seconded by Mr. Fantini, to suspend the Rules to allow a member of the public to speak on an item not on the Agenda. It was voted to suspend the Rules for the reason stated to allow Mr. Rashed to speak on an item not on the Agenda.

- Hassan Rashed, Mass. Ave. Cambridge, requested that the City of Cambridge and the School Committee address the idea of piloting a new curriculum to bring awareness of the links between poverty and homelessness to students and community at large and to employ a local homeless education liaison responsible for ensuring that homeless students' educational rights are observed and respected (statement on file in the School Committee office)

The Chair returned to the regular order of business.

- Ross Benson, Brookline St. Cambridge, referred to page 20 of the Proposed Budget and asked why there are 3 vocational tech out-of-district placements; referred to page 26 and asked about the STEM initiative with WPI and indicated that as a math teacher he has not heard of this and wanted to know how it has been implemented in the district
- Richard Mandel, Pearl St., Cambridge, a 12 year tutor at the CRLS Tutoring Center, spoke in support of Rene Meshon noting that she is central to the tutoring center and feels that there is no need to change how the center is run
- Dawit Tadesse, Howard St., Cambridge, noted that he has been going to CRLS Tutoring Center for 4 years and indicated that Ms. Meshon has been very helpful to him with guidance and encouragement

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

Mr. Fantini moved, seconded by Ms. Kelly, to suspend the Rules to make a brief statement. It was voted to suspend the Rules to allow Mr. Fantini to speak. Mr. Fantini thanked the tutors for coming, for their testimony and for their hard work. Mr. Fantini indicated that he may entertain a motion later in the meeting to refer this matter back to the Superintendent and the CRLS Principal for a second look.

On behalf of the Committee and all the children in our school system, the Chair thanked the tutors for sharing their time and their treasure with our students.

2. Student School Committee Report:

- ✓ Mr. Andres congratulated the boys' basketball team for their victory over Catholic Memorial last night. They are playing in the State Finals on Saturday in Springfield.
- ✓ Course selections have been going on in recent weeks. It was suggested that high school upper classmen go to the upper schools to help the 8th graders with their course selections.
- ✓ Mr. Andres expressed his concerns regarding making a Wellness 2 course mandatory. Even in his 4 years, there were many courses he wished he could have taken but didn't have the time. If there are shortcomings in the health curriculum, maybe the idea of improving the Health 1 course should be entertained.
- ✓ Mr. Andres announced that the "Are you as smart as a CRLS student" event will be happening tomorrow night and is sponsored by the CRLS Alumni Association.

Dr. Young responded to Mr. Andres and indicated that he and Dr. Turk appreciated the idea of the CRLS upper classmen advising the 8th graders on course selections and that they would make that happen.

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 March 1, 2016 Regular Meeting as presented.

4. Reconsiderations: None

5. Unfinished Business/Calendar:

Unfinished business was passed over by the Members.

#16-40, Motion by Ms. Nolan, whereas the Cambridge City Council discussed having the second Monday in October be designated Indigenous People's Day, per an order introduced in fall of 2015 by Councillors Mazen and Benzan and whereas several universities including Brown and several cities including Seattle WA, St. Paul, MN and Portland OR celebrate that day as Indigenous People's Day and whereas the contributions of immigrants including Italians should be commemorated, the School Committee requests that the district convene a group of staff and the CRLS student government to consider having the second Monday in October, a holiday in the school district, be renamed either Indigenous People's Day or Indigenous People's and Immigrants Day. Further that the district report back to the School Committee by the end of this school year with a recommendation. (See City Council Policy Order Resolution Calendar item) (Harding, C16-053, 3/1/16)

6. Awaiting Reports: None

7. Superintendent's Agenda:

The Chair asked the Members and the administration for their indulgence in getting through the meeting in an efficient manner because of personal reasons of one of their membership.

7a. Presentations:

FY2017 Proposed Budget.....

