

**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Monday, August 31, 2026 - Regular Meeting

7:00 p.m. – City Hall Chambers

Members present: Council Davis, Rep. Pitone(arrived at 7:04), Rep. Lippens, Rep. Eldridge, Rep. Green, Dr. Stellman, Mayor Wilson (arrived at 7:19), Rep. Biton, and Chair Ackman. **Members Absent:**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm with a moment of silence, followed by a salute to the flag of the United States of America. Chair Ackman asked Superintendent Carmona to call the roll, the results of which were as follows: PRESENT – 9 – President Davis, Member. Pitone, Member. Lippens, Member. Eldridge, Member Green, Dr. Stellman, Mayor Wilson, Member Biton, and Chair Ackman. **ABSENT**

VII - COMMUNITY OR CALENDAR ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS (Out-of-Order)

Chair Dr. Ackman: With the Committee's consent, I will note that there is no public comment today. I will move to an item under New Business, Community or Calendar Updates from Committee Members, as I believe this discussion qualifies as a community update.

At the end of the last school year, it was brought to my attention that, during public comment, there is currently no way for the Chair to shut off the microphone if an individual begins speaking in a manner that is unlawful or could potentially expose the District to legal action.

As the Chair overseeing public comment, I reached out to the City regarding this concern. We initially discussed the possibility of using a buzzer; however, I want to clarify that we first consulted with legal counsel. Legal counsel expressed concern that, without a way for the Chair to shut off the microphone, the Committee and District could potentially be exposed to legal liability if someone were to make comments that are unlawful or could result in a lawsuit.

We have reached out to the City, and our new Chief Strategy and Operations Officer has done a great job working on this issue. We were informed that an alternate microphone setup is possible; however, the City is asking the District to cover the cost of the alternate setup.

I think it is important to bring this matter to the Committee because implementing the alternate setup would require a reallocation of funds. Public comment is very important. Someone who reached out to me yesterday, and I will attempt to quote them, said that public comment is "a foundational aspect of our democracy." I could not agree more.

I did not make this decision lightly, but I also do not believe that leaving the Committee and District legally exposed is a responsible choice. I wanted to bring this matter forward as a community update.

Rep. Green: You mentioned there would be a cost. How much would the alternate microphone setup cost?

Chair Dr. Ackman: Stated that the cost would be approximately \$2,000 and that the Committee should consider whether to reallocate funds or ask the City to cover the cost.

Rep. Pitone: Thanked the Chair for addressing the issue and questioned why the District would be expected to cover the cost of equipment in a City facility. She also asked whether the City had provided a written explanation

Chair Dr. Ackman: Stated that the City has not provided a written explanation and has only communicated its expectations regarding the cost. She noted that she had hoped Mayor Wilson would be present to address the matter.

Council Davis: Stated that Mayor Wilson was attending other events and offered to discuss the matter with the Chair and Mayor Wilson outside of the meeting. He noted that he had only learned of the issue that afternoon and did not yet have all the details. He offered to work collaboratively toward a solution.

Dr. Stellman: Asked how the microphone issue might affect City Council public comment and expressed support for working with the City to resolve the issue.

Rep. Green: Noted that discussing staff by name during public comment is inconsistent with Committee policy and raises concerns under the collective bargaining agreement. She emphasized the importance of protecting staff and addressing potentially defamatory statements.

Chair Dr. Ackman: Thanked Rep. Green for the clarification.

Rep. Eldridge: Asked about the timeline for addressing the microphone issue and whether a quick fix was possible.

Chair Dr. Ackman: Stated that the alternate setup could likely be implemented quickly, while repairing the existing system would require significant work to the chamber floor. She will follow up with Council President Davis and Mayor Wilson, with the goal of resolving the issue by the next meeting.

The Chair also noted that the September 21 School Committee meeting will be moved to September 28 due to Yom Kippur and reminded members about the MASC/MASS conference taking place November 4–6 in Danvers

Rep. Pitone: Encouraged Committee members to attend the MASC/MASS conference for as much of the event as their schedules allow, noting that the conference has provided valuable opportunities for professional learning and networking with other School Committee members.

