

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

(Official Report)

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

Members Present: Mr. Fantini, Mr. Grassi, Mr. Harding, Ms. Nolan, Mr. Schuster, Ms. Walser,
Mayor Reeves

Mayor Reeves in the Chair.

A quorum of the School Committee being present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

After a moment of silence, Mayor Reeves moved that the School Committee, on behalf of the entire School Department, send condolences to the family of Edward Sullivan, former Mayor, School Committee Chair and Clerk of Courts, who passed away today.

The Chair announced that the Members completed the Superintendent's evaluation as scheduled.

Presentation of the Records of Previous Meetings

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

- Special Meeting - June 13, 2007
- Regular Meeting - June 5, 2007
- Regular Meeting - May 1, 2007 (Corrected)
- Special Informal Meeting - April 24, 2007

Public Testimony

There being no one signed up, it was voted to close Public Testimony.

Reports and/or Comments from Student School Committee Members: None

Reconsideration of Votes Taken at Previous Meeting: None

Unfinished Business from Previous Meetings

A. Calendar

Mr. Fantini moved, seconded by Mr. Grassi, to remove item **#C07-178**, Motion by Mr. Fantini that the position of Internship Program/Service Learning Specialist be deleted from CRLS' FY07-08 budget. The Secretary pointed out that the Order # should be changed to **C07-158**. Discussion took place around the rationale for and the timing of the motion since the position was included in the budget that was passed. Mr. Fantini was heard in support of his motion. The Superintendent and Mr. Conry were heard. Ms. Nolan moved an amendment that the position be kept for one year and then be reevaluated. Ms. Nolan's amendment was not accepted. On a motion by Mr. Fantini, on the following roll call, **#C07-158, Motion by Mr. Fantini** that the position of Internship Program/Service Learning Specialist be deleted from CRLS' FY07-08 budget, **failed of adoption:** Mr. Schuster NAY, Ms. Walser NAY, Mr. Fantini YEA, Mr. Grassi YEA, Mr. Harding NAY, Ms. Nolan NAY, Mayor Reeves NAY.

B. Tabled Matters

C. Awaiting Reports

Ms. Walser removed item **#C07-050**, Presentation by the vendor awarded the contract to convert to a paperless web-based system, and offered a friendly amendment that the presentation be made at the second meeting in September. Ms. Bradshaw and Mr. Maloney were heard. On a motion by Ms. Walser, seconded by Mr. Schuster, it was voted to accept as amended, **#07-43, Motion by Ms. Walser** that the School Committee schedule a time to meet and hear a presentation by the vendor awarded the contract to convert to a paperless web-based system at the second meeting in September.

New Business

On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Ms. Walser, it was voted to suspend the Rules for the purpose of taking out of order **Recommendation #07-117**, Approval of the Malik Academy Application to Function as a Private School. Questions were raised regarding curriculum, certification and special education staff. The Superintendent and Dr. Turk were heard. Ms. Mona Abo-Zena, Vice President, Malik Academy, was heard and thanked Dr. Turk and the School Committee for their support. On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Ms. Walser, it was voted to adopt **#07-117, Approval of the Malik Academy Application to Function as a Private School**: that the School Committee approve the application of Malik Academy, located at 808 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, Massachusetts, to function as a private school in accordance with the requirements of M.G.L. Chapter 76, Section 1.

A. Presentation

The Chair turned the meeting over to the Superintendent for a presentation of the FY05-06 Final Audit Report. The Superintendent was heard and said that this is a very good audit - there being no unusual findings. On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Mr. Harding, it was voted to accept the FY05-06 Final Audit Report as presented.

B. Action Items

Ms. Walser moved, seconded by Ms. Nolan, for adoption of items #07-118 through #07-137. Ms. Walser removed #07-122. Ms. Nolan removed #07-119, through #07-121. Mayor Reeves removed #07-123. On the following roll call, the remaining items were adopted:

#07-118, Contract Award, Transportation for Students placed at Schools for Children: that the School Committee award a contract to the following vendor for transportation for students placed at Schools for Children, funds to be provided from the General Fund Budget, Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having been complied with:

1. Schools for Children, Inc., 20 Academy St., Arlington, for the period July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008, in an amount not to exceed \$222,124.00.

#07-124, Thank you note from Kahliah Bradshaw.

#07-125, Report of the April 4, 2007 Meeting of the Achievement Gap Ad Hoc Committee.

