

School Committee - Regular Meeting

September 5, 2023, 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. Public Comment (3 minutes):

2. Student School Committee Report: None

3. Presentation of Records for Approval:

- August 8, 2023 Regular Meeting
- August 10, 2023 Special Meeting

4. Reconsiderations: None

5. Unfinished Business/Calendar:

#23-200 Joint Motion by Member Weinstein, Vice-Chair Rachel, and Member Hunter

WHEREAS: The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics defines algebra as “a way of thinking and a set of concepts and skills that enable students to generalize, model, and analyze mathematical situations” ([National Council of Teachers of Mathematics \[NCTM\], 2008](#)).

WHEREAS: Algebra I is an important gatekeeper course for STEM careers, as demonstrated by Bob Moses’ Algebra Project, and Algebra is usually the first domain in school mathematics that encourages students’ abstract reasoning; and

WHEREAS: The opportunity to complete Algebra I prior to 9th grade, with needed supports, must be available to all CPSD children without requiring individual families to seek out opportunities outside of CPSD; and

WHEREAS: CPSD has a history of successfully offering Algebra I prior to 9th grade at multiple CPS schools at various points; and

WHEREAS: The School Committee is on record with policies calling for CPSD to offer Algebra I instruction in 8th grade in 1992, 1998, 2010, 2012, and 2013; and

WHEREAS: CPS has recently adopted and is in the process of rolling out the Illustrative Math curriculum in K-12, and the CPS Upper School Mathematics plan, which includes the integration of three Algebra I units into the 8th-grade curriculum; therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That, by 2025, the Cambridge Public Schools will provide equitable in-school, school-year opportunities to all students to complete Algebra 1 before 9th grade. This includes broad outreach to engage families, caregivers, and educators; and be it further

RESOLVED: That, beginning in fall 2023, the Superintendent will offer a program that supports all students to prepare to enter Algebra I in 8th grade and expands and enriches learning for those who are already performing above grade level in math; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this plan will include an annual review of implementation that will include feedback from representative groups of educators, students, and families/caregivers, specifically including families who represent communities of color and multilingual families; and will include data that captures all student groups on math mastery to determine if all students’ needs are being met, so that we can make adjustments as needed to ensure that there are no unintended inequities in math mastery and in completion of Algebra I before 9th grade; and be it further

RESOLVED: That, from 2023-2026, the Superintendent will prioritize providing math educators with coaching and support for effectively implementing the Illustrative Math curriculum in heterogeneous groups, to guarantee that all math classrooms provide rigorous math instruction that meets the differentiated needs of students; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this plan will not track students in math; and be it further

RESOLVED: That there will be multiple pathways for individual student needs to be met whether they need more time and support to master the content or to advance in the content through means such as differentiated instruction, personalized supports, or targeted intervention; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this plan will be communicated and coordinated with CPSD elementary, upper school, and high school administrators, elementary and math educators, and curriculum leaders.

6. Awaiting Reports: None

7. 7a. Superintendent's Update: Back to School General Updates

7b. Presentations:

District Plan: Focused Initiatives SY23-24..... Victoria L. Greer Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

7c. CPS District Plan: None

7d. Consent Agenda:

- #23-202** Recommendation: Approval of Revision to the Controlled Choice Policy (First Reading)
- #23-203** Recommendation: Approval of Student Attendance Policy (Second Reading)
- #23-204** Recommendation: Approval of Physical Restraint Policy (Second Reading)
- #23-205** Recommendation: Approval of Inoculation of Students Policy (Second Reading)
- #23-206** Recommendation: Approval of Teaching About Drugs, Alcohol, & Tobacco And About Family Life/Sex Education Policy (Second Reading)
- #23-207** Recommendation: Approval of Revisions to the 2023-2024 Cambridge Public Schools District Calendar
- #23-208** Recommendation: Contract Award: Day & Residential Program Services not Available from The Cambridge School Department
- #23-209** Recommendation: Contract Award: Enroot: Educational Services
- #23-210** Recommendation: Contract Award: Youth Guidance: Educational Services
- #23-211** Recommendation: Contract Award: UAspire: Educational Support Services
- #23-212** Recommendation: Contract Award: SEEM Collaborative: OSS Health Curriculum
- #23-213** Recommendation: Contract Award: PowerSchool Group LLC: Computer Software
- #23-214** Recommendation: Contract Award: Cengage Learning: Instructional Materials

- #23-215 Recommendation: Contract Award: Cambridge Public Health: Nursing Services
- #23-216 Recommendation: Contract Award: Cambridge Housing Authority: Educational Services
- #23-217 Recommendation: Contract Award: MAG Retail Holding-FFD: 2023 Ford All Electric Vehicle
- #23-218 Recommendation: Contract Award: Barnes & Noble Inc.: Instructional Materials
- #23-219 Recommendation: Contract Award: Branching Minds: Computer Software
- #23-220 Recommendation: Contract Award: Robert Avossa dba K-12 Leadership Matters: Professional Development
- #23-221 Recommendation: Contract Award: Robert Half Recruiters & Employee Agency: Temporary Staffing Services
- #23-222 Recommendation: Contract Award: FreshPoint Connecticut: Fresh Produce
- #23-223 Recommendation: Grant Award: FY24 Individual with Disabilities Education Act Early Childhood (SC24607)
- #23-224 Recommendation: Grant Award: FY23 Expanded Homeless Shelter Funding (SC23218)

8. Non-Consent Agenda:

9. School Committee Agenda (Policy Matters/Notifications/Requests for Information): None

10. Resolutions (letters of congratulations, letters of condolences): None

11. Announcements:

12. Late Orders: None

13. Communications and Reports from City Officers:

- [Mayor Siddiqui: Communicating Information about Cambridge Promise Pilot](#)