Jeffrey M. Young
Superintendent of Schools

The Chair yielded the floor to the Superintendent and Ms. Spinner to begin the presentation on the budget. Dr. Young thanked the Committee for the opportunity once again to present the annual proposed budget and specifically thanked the Budget Co-Chairs, Mr. Harding and Ms. Kelly, for their strong effort in working with Ms. Spinner, Mr. Maloney and himself in all aspects of producing this budget. Dr. Young and Ms. Spinner walked the Members through the Fiscal Year 2017 Superintendent's

Proposed General Fund Budget PowerPoint presentation (on file in the School Committee office) as follows:

FY2017 Proposed Budget (\$172.8 Million)

- Increase of \$8.9 million (5.4%)
- Increase of 13.9 School-based FTEs
- 86% supported by property taxes
- CPS Students
- School Budget Increases FY2014-FY2017
- Expenditures by Category
- Staff Allocations by Program
- Summary of FY2017 Cost Increases
- Salary & Benefit Increases
- New Staff: Elementary Program
- New Staff: Special Education Program
- Other Increases
- Budget Reductions and Restructuring
- FY2017 Budget Priorities
- School Committee Budget Guidelines
- Enrollment Growth FY2013-2017
- Staff Increases FY2013-FY2017
- Class Size
- Continued Focus on Four Priority Areas
- Upper School Program
- Aligned Curriculum & Instruction
- Aligned System of Student Supports
- Effective Educators & Instructional Leaders
- Additional City Support
- FY2017 Capital Projects
- Next Steps
- In Appreciation

Dr. Young noted that this proposed budget represents the best thinking of the administrative staff on how to spend the money allocated by the City. He indicated that it is now up to the School Committee to take this proposed budget and make the revisions they feel necessary within the next few weeks in preparation for the April 5th vote to adopt the budget. Dr. Young thanked the Committee for being such strong advocates for the children of this City. He expressed thanks to the City Manager and the City Council for their support. He thanked the cabinet, principals, teachers, support staff, students and families. Dr. Young specifically thanked Ms. Spinner and called the Members' attention to the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award presented to the Cambridge Public Schools for the last couple of years.

The Chair thanked the Superintendent and his staff for the work and time put into the development of this budget. Mayor Simmons announced that she would not be taking questions from the floor on the proposed budget since the Executive Secretary was not present at this time.

7b. Innovation Agenda:

7c. Consent Agenda:

On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Ms. Nolan, it was voted to move the entire Consent Agenda for discussion. Ms. Nolan removed item **#16-50**. Mayor Simmons removed item **#16-52**. On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Ms. Kelly, on the following roll call it was voted to adopt the balance: Ms. Bowman YEA; Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Mr. Harding YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Mayor Simmons YEA.

#16-45, Approval of Revisions to Rindge School of Technical Arts Program Admission Policy: that the School Committee approve the revisions to the admission policy for the Rindge School of Technical Arts Program at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School as detailed in the document (first reading).

#16-46, 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 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># Active Contracts</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Day	2	\$56,305.67
Residential	0	N/A
45 Day Program	<u>0</u>	<u>N/A</u>
	2	Total \$56,305.67

#16-47, Gifts/Miscellaneous Receipts: that the School Committee accept and approve the following gifts and receipts as described.

1. A \$1,000.00 unrestricted gift to the district made from the Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Inc., on behalf of a Bank of America employee via The Bank of America Employee Giving Programs. Funds will be used to support field trips.
2. \$709.94 to the Morse School made from O'Connor Portraiture, Inc., as commission for student portraits. Funds will be used for the general support of the school.
3. \$500.00 from the Friends of the Amigos School to fund custodial overtime for a community event.
4. \$249.07 to the Morse School made from Target's Take Charge of Education program for the general support of the school.
5. \$204.00 to the Morse School made from Box Tops for Education in return for box tops collected on behalf of the school. Funds will be used for the general support of the school.
6. An in-kind donation of a SMARTBoard UX60 made from Northstar Project and Real Estate Services to the Baldwin School. The donation will enable mobile audio/visual display and interaction in the school's gym and cafeteria spaces.

#16-48, Contract Award: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor for Wireless Network Equipment, funds to be provided from the General and Revolving Funds Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Integration Partners, 24 Hartwell Avenue, Lexington, for the period March 15, 2016 to October 1, 2016, in the amount of \$55,461.00.

