

From the Office of the Executive Secretary to the School Committee

School Committee - Regular Meeting

September 10, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Held in and broadcast from the Dr. Henrietta S. Attles Meeting Room, Cambridge Rindge, and Latin School, 459 Broadway, Cambridge. To sign up to call in using the ZOOM app on your computer or mobile device: visit www.cpsd.us/school_committee/virtual

Regular Meetings will be live-streamed at www.cpsd.us and broadcast on Cambridge Educational Access TV (CEATV) Channel 26, as usual.

AGENDA

1 1a. Public Hearing on the Revisions to the Cambridge Public Schools Rights and Responsibilities Handbook (3 minutes):

1b. Public Comment (3 minutes):

2. Student School Committee Report:

3. Presentation of Records for Approval:

- August 6, 2024, Regular Meeting

4. Reconsiderations: None

5. Unfinished Business/Calendar:

#24-100 Motion by Member Rachel

WHEREAS: School Committee [policy ABA](#) notes the Committee's commitment to seeking and encouraging public participation in the body's decision-making processes; and

WHEREAS: The body's Rules do not specify when meeting registration opens to the public, but past practice has been two days before the meeting; and

WHEREAS: The Committee intends to remove barriers to participation; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That meeting registration and public comment sign-up will be available to all members of the public beginning at the time a meeting is officially noticed with an agenda or designated purpose.

#24-153 Joint Motion by Member Weinstein, Vice Chair Hunter and Member Rachel

WHEREAS: School Councils are established by the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts ([General Laws Part I, Title XII, Chapter 71, Section 59C](#)); and

WHEREAS: The Cambridge Public School District's [School Council Handbook](#) was drafted by a working group that included Cambridge parents, caregivers, community members, and CPSD staff and was adopted as policy by the School Committee June 20, 2023; and

WHEREAS: The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education advises that the "[law provides for an explicit oversight role for school committees](#)" with respect to School Councils; and

WHEREAS: In Cambridge the School Council has the following main responsibilities, as noted in the School Council Handbook:

- Adopt educational goals for the school that are consistent with local educational policies and statewide student performance standards;
- Identify the educational needs of students attending the school in the relation to the goals;

- Collaborate with school community and district instructional staff to form an annual School Improvement Plan (SIP) to be reviewed by the School Committee prior to approval by the Superintendent;
- Review the school budget annually;
- Review the student’s Rights and Responsibilities handbook regularly to ensure the school discipline policies.
- Assess student discipline data; and

WHEREAS: The School Committee plays a critical role in policymaking, establishing the CPSD budget, and reviewing School Improvement Plans; and

WHEREAS: This School Committee is committed to supporting the caregivers, staff, teachers and community members serving on School Councils with the shared goal of best supporting the education and growth of all of the children of Cambridge; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the School Committee establishes a School Councils Subcommittee; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the School Councils Subcommittee will be focused on supporting the School Councils; coordinating the School Committee's review of School Improvement Plans; providing a forum to review and support School Councils and their work; and will undertake other work determined by the chair of the subcommittee, in consultation with the members of the subcommittee, to be relevant and timely.

Late Order Joint Motion by Member Rojas and Member Rachel

Timeline for 2024 Superintendent Search

That the School Committee discuss and adopt the following timeline for the Superintendent Search
CPSD Superintendent Search 2024

Timeline	Action
By July 15	Name Ad-Hoc Superintendent Search Sub-Committee
By July 22	Engage with MASC and/or Search Firm to help with search process
By July 29	MASC and/or Search Firm draft community surveys
July 30	Ad-Hoc Subcommittee meeting to review surveys
By Aug 5	Send community surveys
By Sep 15	Posting goes live
By Sep 30	Finish vetting applications
By Oct 21	School Committee finishes 1st round of interviews of candidates
By Nov 4	Compile feedback from community of top candidates
By Nov 18	If finalist(s) are identified, School Committee finishes 2nd round of interviews. If not, adopt a calendar for extended search.
By Dec 16	School Committee appoints new Superintendent