Chair Dr. Ackman: Noted that the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent will be presenting at this year's conference with a consultant and an SPS parent who has volunteered their time to support the District. The session proposal was approved, and additional information will be shared as the conference approaches. The Chair then asked whether there were any additional community or calendar updates from Committee members and noted that the item could be revisited at the end of the meeting.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **June 8, 2026**
- **June 15, 2026**
- **Special Meeting of the Whole August 10, 2026**
- **Special Meeting of the Whole August 17, 2026**
-

MOTION: there was a motion by Rep. Biton, seconded by Rep Green to approve the June 8, 2026, June 15, 2026, Special Meeting of the Whole August 10, 2026 and Special Meeting of the Whole August 17, 2026 regular School Committee meeting minutes.

The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.

III. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT

A. District Report

- School Readiness (DPW/IAM?)

Chair Dr. Ackman: Thanked everyone and acknowledged the first day of school, noting that it is unusual for the first School Committee meeting to coincide with the first day of school. She expressed appreciation for seeing photos of students returning to school and their excitement for the new school year. The Chair then moved to the Superintendent's Report.

Superintendent's Notes: *School Committee- Monday, August 31, 2026*

Superintendent Carmona: Welcomed everyone to the first day of school and presented his Superintendent's Report with a visual component. He highlighted the extensive preparation that takes place before the first day, including professional development, administrator preparation, and coordination across the District.

He thanked educators and staff for their work in preparing for the school year and highlighted Convocation as an important opportunity for the District community to come together, recharge, and align around the priorities for the year.

The Superintendent welcomed students back and noted the excitement throughout the District's schools. He also acknowledged the visit from the Commissioner and Secretary of Education and expressed appreciation for the recognition of Somerville's work and diverse school communities.

He thanked DPW and AM for their work preparing school buildings over the summer, noting that significant projects were completed within a limited timeframe while buildings were also being used for summer programming and professional development.

The Superintendent then discussed the District's instructional priorities, emphasizing that the focus this year is on strengthening and building upon existing initiatives rather than introducing new ones. He highlighted continued work around instructional implementation, building educator capacity, and increasing access to learning for students. He then turned the presentation over to Chief Strategy and Operations Officer Dr. Meekerley Sanon for a facilities update

Dr. Sanon: First, on behalf of the Superintendent's Office and the entire Somerville Public Schools community, I want to thank the Mayor, DPW, and IAM for all of their work preparing our schools for the start of the school year. They have heard a lot from us, including from me this morning, as we worked to make sure the schools were ready to open. We do not want to minimize the amount of work that goes into getting our schools ready.

The report included in the packet was prepared by Eric Wiseman, who spent a great deal of time documenting the work completed over the summer. One thing that is mentioned briefly in the report is the short turnaround between the end of summer programming and the start of the school year.

I am proud to share that several significant projects were completed over the summer, including upgrades to the Argenziano School kitchen. Accessibility concerns at Winter Hill were also addressed, although there are a few remaining items that we continue to work on. In addition, Phase One of the Kennedy School playground project has been completed.

We are also closely monitoring several larger facilities projects to ensure that they do not interrupt school operations. In particular, at the West Somerville School, there is currently scaffolding in place, and we have spent a great deal of time making sure that the area is safe for our students. IAM and DPW have been very responsive in providing updates and assuring us that students will continue to be able to use the outdoor play areas.

We have also completed HVAC upgrades and continue to follow up on concerns related to HVAC throughout the district. At Argenziano, we are continuing to prepare the building to welcome new programming in the upcoming school year.

Finally, two large boilers were delivered to the building without issue and are expected to be installed during the school year.

Rep. Green: I think it would be helpful to have a way to break down the work that has been completed compared with the work that is still pending. It is very helpful to see all of the work that DPW has accomplished, and it is impressive how much they are able to complete each summer despite the various constraints. However, it would also be helpful to understand what still needs to be done so we have a clearer picture of where we stand. A memo outlining the completed, in-progress, and pending work would be very helpful going forward.