#16-49, Contract Award: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor for student services, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

Crossroads School, 11 Huron Drive, Natick, for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, in the amount of \$27,000.00

#16-51, Grant Award: that the School Committee accept and approve the grant award in the amount and for the period indicated:

FY16 Focus on Early Literacy-Shore Ed. Collaborative, for the period January 13, 2016 to June 30, 2016, in the amount of \$5,580.00. Project/Grant SC16132.

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.

8. Non-Consent Agenda:

Ms. Nolan placed **#16-50** on the Calendar pending receipt of detail which she had previously asked for explaining where the Title 1 funds are allocated.

#16-50, Grant Award: that the School Committee accept and approve the grant award below in the amount and for the period indicated.

FY16 Title 1 Distribution, for the period September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016, in the amount of \$1,242,503.00 (increase of \$5,007.00). Project/Grant SC16604.

Description: Seven elementary schools are eligible for Title 1 services in FY16. These funds will 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 and materials.

This increase in grant funds will be used for summer program materials and snacks.

#16-52, Settlement of Cambridge Education Association Unit C's American Arbitration Association Case Number 01-15-0002-8733: that the School Committee approve the Superintendent's Recommendation relative to the settlement of a pending Cambridge Education Association Unit C's American Arbitration Association Case Number -1-15-0002-8733 in accordance with WR-CN-A. On the following roll call, item **#16-52** was adopted: Ms. Bowman YEA; Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Mr. Harding YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Mayor Simmons YEA. Mr. Fantini asked a point of information if the City Manager's designee would need to vote on item **#16-52**. Legal counsel advised that it was not required on this item.

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

On a motion by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Fantini, it was voted to bring forward items **#16-53** through **#16-56** for discussion and adoption. Mr. Harding removed item **#16-53**. Ms. Kelly removed item **#16-55**. On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Mr. Harding, on a voice vote items **#16-54** and **#16-56** were adopted.

#16-53, Motion by Mr. Fantini, that as it relates to the School Committee policy on Fundraising, that FOCRLS be granted a similar exemption granted to FOCA and be allowed to use the CPSD website for the remainder of this academic year. Mr. Harding asked for clarification on this issue and is there conversation going on about a long term solution. Mr. Maloney responded that the Webmaster had consulted with him regarding this matter and he had informed her that this was in violation of the School Committee policy as written. Mr. Maloney informed the Committee that a shopping day at a local food retailer could be seen as a way for the store to increase sales and this would be in violation of School Committee policy. Mr. Maloney mentioned that a previous adopted motion granting an exemption to FOCA also referred the matter to the Governance Sub-Committee to address this issue and to come up with a more long term fix. Ms. Nolan asked about including existing organizations if they had done something like this in the past that they be allowed to continue this. Mr. Maloney said he would have to check on that language. Mr. Harding asked to keep the scope of the motion as presented.

On a motion by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Fantini, on a voice vote, item **#16-53** was adopted.

#16-54, Joint Motion by Ms. Nolan and Mr. Fantini, that whereas the Massachusetts Foundation Budget Review Commission worked on reviewing the Foundation Budget and found areas where the current budget understates the true cost of educating students in the Commonwealth and has failed to keep pace with rising costs;

Whereas this underfunding has many adverse consequences,

Be It Resolved that the Cambridge School Committee calls on the Massachusetts Legislature and the Governor of Massachusetts to fully fund and adopt the recommendations of the Foundation Budget Review Commission in the immediate future.

#16-55, Joint Motion by Ms. Nolan and Ms. Kelly, that whereas the School Committee endorses having student, staff and community input into policy decisions and whereas there has been discussion of changing the high school requirements around Wellness curriculum which would affect the policy of waivers for student athletes who are sophomores, the School Committee asks the administration for an inclusive process on the proposed changes to the high school graduation requirements and waiver policy. Further that it will be clarified now that any changes will not take effect until the school year 2017-18 at the earliest, further that every freshman will review their course selections individually with CRLS staff and be advised they do not have to take Wellness 2 and may change their course selections and further that the process of policy development include a review of the effectiveness of the existing wellness curriculum, impact on scheduling and electives and whether a semester long course is the best option.