Called for the purpose of continuing to plan a series of public forums on the achievement gap in Cambridge, with a focus on the initial forum on definitions.

Members Present: Ms. Walser, Chair, Mr. Harding, Ms. Nolan, Mayor Reeves

Also Present: John Clifford, Mayor's Education Liaison; Lei-Anne Ellis, Agenda for Children; Justin Martin, Public Information Officer; James Parker, Mayor's Office; Madhvi Patil, Haggerty School; Tim Plenk, King Open; Nancy Tauber, Graham & Parks;

Holly Mockovak, Kennedy-Longfellow, Colleen Gillard, CRLS; Deborah Lerne Goodman, Community Learning Center; Susan Richards, Agenda for Children; Malika Arty, MLK, Jr. School

Ms. Walser in the Chair.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. and gave an update on the agenda for the upcoming forum. Discussion took place around the following:

- Final dates: April 28 (“Definitions”); May 12 (Student Forum with Ron Ferguson); September 15 (Parent); October 13 (“Solutions”). All forums in CRLS auditorium from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- Theme for t-shirts
- Power Point booklet
- Outreach
- Food
- Childcare
- Translation equipment and translators
- Goal card and feedback form
- Breakout rooms
- Orientation and dress rehearsal

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 11, 12:00 Noon

The meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Y. Bradshaw
Executive Secretary to the School Committee

#07-126, Report of the April 11, 2007 Meeting of the Achievement Gap Ad-Hoc Committee.

Called for the purpose of continuing to plan a series of public forums on the achievement gap in Cambridge, with a focus on the initial forum on definitions.

Members Present: Ms. Walser, Chair, Mr. Grassi, Mayor Reeves

Also Present: Carolyn Turk, Deputy Superintendent; John Clifford, Mayor’s Education Liaison; Lei-Anne Ellis, Agenda for Children; Justin Martin, Public Information Officer; James Parker, Mayor’s Office; Ginny Berkowitz, Ed Access; Jack Haverty, CTA President; Trina Abbott, Cambridgeport School Council; Khari Milner, CPS & Afterschool Partnership; Susan Richards, Agenda for Children; Joan Soble, CRLS

Ms. Walser in the Chair.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. Members discussed the following Agenda items:

1. Things left to do for 4/28:
 - a. Coordinating presentation (Justin will do). Speakers submit Power Point by Monday 4/23. Follow-up suggestions for speakers (see e-mail); rehearsal scheduled in CRLS auditorium for Wed. 4/25 at 2:30 p.m. Technical assistance for rehearsal day of the event?
 - b. Coordinating broadcast. Need a script? Who does what?

- c. Food?
 - d. Child care memo/plans
 - e. Status of translation equipment
 - f. Coordinating event, behind the scenes jobs? Manning the door (stopping food from coming in the auditorium, handing out index cards/pencils, organizing/passing out translation equipment, collecting, reviewing, and reading out questions from index cards? Following up questions afterwards? Posting feedback forms outside? Collecting translation equipment? Clean up? Anything else?
 - g. Outreach - review what's been done, what else will be done by whom?
 - h. Book, publicity afterwards?
2. Planning for 5/12 forum with students (See memo on Ron Ferguson's plans)
 3. Ron Ferguson's planning session with MSAN students on 4/26 at 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the high school.
 4. Other

Marilyn will get copies of Betsy Bard's "Lying on the Windowsill" to Mayor Reeves and Mr. Grassi to view prior to the Forum.

Mayor Reeves will try to get a sponsor for Geoff Canada.

Next meetings: Dress Rehearsal - Wednesday, April 25, 2:30 p.m.

Final prep for 5/12 Forum - Wednesday, May 2, 12 Noon

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Y. Bradshaw
Executive Secretary to the School Committee

#07-127, Report of the April 23, 2007 Meeting of the Buildings and Grounds and Long Range Planning Sub-Committee.

Called for the purpose of meeting with consultants about the possibility of incorporating a co-gen project at the high school, along with considering a solar installation at one of the schools, and any other business that may properly come before the sub-committee.

Members Present: Ms. Walser, Chair, Mr. Grassi, Ms. Nolan

Also Present: John Bolduc, Councillor Henrietta Davis, David Drayton, Dana Ham, James Maloney, George Metzger, Bruce Norian, Vassilios Valaes.

