



C A M B R I D G E S C H O O L C O M M I T T E E

(Official Minutes)

Special Meeting

April 11, 2023

Called for 5:00 p.m. broadcast from the Media Arts Studio, 454 Broadway, Cambridge, for the purpose of the School Committee voting on the adoption of the proposed FY24 School Department Budget

Members Present: Vice-Chair Rachel, Member Fantini, Member Hunter, Member Rojas, Member Weinstein, Member Wilson, Mayor Siddiqui

Also Present: Dr. Greer, Superintendent of Schools

Mayor Siddiqui in the Chair.

A quorum of the School Committee being present, the Chair called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Member Hunter joined at 6:04 p.m.

The Chair read the call of the meeting and explained that this meeting is being televised, votes will be taken and there will be public comment.

The meeting proceeded to the first order of business with a roll call of members present; Member Hunter ~~ABSENT~~; Vice Chair Rachel PRESENT; Member Rojas PRESENT; Member Weinstein PRESENT; Member Wilson PRESENT; Member Fantini PRESENT; Mayor Siddiqui PRESENT.

The following individuals were heard during Public Comment:

- Maya Gonzalez, 17 Seventh Street, spoke regarding the elimination of an Aquatics teacher in the proposed budget
- Blair Williams, 125 Chiswick Road, Boston, spoke regarding the elimination of an Aquatics teacher in the proposed budget

On a motion by Member Fantini, seconded by Member Weinstein on the following roll call vote, public comment was closed: Member Hunter YEA; Vice Chair Rachel YEA; Member Rojas YEA; Member Weinstein YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

Mayor Siddiqui passed the floor over to Dr. Greer who gave an overview of the budget adjustments that were made since her presentation of the proposed budget on March 14th. The budget adjustments included:

- \$700,000 to the Fletcher Maynard Academy and Martin Luther King School to continue the expanded learning time program (expanded learning time was previously funded through a state grant that was not continued in FY24)
- \$84,629 to reinstate the 0.7 FTE for the Design Lab Innovation Coach

- \$83,000 for tuition and scholarships for students in summer programs
- \$39,480 for a 1.0 paraprofessional position at the Kennedy Longfellow School
- \$60,000 increase in school improvement funds for the Kennedy Longfellow, Fletcher Maynard, Graham and Parks, Vassal Lane, King Open, Haggerty, and the Putnam Ave schools
- \$100,000 in general funds to support strategic tutoring sustainability for implementation in the upcoming school year
- Rescinded the positions of an FTE 1.0 of the Executive Director of College and Career Pathways and an FTE 0.5 HR IS Coordinator

In the upcoming weeks, the district will provide more updates on the budget and the Superintendent is proposing a special school committee meeting in the upcoming weeks to discuss the district's math instruction.

The Committee Members each spoke about the budget process and thanked the administration for including students, staff, and community partners in the proposed budget.

#23-075 Approval of the Fiscal Year 2024 Recommended Budget, be approved as follows: that the School Committee receive and approve the FY 2024 General Fund Budget of the Cambridge Public Schools in the following Statutory Categories:

Salaries, Wages & Benefits:	\$ 204,212,725
Other Ordinary Maintenance:	\$ 39,329,410
Travel and Training:	\$ 1,305,865
Extraordinary Expenditures:	<u>\$ 152,000</u>
Total	\$ 245,000,000

On a motion by Vice-Chair Rachel, seconded by Member Rojas, on the following roll call votes for **#23-075**, the FY24 Budget was adopted:

Salaries, Wages & Benefits: \$204,212,725.00: Member Hunter YEA; Vice Chair Rachel YEA; Member Rojas YEA; Member Weinstein YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

Other Ordinary Maintenance: \$39,329,410.00: Member Hunter YEA; Vice Chair Rachel YEA; Member Rojas YEA; Member Weinstein YEA; Member Wilson PRESENT; Member Fantini YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

Travel & Training: \$1,305,865.00: Member Hunter YEA; Vice Chair Rachel YEA; Member Rojas YEA; Member Weinstein YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

Extraordinary Expenditures: \$152,000.00: Member Hunter YEA; Vice Chair Rachel YEA; Member Rojas YEA; Member Weinstein YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

Total FY2024 Recommended Budget: \$245,000,000.00: Member Hunter YEA; Vice Chair Rachel YEA; Member Rojas YEA; Member Weinstein YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

On a motion by Member Fantini, seconded by Member Weinstein, it was voted to suspend the rules for the purpose of moving reconsideration of the foregoing vote on all budget-related items: Member Hunter YEA; Vice-Chair Rachel YEA; Member Rojas YEA; Member Weinstein YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.

The Rules having been suspended, a motion to reconsider the foregoing vote, hoping the same would not prevail, failed of adoption: Member Hunter NAY; Vice-Chair Rachel NAY; Member Rojas NAY; Member Weinstein NAY; Member Wilson NAY; Member Fantini NAY; Mayor Siddiqui NAY.

On a motion by Vice Chair Rachel, seconded by Member Weinstein, on the following roll call vote, the meeting was adjourned: Member Hunter YEA; Vice Chair Rachel YEA; Member Rojas YEA; Member Weinstein YEA; Member Wilson YEA; Member Fantini YEA; Mayor Siddiqui YEA.(5:53 p.m.)

Attest:



Ariel B. Kennebrew
Executive Secretary to the School Committee