Dr. Sanon: On it. It sounds like a table showing the status of each project completed, in progress, and pending.

Rep Biton: I was at West Somerville this morning and had the opportunity to walk around with Danielle Barry to see the roof work and scaffolding. Everything looked clean, orderly, and safe. No work was taking place today due to the start of school operations. I was very impressed with how the project is being managed and want to thank the City, DPW, and our school-side team for their coordination.

Chair Dr. Ackman: I want to acknowledge the excellent communication around the facilities work. We had been anticipating seeing cranes above the school the weekend before school started, and Director Richter proactively reached out to make sure we knew the equipment would be removed before students arrived. The communication throughout the process has been top-notch.

Mayor Wilson: At this morning's Cabinet meeting, we heard about the challenging process of moving the new boilers into Argenziano. The boilers, which weigh approximately two tons each, had to be carefully maneuvered into the building and through the elevators. There were some concerns about whether they would fit, but the difficult part is now complete.

The boilers are in the building and ready to be connected.

This is an important step because if the existing boiler at Argenziano were to fail, there would not be a suitable location for a temporary mobile boiler, which could potentially have required the building to be vacated. Getting the new boilers into the building is therefore a significant accomplishment.

Dr. Stellman: This question may be addressed during the academic portion of the presentation, so I'm happy to wait if needed. A few slides ago, Dr. Carmona discussed the work being done to support teachers with high-quality instructional materials. I'm curious about what is different in the approach this year and what new strategies are being used. I'm happy to wait until the academic portion of the presentation or hear any comments from Dr. Boston Davis.

Superintendent Carmona: Highlighted the District's instructional and academic priorities for the school year, centered on the rallying call, "Every student learns in every class, every day." He emphasized student engagement, productive struggle, and ensuring teachers have the tools and support needed to create strong learning conditions.

He discussed strengthening the District's data cycles by having teachers and administrators regularly review student data, identify areas for improvement, and adjust instruction accordingly. He also highlighted continued work on inclusive practices and special education supports.

The Superintendent noted positive trends in recent assessment data, particularly in mathematics, while acknowledging continued achievement gaps and areas requiring additional support. He outlined five areas of focus: professional development, data cycles, inclusive practices, continued implementation and monitoring of XBlock, and partnerships to strengthen instruction in the early grades.

He emphasized the importance of consistent implementation, ongoing monitoring, and collaboration between central office and school-based leaders.

Rep. Pitone: Expressed appreciation for the District's focus on the priority, "Every student learns in every class, every day." She emphasized the importance of ensuring that families feel confident that their children are supported and that their learning is a priority. She noted that the message reflects the commitment of families and educators across the District.

Dr. Stellman: Built on Rep. Pitone's comments and highlighted the importance of focusing on day-to-day student behaviors and understanding individual students within the learning context. She asked what new or different approaches are being used to support educators as they implement new instructional practices in math, English, and other academic areas.

Superintendent Carmona: Explained that the District is focused on identifying effective practices already taking place and replicating them across schools rather than reinventing existing approaches. He noted that the District has strong educators and practices in every building, but outcomes can vary between classrooms. He emphasized building more consistent and reliable systems through data monitoring, inquiry cycles, professional support, and partnerships. The goal is to better understand what is working, identify areas where students need additional support, and use data to make more precise instructional decisions.

Dr. Boston Davis: Explained that the District is focusing on deepening existing practices rather than introducing new initiatives. Through the Barr Foundation grant, the District is investing in school leadership through coaching and training for principal supervisors, continued coaching for principals through Lynch Leadership Academy, and instructional rounds supported by an outside facilitator.

She also highlighted the District's new instructional coach model, with coaches supporting instruction in each school, as well as continued professional development focused on inclusive practices. Dr. Jenna Rufo will continue supporting administrators and district-wide professional development based on findings from the special education and intervention services review.

Dr. Boston Davis emphasized that the goal is to strengthen implementation, improve consistency, and better support educators in meeting the needs of all students.