Damon Smith, CRLS Principal and Jamie DiIulio, Coordinator of K-12 Health and Physical Education, clarified the reasons why a proposed change was made requiring all students in the Class of 2019 to enroll in Wellness 2 next academic year. Principal Smith explained that this was his strong recommendation and not his mandate and that he understood that this was School Committee policy. Since his original letter was sent to families and students in the Class of 2019, he has received calls, emails and questions regarding athletic waivers and Wellness 2. He informed the Committee that he sent out a second letter to the students and families in the Class of 2019 since he realized that his original proposal may be untimely and presenting too much disruption to the Class of 2019's course selection process for next school year. He informed the students that there will be no requirement for all students in the Class of 2019 to enroll in Wellness 2 in their 10th grade year. The Members agreed that the issues leading up to Principal Smith's recommendation for the proposed Wellness 2 mandate are important and that the community needs to address them. The Chair and the Members thanked Principal Smith and Ms. DiIulio for their thoughtfulness and leadership in the best interest of our students. On a motion by Ms. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Harding, it was voted to refer item **#16-55** to the Superintendent and to the CRLS Principal to come back to the Committee with a recommendation.

On a voice vote, the following Report was accepted as presented:

#16-56, Report of the February 23, 2016 meeting of the Budget Sub-Committee Retreat (Committee of the whole)

**Meeting of the Budget Sub-Committee (Committee of the Whole)
Budget Retreat
Tuesday, February 23, 2016**

**CRLS Attles Room
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

Called for the purpose of a Budget Retreat to discuss the FY2017 Budget for the Cambridge Public Schools. It is anticipated that this meeting will end by 8:00 PM

Members Present: Mr. Harding and Ms. Kelly, Co-Chairs; Ms. Bowman (ABSENT); Ms. Dexter, Mr. Fantini, Ms. Nolan and Mayor Simmons (ABSENT)

Also Present: Mr. Austin, Student School Committee Member

Also Present: Dr. Young, Superintendent; Dr. Turk, Deputy Superintendent; Ms. Spinner, Chief Financial Officer; Mr. Maloney, Chief Operating Officer; Ms. Likis, Chief Planning Officer; Ms. Allen, Executive Director of Human Resources

Mr. Harding and Ms. Kelly in the Chair.

A quorum of the Sub-Committee (Committee of the Whole) being present, Mr. Harding called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM.

Mr. Harding welcomed everyone and explained the purpose for tonight is to have the School Committee Members state what priorities need to be articulated and included in the budget.

The meeting was turned over to Dr. Young and Ms. Spinner. Dr. Young stated he would like to hear the Members desires and updated the Members on where CPS stands with the internal part of the process. He explained that Administration meets once a week with Mr. Rossi, City Manager, and Mr. DePasquale, Assistant City Manager for fiscal affairs; to assess the landscape of Cambridge Public Schools. They are almost finished getting the budget balanced. A 5.4 % budget increase is anticipated for the upcoming year. We have had a 3.8% increase and a 4.6% increase respectively, over the past 2 years. Dr. Young cautioned that we need to continue to scrutinize ourselves; find ways to save money as much as possible and make sure we are as effective and efficient as possible. Dr. Young assured the Members that they will try to limit cuts to the district level. There will be no reductions that will impact schools, or the teaching and learning classroom experience.

Ms. Spinner stated that we will keep our health expense at the same budget as the current year, without an increase although other city departments will have increased costs for health.

Dr. Young informed the Members that there is a big transportation increase, a large OSS increase for out of district tuitions and projected enrollment growth will require staffing increase.

Ms. Kelly opened the discussion for the pleasure of the School Committee.

Ms. Nolan would like to see the initiatives from 2015.

Ms. Spinner stated the budget process is to get updates from the city side on accomplishments and goals, and report them in detail in the final budget document; instead of providing general preliminary accomplishments during the process.

Ms. Nolan stated, although she appreciates the response, it will be too late to decide whether or not to continue with certain programs etc. once the budget has been completed; however, there is room to make plans and changes during the budget process if they know what direction things are headed.