Ms. Walser in the Chair.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Bolduc and Mr. Valaes responded to some questions and concerns raised at the March 23 Building and Grounds sub-committee meeting regarding co-generation issues at CRLS. It was announced that the Cambridge Energy Alliance is a new non-profit organization incorporated to create and implement a groundbreaking program to significantly reduce energy use in Cambridge. As the City is one of CEA's first clients, CEA would look at the engineering energy aspects of the CRLS design; provide additional funds; promote public relations; and rule out whether the project should do co-generation.

Responses were given to the following questions, comments and concerns that were raised:

- Can CEA do a feasibility study
- What is the timing for CEA's involvement
- Is CEA looking for projects that enhance the City
- Can CEA do any project that is energy-related
- Are we looking at water savings
- Are there any concerns regarding the timeline
- How quickly can co-gen be ruled out
- What will happen to wasted heat – can the library use it

Mr. Grassi moved, seconded by Ms. Nolan, that the Cambridge Energy Alliance be requested to provide a review of the viability of a co-generation option for the CRLS project.

Councillor Davis gave an update on the Mass. Collaborative solar panel project and reported that if it qualifies, it will be eligible for \$300,000. The site for the panels was discussed. Ms. Nolan moved, seconded by Mr. Grassi, that the school department look into putting the Mass Renewable Energy Trust's 2 kilowatt photovoltaic panel installation (1 or 2 modules) on a school building. Further, that the criteria be (1) efficiency of system, meaning potential for solar power; (2) visibility of system to enhance educational aspects; and (3) interest and involvement of school community. Further, that the Field House be the first site to consider.

On a motion by Mr. Grassi, seconded by Ms. Nolan, the meeting was adjourned (10:12 a.m.)

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Y. Bradshaw
Executive Secretary to the School Committee

#07-128, Report of the April 24, 2007 Meeting of the Governance Sub-Committee.

Called to discuss ways to engage Student School Committee Members and to clarify our process for requesting reports.

Members Present: Mr. Schuster, Chair, Mr. Fantini, Ms. Nolan

Also Present: Student Members Tsion Girum, Marilyn Paschal; James Maloney, Chief Operating Officer; Chris Saheed, CRLS Principal; Maureen MacFarlane, Legal Counsel; Michael Elwin, Legal Intern

Mr. Schuster in the Chair.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:40 p.m.

Mr. Schuster described the process of advisory voting for student school committee members in other states. Attorney MacFarlane cited the Massachusetts statute and asked that we operate within it.

The following questions, comments and concerns were raised:

- If student members are allowed to bring in motions, will this open it up to other groups
- Students should get orientation prior to being elected
- What can be done to get students more passionate about serving
- Look at adding an overall student body President
- How are other communities in the State using Student Reps
- Offer social studies credit

- Have full membership and voting power on a sub-committee
- Get a job description for student members
- Build in incentives to serve
- Give student members advisory votes on policy issues that would be recorded in the Minutes
- Poll past student school committee members re participation

Ms. Nolan will post to the MASC listserv re student school committee member representation.
Mr. Schuster will send a revised draft to Members.

Dr. Saheed left at this time. Members discussed the process for requesting reports and the difference between reports as opposed to requests for information. Mr. Fantini will ask the City Manager how he deals with reports and Attorney MacFarlane will ask other districts how they handle reports.

Next Meeting: Friday, May 4, 7:30 a.m. with Student Government.

On a motion by Ms. Nolan, seconded by Mr. Fantini, the meeting adjourned (5:48 p.m.)

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Y. Bradshaw
Executive Secretary to the School Committee

#07-129, Report of the May 2, 2007 Meeting of the Achievement Gap Ad Hoc Committee.

Called for the purpose of continuing to plan a series of public forums on the achievement gap in Cambridge, with a focus on the initial forum on definitions.

Members Present: Ms. Walser, Chair, Mr. Grassi, Mayor Reeves

Also Present: Carolyn Turk, Deputy Superintendent; John Clifford, Mayor's Education Liaison;
Lei-Anne Ellis, Agenda for Children; Justin Martin, Public Information Officer;
James Parker, Mayor's Office; Khari Milner, CPS & After school Partnership

Ms. Walser in the Chair.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. Ms. Walser reported that the first Forum was a great start with positive feedback and approximately 100 attendees. The event will be transcribed, edited and translated into a booklet. Marilyn will have all questions (answered and unanswered) transcribed and Justin will respond to the unanswered questions via email and posting on the web.