Dr. Stellman: Praised the District's approach to instructional leadership and expressed pride in the work being done to

support educators and administrators.

Chair Dr. Ackman: Shared that the Superintendent reported to the Commissioner of Education that the District is nearly fully staffed, aside from a few remaining positions. She attributed this in part to the District's investment in and commitment to educators and recognized the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and union for their work on the educators' contract.

Rep. Green: Commended the District's focus on strengthening implementation rather than introducing unnecessary new initiatives. She highlighted the change in how building leaders are supervised, noting that distributing supervisory responsibilities should provide more consistent support and make it easier to implement instructional priorities across the District.

Rep. Eldridge: Expressed enthusiasm for Focus Area 2 and the District's efforts to strengthen a culture of data and support student success. She asked whether the K–3 focus on DIBELS could be expanded to K–2, emphasizing the importance of early literacy intervention before students transition from learning to read to reading to learn.

Dr. Boston Davis: Agreed with the importance of earlier intervention and noted that the District is partnering with Ignite Reading and Springboard through early literacy initiatives, with a particular focus on first grade. She shared that the District is intentionally narrowing its focus and will revisit how the K–3 goal is reflected in its planning and initiatives.

Superintendent Carmona: Shared his enthusiasm for the District's partnership with Ignite Reading and its "First Grade Promise," noting that achieving strong reading outcomes by the end of first grade could significantly impact student trajectories. He explained that the District will pilot the program in select schools while building capacity. He also highlighted positive teacher feedback on the new Foundations materials and noted progress across multiple areas of instruction.

Dr. Boston Davis: Added that the District is implementing high-quality instructional materials in K–2, including Foundations for structured literacy and Wit & Wisdom for reading comprehension and content. She noted that these initiatives align with the District's focus on early literacy in K–2.

Rep. Eldridge: Requested regular updates on the progress of first-grade students as the new literacy initiatives are implemented, including opportunities to monitor outcomes and make adjustments. She expressed enthusiasm for learning more about the impact on students.

Rep. Lippens: Commended the presentation and the District's focus on inclusive practices and high-quality curriculum. She noted the importance of maintaining and investing in strong instructional materials rather than introducing new initiatives each year. She also asked about the systems and supports in place to ensure principals have the capacity to fully engage in the leadership development opportunities supported by the Barr Foundation grant.

Superintendent Carmona: Explained that the District's existing support systems including social workers, counselors, deans, restorative justice practices, and student services help principals focus more on instructional leadership. He noted that the District is continuing to strengthen these systems, integrate professional learning through TNTP and Lynch Leadership Academy, and use data to evaluate the effectiveness of its supports. He also emphasized that narrowing his direct supervision group will allow him to provide more focused support to building leaders while continuing to examine schedules, support cycles, staff roles, and ways to distribute responsibilities effectively.

Rep. Lippens: Summarized that the Superintendent is continuing to monitor and adjust the District's systems based on data and asked if she understood correctly that he will be working with a smaller group of building leaders. Superintendent Carmona confirmed.

Rep. Eldridge: Asked how Open Architects will support the District's broader systems and data work and whether parents may have opportunities to access relevant data and information.

Dr. Boston Davis: Explained that Open Architects will play a central role in strengthening the District's data systems by helping teams focus on analyzing and responding to data rather than gathering it. She noted plans to use the platform with principals to guide inquiry and support data-informed leadership decisions, with Sam Eligene and Dr. Sanon playing key roles. She also shared that the District is exploring ways to expand the Strategic Plan family dashboard, including potentially providing families with access to DIBELS data for younger students. She welcomed ideas for making the use

of data more transparent, collaborative, and accessible to families.

Superintendent Carmona: Explained that Open Architects offers tools for families and teachers, and the District will explore the infrastructure, cost, and community education needed to make data more accessible. He emphasized the District's commitment to transparency and serving the community effectively. He also recognized teachers for their work implementing new instructional programs across multiple content areas, noting that effective implementation takes time and that the District's focus should be on building and replicating successful practices rather than continually introducing new initiatives.