Ms. Spinner agreed that Ms. Nolan makes sense and will take note of it for next year.

Ms. Nolan also wanted to know if we have a sense of whether there will be a shift to downsize classes to 22 student capacity. Ms. Nolan also mentioned a third 2nd grade has been requested in order to keep class size down.

Dr. Young stated they will make a decision based on the projected enrollments.

Ms. Spinner stated they have budget reserve teachers and are prepared to respond as needed with more classrooms. CRLS looks good for enrollment issues.

Ms. Nolan stated students and teachers are grateful that the classrooms are not at 28 to 30 students per class, but there are still many students that don't get the classes they want. Gender theory class is a very popular class that is being offered only in two sections, so many kids cannot get in.

Mayor Simmons apologized for having to leave early for another event due to scheduling conflicts beyond her control, and made the following points:

- look at funding for community engagement and family involvement
- consider family and community liaisons in the middle schools
- look at student achievement through MCAS
- look at the opportunity/achievement gap through the lens of class and color
- consider reallocating money
- in agreement with Mr. Harding, College Prep is not college prep

Mayor Simmons exited the meeting at 6:24 PM.

Ms. Dexter:

- gaps in achievement and gaps in learning
- James Heckman curve was referenced in support of funding for youth at the elementary level

Mr. Harding asked if the 22 students per elementary class make developmental sense.

Dr. Young stated that high schools always cost more than elementary schools.

Mr. Fantini:

- sees an increase in K-5 African American students' grades.
- parent liaisons in the middle schools may not be needed, would rather see funds for students in classrooms
- mindfulness is a priority
- visual and performing arts is a priority, and would like to see more funding for Kodaly
- fulltime art teachers in every school would be money well spent and may free up more time for teachers to do planning
- we need a reserve for instructional aides as well as teachers
- supports the Mayors comment on reallocation
- cycle bikes program needs support not to be cut
- we need to have a conversation about instructional coaches, how effective are they
- wants a list of all of the new positions that have been created in the last 5 years
- since the full chapter 70 funding goes to charter schools, we need to win our students back from charter schools
- are we hiring a math coordinator
- RSTA may need to change their programs to meet market needs specifically in the areas of careers in biotech

Mr. Austin:

- happy to see SAT tutoring being offered in the library and hopes there will be more; tutoring vs. non tutoring reflect test scores which are important for college admissions, and extremely important for students that cannot afford private tutoring
- on student enrollment, ceramics and gender theory are highly sought after electives and many students cannot get in; it is unfortunate, but more important are the number of students that cannot get into core classes. Mr. Austin mentioned a student wanted Honors Chemistry and was only able to get into CP Chemistry.
- thanked the school department for funding the bus trip to NY for 24 students. It was clarified that principal Smith made the funding possible

Mr. Harding asked in a core class situation, how is that assessed so that kids can get desired core classes.

Dr. Turk stated the issue is around timing, looking at the calendar may help.

Mr. Austin thinks it is a scheduling problem.

Ms. Nolan asked for clarification about the bus contract with SPNR.

Mr. Maloney answered that it is an operational issue not a budget issue.

Ms. Nolan's priorities include:

- how updated is our technology for testing and also for classroom learning
- in agreement with the Mayor, family/community liaisons or engagement needs to be stronger

- Tutoring Plus, CSV and Breakthrough partners be kept at level funding, no 10% cut
- intervention in restructuring the coaching models
- co teaching model has not changed in 3 years, there should be a plan to expand it
- we promised world language starting in Kindergarten 5 years ago; it is past time to do it and stop putting it off
- eliminating external consulting contracts may free up money

Dr. Young stated co teaching is something to think about.

Dr. Turk stated there will be a brief document in the weekly on co teaching. We need to make sure we have one working definition of the term co teaching. It does not always mean there are 2 teachers in the classroom all day every day. CRLS will look different than K-8.