Ms. Ellis shared feedback from the early childhood community who felt, generally, that this was an excellent start.

Ms. Walser congratulated and thanked everybody for their hard work on planning the Forum.

Questions, comments and concerns were raised regarding the forthcoming May 12 forum:

- What will the audience do when the students are in breakout groups
- Nancy will speak to Betsy Bard about showing her film "Lying on the Windowsill"
- Think about things that can be done with the audience for an hour
- Give students a credit coupon for attending
- What is the goal for this forum
- What strategies should be used to get the message out
- This should not be just school centered

Ms. Walser and Dr. Saheed will meet with some students tomorrow during lunch B to get their input.

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 9, 12 Noon

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Y. Bradshaw
Executive Secretary to the School Committee

#07-130, Report of the May 4, 2007 Meeting of the Governance Sub-Committee.

Called for the purpose of meeting with CRLS' Student Government.

Members Present: Mr. Schuster, Chair, Mr. Fantini, Ms. Nolan

Also Present: Maureen MacFarlane, Legal Counsel; Student Government Members, Akshata Kadagathur, President

Mr. Schuster in the Chair.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

Mr. Schuster explained that the Members of the School Committee are hoping to better engage Student School Committee Members and offered several options for doing so.

The following questions, comments and concerns were raised:

- Make expectations of student members known early
- Duties will be too much to ask of Student Body President
- Have representatives alternate at meetings
- To vote and not have it counted is not desirable
- A student vote could have the power to tip results

Student Government will respond to some of the proposed options via email by next Tuesday.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Y. Bradshaw
Executive Secretary to the School Committee

#07-131, Report of the May 9, 2007 Meeting of the Achievement Gap Ad Hoc Committee.

Called for the purpose of continuing to plan a series of public forums on the achievement gap in Cambridge, with a focus on the initial forum on definitions.

Members Present: Ms. Walser, Chair

Also Present: Carolyn Turk, Deputy Superintendent; Christopher Saheed, CRLS Principal; Bobby Tynes, CRLS Assistant Principal; Francisco Hernandez, CRLS Teacher; Lei-Anne Ellis, Agenda for Children; Justin Martin, Public Information Officer; Khari Milner, CPS & Afterschool Partnership; CRLS/MSAN Students Taylor Barnes, Samuel Gebu, Patricia Hernandez

Ms. Walser in the Chair.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.
Format and logistics for the May 12 Forum were discussed:

- Students design flyer
- Raffle: gift card – free limo ride to the prom
- “Deal with Your Dean” coupons
- Facilitators – 10 students, 5 adults
- Breakout rooms
- Outreach and promotion:
 - Clubs, Coaches, YPP, Student Government
 - Mayor Reeves and others partner with students to distribute flyers during lunches
 - Connect-ed message

Volunteers and facilitators will meet at 8:45 Saturday morning.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Y. Bradshaw
Executive Secretary to the School Committee

#07-132, Report of the May 11, 2007 Meeting of the Buildings & Grounds and Long Range Planning Sub-Committee.

Called for the purpose of discussing the possibility of a forum on green building options and the high school project.

Members Present: Ms. Walser, Chair, Ms. Nolan

Also Present: James Maloney, Chief Operating Officer

Ms. Walser in the Chair.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

The goal of the forum will be to hear about a range of options for building design, specifically the CRLS renovation project, and to bring the School Committee up to date on the scope of the project. There will be a meeting with students May 16 at 12:30. Speakers from the following organizations were suggested: Harvard Green Campus Initiative, MIT Green Building Group, Mass. Technology Collaborative Green Schools Program, Boston Green Roundtable, Cambridge Energy Alliance, City of Cambridge Environmental Department, and HMFH Architects.

Some options to consider: a green roof, ground source heating exchange, solar rays, kitchen redesign, plumbing, among others.

Ms. Nolan moved, seconded by Ms. Walser, that the Buildings and Grounds Sub-Committee schedule a meeting on Tuesday, June 12, 2007, 6:00-8:00 p.m. for the purpose of a forum on the upcoming high school renovation project and options for additional green and other upgrades.

On a motion by Ms. Nolan, seconded by Ms. Walser, the meeting adjourned (10:00 a.m.)

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Y. Bradshaw
Executive Secretary to the School Committee

#07-133, Report of the June 1, 2007 Meeting of the Buildings & Grounds and Long Range Planning Sub-Committee.