B. Personal Report

- June/July/August

Dr Carmona shared the personnel report and announced retirements

With hundreds of transactions taking place over the summer, I've noted some significant, retirements, resignations, reassignments and new hires (these are for the months of June, July and August):

Retirements

Joanne Taddeo	WHCIS	Special Education Paraprofessional	27 years of service
Kim Murphy Baker	WSNS	Assistant Principal	33 years
Jo-Ann Driscoll Dwyer	Healey	Special Education Teacher	5 years

Reassignments

We've had quite a few movements in and around the district with one of the biggest ones being the special education AIM program where several teachers and paraprofessional were reassigned from Capuano to AFAS and WHCIS.

We also had several **promotional opportunities** that became effective for the 2026-2027 school year:

Margaret DePasquale	New Director of Student Services	(formerly Principal of NW/FC)
Estephanie Lugo	New Assistant Director of Student Services	(formerly Assistant Principal at ESCS)
Patrick Melo	New Assistant Principal at NW/FC	(formerly the Dean at Healey)
Lindsay Weaver	New Assistant Principal at WSNS	(formerly Teacher for Newcomer Academy)
Kayla Mejia	Interim Theater Teacher at WHCIS	(formerly Building Sub at WHCIS)
Jennifer Martinez	New Head Clerk 1 at ESCS	(formerly Senior Clerk at ESCS)
Margaret Bolt	Dean of Students at Healey	(formerly Grade 2 teacher at Healey)
Jennifer Miranda	Interim ESL Specialist at WHCIS	(formerly Paraprofessional at WHCIS)

New Administrative Hire:

Meekerly Sanon	Chief Strategy and Operations Officer
Michele Shannon	Director of Equity and Excellence
Amelia Gorman	Director of Early Education and Care
Sheila Jacobo-Ahmed	Assistant Principal at Healey
Josephine Rizzo	HR Specialist
Christopher Bruno	Payroll Operations and Analytics Manager
Patricia Brady	ESL Department Chair at SHS
Hannya Lord	Dean of Students – SHS Elm Community
Nathaniel Hoston	Special Education Department Chair at WHCIS/Healey
Kamilla Esteves Silva	Social Worker for the Office of Basic Needs and Housing Support Services replacing Jennifer Ochoa
Olivia Oliveira	Head Clerk at WHCIS replacing Nancy Mcweeny

Resignations *(just a couple of notable ones)*

Brendan Sullivan	WHCIS	AIM Paraprofessional
Sabrina Soriano	Healey	Math Teacher
Hannah Stalberg	Kennedy	Special Education Teacher
Irma Calderon	SHS	Head Clerk 2
Debra Dixon	WHCIS	Library Media Specialist
Brittany Stein	WSNS	SPED Resource Room Teacher
Kenneth Peterson	SHS	Plumbing Instructor

Chair Dr. Ackman: Expressed appreciation for educators and administrators who have grown within the District, noting that supporting staff in becoming administrators, counselors, and other support professionals strengthens institutional knowledge and helps students feel seen and supported.

Rep. Lippens: Shared that she has met several former Somerville Public Schools students who now work for the District and spoke positively about their experiences, noting it as a testament to the District.

IV. REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES

A. School Committee Meeting for the Educational Programs and Instruction Subcommittee: May 29, 2026 (Member Pitone) *Tabled*

MOTION: There was a motion by Rep Biton seconded by Rep Green to approve the following Subcommittee meeting Finance and Facilities from June 17th, Rules Management from June 15th, Rules Management from July 9th, and Rules Management from August 20th

The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.

B. School Committee Meeting for the Finance and Facilities Subcommittee Meeting: June 17, 2026 (Member Green)

June 17th, Finance Sub-committee

In Attendance, A. Green, L. Biton, and E. Stellman. Also in attendance was CFO Beretta. There were also 2 people in the audience. The meeting was called to order at 7:01.