Ms. Dexter:

- in agreement with Ms. Nolan's statement about world language, the way to do it is with a pilot; we have 2 models to look at the FMA and the MLK; our credibility is important, some parents feel betrayed because we have not implemented world language
- charter schools will not be able to compete with us if we have a world language program
- we are looking at a global world and our students need to be ready

Mr. Fantini:

- since literacy skills are important, world language should start at grade 3 at two schools
- our partners are critical, how do we evaluate our partners?
- Club Z tutoring center
- Biogen

Mr. Austin stated all tutoring resources need to be made more public to insure all students can take advantage of the services. Mr. Harding agreed.

Ms. Dexter:

- would like to see RTI fully staffed
- 9th grade classes need to be no larger than 20
- we have a very high case load of guidance at CRLS
- concerned that we are spending a lot of money on safety and security, mental health and pre-school programs, would like to see the costs shifted to other departments
- cultural competency

Ms. Kelly:

- social/emotional learning and the pressure OSS is under to respond to very intense needs
- all teachers between kindergarten and third grade be fully educated in use of the responsive classroom and recognizing the need for social/emotional intervention and services
- professional development in social/emotional learning
- see how to use the universal by design model curriculum
- Kodaly supporter

Mr. Harding thanked the Members for giving clarity, and thanked Dr. Young. He acknowledged that meeting with the city; going back and forth is not easy, even though Administration makes it look easy.

Mr. Harding:

- the achievement gap
- social/emotional learning
- professional development for general and special ed teachers to help each other in the classroom
- SWAT teams go into struggling level 3 schools
- address segregation in AP classes
- planning and not rushing world language
- in agreement with Mr. Fantini, we need full time art teachers

- how can we access our partners to know how to properly fund them
- Breakthrough has been very instrumental and have expanded to greater Boston; concerned we may lose the focus that has been on Cambridge
- help City Links, it has a vulnerable population
- supports funding for the students at The Register Forum
- look at Parent University as the way to bridge the achievement and opportunity gap
- look at High School Extension program in terms of the new leadership
- mindfulness

Ms. Dexter:

- give part time social workers to King Open and CSUS
- looking at Tobin Montessori, they have a paraprofessional in every classroom, we need to think about equity

Ms. Nolan:

- provide help in funding Club 4, which serves weekly meals in homeless shelters

Mr. Fantini

- the fencing team needs funding
- world language needs to be thought of out of the box; it is difficult to recruit world language teachers

Mr. Fantini thanked Mr. Maloney and his team for the outstanding work done at the King Open. It is totally equipped for all of their needs, and then some.

Ms. Kelly spoke on family engagement at the district level.

Ms. Dexter:

- help for FOCRLS
- each school needs to be a whole community unto itself

Ms. Spinner:

- works with finance teams and principals; looks at enrollment projections and makes decisions about changes to the budget that will ensure each school is a community

The Members examined the Budget Calendar and it was decided that the Budget Calendar will be put on the web. We don't know the city council date yet.

Mr. Fantini motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Nolan (7:50 PM).

Dosha Beard
Confidential Secretary to the School Committee office

Distributed Documents > (on file in the School Committee office)

- Agenda

10. Resolutions: None

11. Announcements: None

12. Late Orders:

It was voted to adopt the following:

Motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Ms. Nolan, that the issue of the Tutoring Center be referred to the

Superintendent and to the CRLS Principal.

The Chair entertained a motion to not enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining strategy (CEA Units D & E) as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the School Committee.

On a motion by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Fantini, on the following roll call, it was voted not to enter into Executive Session: Ms. Bowman YEA; Ms. Dexter YEA; Mr. Fantini YEA; Mr. Harding YEA; Ms. Kelly YEA; Ms. Nolan YEA; Mayor Simmons YEA. In the absence of the Executive Secretary, Mr. Maloney, COO, called the roll.

On a motion by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Fantini, it was voted to adjourn (8:03 PM).

Judith T. Martin
Executive Secretary to the School Committee

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

- ✓ CRLS Tutoring Facts hand-out by David Smith during public comment
- ✓ Statement made by Hasson J. Rashid during public comment
- ✓ Statement made by Elaine Schear during public comment
- ✓ Fiscal Year 2017 Superintendent's Proposed General Fund Budget PowerPoint presentation