Called for the purpose of discussing the War Memorial project.

Members Present: Ms. Walser, Chair, Mr. Grassi, Ms. Nolan

Also Present: Superintendent Fowler-Finn; James Conry, Chief Financial Officer; James Maloney, Chief Operating Officer

Ms. Walser in the Chair.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

Mr. Maloney and Mr. Conry shared the memorandum from the City Manager regarding the War Memorial Project Estimate and went through the following "Talking Points":

1. Recent history of school construction project funding in Cambridge
2. Overview of the City Manager's directive that schools pay any cost over 25 million dollars for the War Memorial project
3. Implications for future school construction projects, particularly the CRLS project
4. Discussion of possible responses

The following questions, comments and concerns were raised:

- How sure are we that the State will pick up 65% shortfall (State will pick up 65% of approvable costs)
- City Manager will not allow debt stabilization funds to be used to cover budget shortfall
- What is the flexibility around bonds
- One strategy might be to accept the War Memorial proposal and look at the High School and other projects differently
- \$50 million dollar estimate for the high school is not realistic
- Is the increase because of construction costs or design changes
- What other amenities are in jeopardy along with the Arts building, i.e., traffic calming
- Involve CRLS School Council and middle school parents
- Involving School Council and parents is good and bad in terms of the operating budget
- Families need to be educated about what's going on at the high school
- Plan a forum for parents in the fall

The Chair thanked the Superintendent, Mr. Conry and Mr. Maloney for the information.

Next meeting: July 24, 9:30 a.m.

On a motion by Mr. Grassi, seconded by Ms. Nolan, the meeting adjourned (11:10 a.m.)

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Y. Bradshaw
Executive Secretary to the School Committee

#07-134, Report of the June 6, 2007 Meeting of the Achievement Gap Ad Hoc Committee.

Called for the purpose of continuing to plan a series of public forums on the achievement gap in Cambridge.

Members Present: Ms. Walser, Chair, Mr. Grassi

Also Present: Carolyn Turk, Deputy Superintendent; John Clifford, Mayor's Education Liaison; Lei-Anne Ellis, Agenda for Children; Deborah Lerne Goodman, Community Learning Center; Ellen Grant Valade, 0-8 Co-Chair

Ms. Walser in the Chair.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Ms. Walser reported that she received great feedback from the May 12 forum and will summarize student feedback and will share it with sub-committee members.

Questions, comments and concerns were raised:

- How important is it for forums to be live – there are pros and cons to live broadcast
- What is the goal for the parent forum
- Have one speaker for parent forum September 15, 10-Noon, who will engage parents
- Who should be invited to the next forums (Dean McCartney; David Banks, Eagle Institute; Charles Applestein; Peter Benson Search Institute)
- Identify somebody whose expertise is youth development looking at strengths instead of deficits
- Definitions and contributing factors were combined in the first forum

Ms. Walser will compile a list of potential speakers and bring it to the next meeting. John Clifford will check to see what dates Geoff Canada might be available.

Next Meetings: Tuesday, July 24, 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday, August 15, 12 Noon

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Y. Bradshaw
Executive Secretary to the School Committee

#07-135, Report of the June 12, 2007 Meeting of the Buildings & Grounds and Long Range Planning Sub-Committee.

Called for the purpose of discussing the upcoming High School renovation project and options for additional green and other upgrades.

Members Present: Ms. Walser, Chair, Mr. Grassi, Ms. Nolan, Mr. Harding, Mr. Schuster

Also Present: James Maloney, Chief Operating Officer; Richard Rossi, Deputy City Manager; David Kale, Finance Director; Councillor Davis; Vassilios Valaes, George Metzger, HMFH Architects; Walt Henry, MIT Green Building Group; Sam Nutter, Mass Technology Collaborative Green School Program; Mike Crowley, Harvard Green Campus Initiative; Members of Green Decade/Cambridge

Ms. Walser in the Chair.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and said that the options to be discussed are potential high performance sustainable elements that are economically viable and feasible given the timetable of the project.

After introductions, Mr. Maloney and Mr. Rossi gave a brief history and scope of the CRLS project. It was stressed that the City will pay up to \$49 million and the School Department will be responsible for the cost of going beyond the scope of the project.

Mr. Valaes and Mr. Metzger, HMFH Architects for the project, gave a summary of the project from the late 90s, including 2003 funding received to cover roofing, HVAC, exterior windows, skylights. This second phase will address accessibility issues and green/high performance sustainability elements. The scope of the work already submitted is LEED certified.