First on the agenda was the FY26 year-to-date budget and projections. As of June 12, the district had invested 90% of the \$19,116,847 non-personnel budget, with 21 of 32 departments at 90% or higher invested, ahead of last year's pace of 17 of 32 at the same point. Nine departments were running over budget, while several others remained under 65% invested. Remaining dollars are earmarked for reading and math curriculum, technology, and classroom furniture upgrades at West and East Somerville, with the district projected to end the year with a small balance split between the Special Ed Stabilization fund and capital projects. On the salary side, the Committee reviewed a budget of \$94,861,856 against \$82,501,160 invested, with a projected year-end balance of \$541,520 (0.6% of the salary budget), despite absorbing unbudgeted staffing needs, extraordinary substitute costs, and new CBA expenses.

The Committee then reviewed the May investment roll, totaling \$1,737,997.60 across strategic priorities including Wellness & Joy, Academic Excellence, and Equity & Access, with investments ranging from AV systems at two schools to mental health support vendors to instrument rentals for El Sistema. A motion to approve the May investment roll was moved by L. Biton and seconded by E. Stellman, which passed unanimously.

The Committee then reviewed the FY27 Budget Book, which compiles all budget presentation materials into one document. The book is now translation-ready in Spanish and Portuguese, with a detailed appendix of financial reports for transparency. Staff noted plans for earlier publication and a more accessible presentation next year.

Finally, the Committee reviewed its FY27 goals. Of the three set for the year, the district did not achieve 100% of non-personnel budgets at 90% invested. The other two, improving the precision of the budgeting process and producing the Budget Book, were both achieved. The floor was then opened for discussion on how to improve the Finance

SubCommittee for FY27.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm. The Committee's next meeting is scheduled for September, the first Finance Sub-Committee of FY27.

C. School Committee Meeting for the Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting: June 15, 2026
(Member Biton)

**Report to School Committee on the
Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting for June 15, 2026**

To: Somerville School Committee

From: Leiran Biton, Chair of the Rules Management Subcommittee

The School Committee (SC) Rules Management Subcommittee met on June 15, 2026, at the Somerville City Council Chambers.

Attending:

- *School Committee members: Leiran Biton, chair; Dr. Emma Stellman, vice chair; Michele Lippens.*

There was one member in the audience.

The chair called the subcommittee meeting to order and established quorum with Mr. Biton, Dr. Stellman, and Ms. Lippens present at 5:39 p.m.

1) Approval of the report from the May 18, 2026 Meeting

Approved.

2) MASC Policy Manual Review (Section J)

The subcommittee continued its comprehensive review of Section J.

- *Policy JII - Student Complaints and Grievances: The subcommittee reviewed updated language regarding mechanisms for students to appeal disciplinary decisions. Dr. Stellman and Ms. Lippens questioned the specific "appropriate channels" for these grievances and whether they are clearly defined for parents and students in school handbooks. Mr. Biton suggested that these details are often procedural handbook language rather than broad policy. The subcommittee tabled this policy to seek administrative input on whether the current grievance process is functioning effectively.*

- *Policy JJ - Co-Curricular and Extracurricular Activities: Dr. Stellman expressed concern regarding dated language in the Somerville version, specifically the phrase "developing wholesome attitudes". The subcommittee agreed the policy requires a significant update to align with 2026 standards. Dr. Stellman will take the lead on overhauling this policy for future review.*

- *Policy JJ-E - Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Activities (Exhibit): The subcommittee identified a need to modernize gender-related language, such as changing "both sexes" to "students of all genders". Dr. Stellman noted historical misalignments in resources provided for different athletic programs. The group also discussed the importance of codifying protections for transgender and non-binary athletes. Mr. Biton will relay a request for feedback on this policy to Athletic Director Vieira and the Director of Equity through the Superintendent.*

- *Policy JJA - Student Organizations: Member Lippens criticized the current criteria for student organizations (i.e., "contributing to student self-esteem and performance") as potentially limiting and difficult to measure. Dr. Stellman noted the high school version already aligns organizations with the school mission. The subcommittee tabled this item to search for existing, vetted language in current handbooks and to seek direct input from student representatives.*
- *Policy JJE - Student Fundraising Activities: The subcommittee reviewed the 2025 MASC model policy. The committee agreed on a change to the text from recognizing that families have different resources to "different priorities and resources." The group decided to consult student representatives for their insight into modern, peer-to-peer fundraising challenges before finalizing.*

Following a discussion on how to best reach student representatives, the chair committed to coordinate with staff to establish a process for adding subcommittee agenda items to student council meetings. This will allow the subcommittee to receive formal student feedback on policies like JJA and JJE starting in the fall.