6. Awaiting Reports: None

7. 7a. Superintendent’s Update:

School Year 2024-2025 Opening

7b. Presentations:

Leadership Development & Goal Setting Activities.....David Murphy
Undertaken by District/Building Administrators-August 2024 Retreats Interim Superintendent

7c. CPS District Plan: None

7d. Consent Agenda:

- #24-206** Recommendation: Approval of Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Sex-Title IX Policy (Second Reading)
- #24-207** Recommendation: Approval of Revisions to Sexual Misconduct/Title IX Policy (Second Reading)
- #24-208** Recommendation: Approval of Revisions to Rights & Responsibilities Handbook (Second Reading)
- #24-209** Recommendation: Approval of Revisions to Cambridge School Department’s Non-Discrimination Policy (Second Reading)
- #24-210** Recommendation: Approval of Revisions to Non-Discrimination on the Basis Of Sex Policy (Second Reading)
- #24-211** Recommendation: Approval of Revisions to Civil Rights Grievance Procedures Policy Formerly Known as the Uniform Grievance Procedures Policy (Second Reading)
- #24-212** Recommendation: Approval of the Waiver of Accounting form in Regards to the Estate of Kevin Higgins
- #24-213** Recommendation: Day & Residential Program Services not Available from the Cambridge School Department
- #24-214** Recommendation: Contract Award: TeachTown: Specially Designed Instruction Software & Professional Development
- #24-215** Recommendation: Contract Award: Bunker Hill Community College: Dual Enrollment Program for CRLS Students
- #24-216** Recommendation: Contract Award: Baystate Interpreters: Translation Services-Amendment #1
- #24-217** Recommendation: Contract Award: Concentric Math: Professional Development
- #24-218** Recommendation: Contract Award: Crescendo Education Group: Professional Development
- #24-219** Recommendation: Contract Award: High Output, Inc.: Media Supplies & Equipment

- #24-220 Recommendation: Contract Award: Imagine Learning: Instructional Materials-Amendment #1
- #24-221 Recommendation: Contract Award: Trustees of Boston College: Professional Development
- #24-222 Recommendation: Gifts/Miscellaneous Receipts
- #24-223 Recommendation: Grant Award: FY25 Strengthening Career & Technical Education (Perkins V) Secondary (SC25606)
- #24-224 Recommendation: Grant Award: FY24 Expanded Homeless Shelter Funding (SC24218) -Increase
- #24-225 Recommendation: Grant Award: FY24 Circuit Breaker Allocation (SC24776)-Increase

8. Non-Consent Agenda:

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

#24-226 Motion by Mayor Simmons

WHEREAS: The cleanliness and upkeep of the playgrounds and yards in and around our public schools are critical to ensuring a safe and welcoming environment for students, parents, and staff; and
WHEREAS: Several playgrounds and areas near the City's public schools, particularly those in and near the Port neighborhood such as the Fletcher Maynard Academy, have been observed to have an unacceptable amount of trash and debris, including overflowing trash and recycling receptacles; and
WHEREAS: The presence of such trash and debris is especially concerning during the first week of the new school year, when students and families are returning to or becoming acquainted with their school environment; and
WHEREAS: The Public School Department has a responsibility to maintain these areas in a clean and well-manicured condition to support the health, safety, and aesthetic appeal of our communities; now therefore be it
RESOLVED: The Interim Superintendent be and hereby is requested to direct the appropriate CPSD staff to increase the frequency and thoroughness of cleaning in and near the playgrounds and areas surrounding our public schools, with particular attention to those in and near the Port neighborhood; and be it further
RESOLVED: The Interim Superintendent be and hereby is requested to ensure that this heightened maintenance effort is sustained throughout the school year to prevent future accumulations of trash and debris, and to report back to the School Committee on a plan of action for this process in a timely manner.

10. Resolutions (letters of congratulations, letters of condolences):

11. Announcements:

12. Late Orders: None

13. Communications and Reports from City Officers: None