MIT's Green Building Group is a campus-wide environmental group and has also committed to directing research to solving global and local environmental problems. Mr. Henry gave a presentation on "MIT's Sustainable Program", including: Process, Traditional design process, Integrated design, Integrated design issues, Requirements, Metrics, Sloan building sustainability. Commissioning and Turn over.

Harvard Green Campus Initiative is a lead group at Harvard related to sustainability. The group provides project advice, some upfront funding to be paid back from energy savings, and is a resource for all types of environmentally responsible policies and practices. Mr. Crowley gave a summary of steps taken in buildings for sustainability at Harvard.

Mass Technology Collaborative (MTC) Green Schools Program is the State's development agency for renewable energy and innovation economy. The MTC and the MSBA have a Green Schools Program working with school districts to help them design and build high-performance green schools. Mr. Nutter and Ms. Ranger summarized the green schools initiative across the State (MA-CHPS).

The following questions, comments and concerns were raised:

- How is the CRLS project related to the War Memorial
- Will energy improvements have an affect on the operating budget
- What is the Cambridge Energy Alliance (CEA)
- Is there agreement in the industry around cost benefit analysis
- Is there a standard that the City uses to justify cost
- Need answers to: green roofs, ground source heat exchange, plumbing, waterless urinals
- Green roofs can be a large structural impact
- The City will not jeopardize \$28 million to change this project
- What are the pros and cons of going with CHPS process
- How long will it take to apply for a CHPS grant
- Can CRLS use MTC education grant to expand features
- Are other schools in the same place as we are in terms of deadlines
- When does the CRLS staff become aware of the enormity of the project

The Chair thanked everyone for their participation.

Next meeting: July 24, 9:30 a.m., for a progress report.

On a motion by Mr. Grassi, seconded by Ms. Nolan, the meeting adjourned (8:05 p.m.)

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Y. Bradshaw
Executive Secretary to the School Committee

#07-136, Invoice for \$5,769 from the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) for membership dues.

#07-137, Invoice for \$3,700 from the National School Boards Association (NSBA) for membership dues.

Mr. Schuster YEA, Ms. Walser YEA, Mr. Fantini YEA, Mr. Grassi YEA, Mr. Harding YEA, Ms. Nolan YEA, Mayor Reeves YEA..

Non-Consent Business

On a motion by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Schuster, on the following roll call, it was voted to adopt **#07-119, Settlement Agreement and Release of Pending Matter**: that the School Committee approve the Superintendent's recommendation relative to the settlement of a pending matter in accordance with WR07-183(CN-A):

Mr. Schuster YEA, Ms. Walser YEA, Mr. Fantini NAY, Mr. Grassi NAY, Mr. Harding YEA, Ms. Nolan NAY, Mayor Reeves YEA..

Ms. Nolan raised a question on the Title I Grant. The Superintendent was heard. Discussion took place around what schools are in corrective action and what schools are in restructuring. The Superintendent was heard. The Superintendent was asked to insure that the School Committee receives the names of the afore-mentioned schools. On a motion by Ms. Nolan, seconded by Mr. Harding, on the following roll call, it was voted to adopt **#07-120, Grant Awards**: that the School Committee accept and approve the Grant Awards in the amounts and for the periods indicated:

1. The Popplestone Foundation, SC08695, for the period June 8, 2007 to June 30, 2008, in the amount of \$99,341.00. This foundation grant supports the salary of a music teacher to continue teaching grades K-2 at the Peabody School. Funds will also be used to purchase musical instruments.
CPS Target Population: Students in grades K-2 at the Peabody School.
Outcomes and Measures of Effectiveness: Development of music literacy and ability in students in the early grades will lead to continued interest in pursuing music studies and will strengthen students' engagement in their school. Part of the project involves following the progress of students through grade 4 and beyond to examine the relationship between the music program at the Peabody School and the academic progress of its students.
2. Academic Support Services-Summer Program, SC07839, for the period July 1, 2007 to August 31, 2007, in the amount of \$29,600.00. This grant will serve approximately 50 students entering CRLS as 9th graders in the fall. Students are eligible based on past MCAS performance. The program will provide 4 weeks of half-day instruction in mathematics and will include a mentoring and high school orientation component.
CPS Target Population: 50+ incoming 9th graders who scored at the warning level on their 7th grade MCAS.
Outcomes and Measures of Effectiveness: Improved student achievement in the 9th grade math course and improved performance on the 10th grade MCAS exam.
3. 21st Century Community Learning Centers Exemplary Programs, SC08743, for the period September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008, in the amount of \$70,000.00. This Exemplary Community Learning Center Program Grant will enable the Cambridge 21st Century Community Partnership to continue to work with several out-of-school-time programs to support enrichment opportunities and other activities designed to complement students' regular academic program.
CPS Target Population: The 21st CCLC Partnership directly supports six "Core Partnership" OST programs serving in total approximately 300 CPS K-8 students. Sites include After Works at St. Peter's Church, Community Art Center, Cambridge Community Center, Frisoli Youth Center, King After-School Program and Windsor Street Boys & Girls Club.

Outcomes and Measures of Effectiveness: Improved communication between after-school staff and school day teachers; improved academic and social skills as measured by the State's SAYO tool which surveys teachers and staff.

4. Title I Distribution, SC08604, for the period September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008, in the amount of \$2,161,457.00. These funds will provide academic, instructional, and support services for eligible students, professional development activities for staff, support for parent involvement activities, and also includes the purchase of supplies and materials. Grant also serves eligible students in Cambridge private schools.

CPS Target Population: Grant funds 16 FTE staff at 8 Title I schools.

Outcomes and Measures of Effectiveness: At 7 school-wide Title I schools, program will raise the literacy achievement of all students; at the 1 Targeted Assistance School (King Open), a select group of approximately 45 students deemed most at risk will receive services to enable them to meet State standards.

5. SPED 94-142 Allocation, SC08605, for the period September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008, in the amount of \$2,302,766.00. The purpose of this Federal Entitlement Grant Program is to provide funds to ensure that eligible students with disabilities receive a free and appropriate public education that includes special education and related services designed to meet their individual needs.

CPS Target Population: Approximately 1,115 students with Individual Education Plans.

Outcomes and Measures of Effectiveness: Program will ensure provision of comprehensive, high quality educational services for all students with disabilities.

6. SPED Program Improvement, SC08674, for the period September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008, in the amount of \$33,499.00. The purpose of this grant program is to advance the skills of educators involved with students with disabilities through high-quality, sustained, and intensive professional development activities and through district-based induction and mentoring programs so that teachers may effectively meet the diverse needs of students.

CPS Target Population: Approximately 225 Special Education Teachers, Related Service Providers and Paraprofessionals.

Outcomes and Measures of Effectiveness: Special Education staff will remain current with changing practice and State and Federal Special Education regulations as well as improve their skill and capacity to meet the needs of diverse students, resulting in improved outcomes for students with disabilities.

7. Title V Innovative Programs, SC08608, for the period September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008, in the amount of \$16,033.00. This Federal Entitlement Grant will fund professional development for teachers in the Cambridge Licensure in District Program (CLIP) and provide the support staff necessary for the Cambridge Mentoring Program. Services proportionate to enrollment will also be provided to participating private schools.

CPS Target Population: 30 teachers; approximately 600 students.

Outcomes and Measures of Effectiveness: Teachers will improve their ability to design appropriate curriculum, manage classrooms, and support student learning through implementing effective strategies for different learning styles.

8. Title IV Drug Free Schools, SC08611, for the period September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008, in the amount of \$51,520.00. These funds will continue to support programs that prevent violence, illegal use of alcohol, tobacco and drugs in and around schools through training consultants and instructional materials. Services proportionate to enrollment are provided to participating private schools in the district.

CPS Target Population: all CPS students.

Outcomes and Measures of Effectiveness: Program will continue to reduce risk behaviors by significant amounts as measured in the 2008 High School Health Survey.

9. Title IIA Educator Quality, SC08731, for the period September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008, in the amount of \$489,783.00. This grant program is to increase student achievement through a comprehensive district initiative that focuses on the preparation, training, recruitment, and retention of highly qualified educators, to help meet NCLB goals. Funds provide for 3 FTE district-wide coaches (2 in math; 1 in ELA) and the lead teacher for Professional Development. Participating private schools are served in proportion to their enrollment.
CPS Target Population: The literacy coach will provide professional development for all teachers in grades 3-5 and 6-8; the 2 math coaches serve all teachers of grades K-3 and 6-8. The lead teacher for Professional Development serves all teachers in the district.
Outcomes and Measures of Effectiveness: Teachers will continuously improve instruction, deepen their content knowledge, and become able to implement more comprehensively the ELA and math curricula.
10. Title III LEP Support, SC08737, for the period September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008, in the amount of \$88,954.00. This grant will provide funds to improve the educational performance of limited English proficient students in grades K-12 by assisting these students to learn English and meet State academic content standards.
CPS Target Population: All 425+ Limited English Proficient students enrolled in the district.
Outcomes and Measures of Effectiveness: In Sheltered English Immersion classes, both during the school year and the summer, students will receive intensive instruction which will accelerate their English language acquisition and improve their academic outcomes as measured by performance on the pre and post tests in summer school, and the MEPA, MELA-O, and MCAS.
11. Title IID, SC08741, for the period September 1, 2007 to August 31, 2008, in the amount of \$22,680.00. This grant is an entitlement grant that will be used to partially support 2 technology specialist positions at two schools (Haggerty and Cambridgeport) to provide training and support for the integration of technology into the curriculum.
CPS Target Population: This grant will serve the 500+ students in the two schools.
Outcomes and Measures of Effectiveness: Teachers in these two schools will be able to effectively integrate various forms of technology into their curricula to enhance instruction and improve student engagement and achievement.

Mr. Schuster YEA, Ms. Walser YEA, Mr. Fantini YEA, Mr. Grassi PRESENT, Mr. Harding YEA, Ms. Nolan YEA, Mayor Reeves YEA.

#07-121, Motion by Ms. Walser that the School Committee approve a cost-of-living increase for the Superintendent consistent with the raise for all non-union School Department Management for FY07-08 **failed of adoption** for lack of a second.

#07-122, Motion by Ms. Nolan that whereas the market research project has yielded very useful results to date, that the School Committee achieve completion of the project by ensuring a comprehensive study, including all elements necessary to a full understanding of the whole customer base, specifically that a survey of Cambridge parents who never entered the Cambridge Public School district be conducted, as was specified in the project definition. In the event the current firm is unable to complete the task, that a new firm be engaged to undertake the work. Ms. Nolan was heard in support of her motion. Members were heard relative to the motion. On a motion by Ms. Walser, on the following roll call, **#07-122 failed of adoption:** Mr. Schuster YEA, Ms. Walser NAY, Mr. Fantini NAY, Mr. Grassi NAY, Mr. Harding NAY, Ms. Nolan YEA, Mayor Reeves YEA.

#07-123, Motion by Mr. Harding that the Superintendent give a brief update on any revisions to the School Choice Policy and, further, that this include any updates from the Superintendent's internal School Choice subcommittee. Mr. Harding was heard in support of his motion. Members were heard relative to

the motion. On a motion by Mr. Harding, seconded by Ms. Walser, it was voted that the above-referenced item **#07-123, Motion by Mr. Harding**, be referred to the Superintendent and Vice Chair for further action.

Late Orders

On a motion by Ms. Walser, seconded by Mr. Fantini, it was voted that the Superintendent be directed to engage the high school renovation architectural firm to come up with cost estimates for the following additional scope of services for inclusion in the CRLS renovation project with funds to come from the existing capital budget:

- kitchen redesign
- science lab upgrades
- rearrangement of learning community administrative space
- auditorium/theater/sound/lighting improvements
- exterior aesthetics
- security report recommendations

On a motion by Ms. Walser, seconded by Mr. Harding, it was voted that the School Committee meet Tuesday, July 31, at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the CRLS renovation project. This meeting is needed due to the compressed timetable for this project and the need to work with the City on funding issues.

On a motion by Mr. Harding, it was voted that the School Committee send letters to elementary school Principals and staff congratulating them for successful graduation ceremonies.

On a motion by Mr. Harding, it was voted that the School Committee send letters of condolence to former Mayors and School Committee Chairmen Michael and Walter Sullivan on the death of their uncle and brother, Edward.

In response to a discussion earlier in the meeting, the Superintendent distributed a list of Title 1 schools.

Mr. Grassi asked when there will be an update on academics and athletics. The Superintendent was heard.

The Chair recognized and welcomed Dr. Aida Ramos, the new Executive Director of Special Education.

On a motion by Mr. Fantini, seconded by Mr. Schuster, it was voted to adjourn (8:40 p.m.).

Adjourned
Marilyn Y. Bradshaw
Executive Secretary to the School Committee