The subcommittee plans to hold two virtual meetings over the summer in July and August to continue the manual review.

The chair adjourned the meeting at 6:28 p.m.

D. School Committee Meeting for the Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting: July 9, 2026 (Member Biton)

**Report to School Committee on the
Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting for July 9, 2026**

To: Somerville School Committee

From: Leiran Biton, Chair of the Rules Management Subcommittee

The School Committee (SC) Rules Management Subcommittee met on July 9, 2026, virtually on Zoom.

Attending:

- *School Committee: Leiran Biton, chair; Dr. Emma Stellman, vice chair; Michele Lippens.*
- *SPS: Darryl Nash, SPS Communications Director.*
- *Alicia Mallon, MASC Field Director*

There were two members in the audience.

The chair called the subcommittee meeting to order and established quorum with Mr. Biton, Dr. Stellman, and Ms. Lippens present at 5:36 p.m.

- 1) *Approval of the report from the June 15, 2026 Meeting*

Approved unanimously

- 2) *Harmful AI Policy*

Dr. Stellman, the lead for this item, provided an update on her research regarding the prevalence of harmful AI technology. She noted that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) recently issued statewide guidance and highlighted the federal "Take It Down" Act. Dr. Stellman emphasized the importance

of understanding what district leaders need and suggested internal education for administrators and seminars for parents and caregivers.

Mr. Nash informed the subcommittee that the **SPS data team** is already consulting DESE guidance on deepfakes and is working on policies related to data privacy, mental health, and misinformation from an academic/instructional standpoint.

The subcommittee agreed that Dr. Stellman will coordinate directly with the data team to draft a comprehensive policy. Superintendent Carmona is being kept informed of the progress.

3) MASC Policy Manual Review (Sections J and K)

The subcommittee continued its comprehensive review of Section J.

- **Policy JJF - Student Activity Accounts:** Ms. Mallon recommended the **MASC version** to align with 2021 state fiscal requirements. Ms. Lippens noted a need for consistency between district policy and individual school handbooks. The subcommittee **approved** the MASC version with minor customization for district-specific titles.
- **Policy JJF-R - Student Activity Fund Management:** The subcommittee voted to **remove** this policy because the language is procedural and belongs in administrative operating manuals rather than the policy manual.
- **Policy JJG - Contests for Students:** Ms. Lippens expressed concern that contests can impose unreasonable workloads on staff and disrupt instructional time. This item was **tabled** for administration review to determine if these protections can be integrated into Policy JJE.
- **Policy JJGA - Citation Policy:** The subcommittee agreed to **remove** this policy as it does not reflect current practice and is not legally required as a standalone policy.
- **Policy JJH - Student Late Night or Overnight Travel:** Somerville does not currently have a Policy JJH. The subcommittee agreed to adopt the MASC version, noting that School Committee approval is required for out-of-state or overnight trips.
- **Policy JJH-R - Student Travel Regulations:** Somerville does not currently have a Policy JJH-R. The subcommittee agreed to adopt the MASC version.
- **Policy JJIB - Interscholastic Athletics:** The group recommended the Somerville policy with minor updates from MASC for clarity and policy-cross referencing.
- **Policy JJIF - Concussion Policy:** Ms. Mallon flagged that certain nursing procedures regarding postural testing are under review by MASC legal counsel. Dr. Stellman noted the science in this area is rapidly evolving. This item was **tabled** for further review by MASC.
- **Policy JJIF-R - Concussion Regulations:** This item was **tabled** for further review by MASC.
- **Policy JK - Student Conduct:** The subcommittee noted the Somerville and MASC versions match. No action was recommended.
- **Policy JKA - Corporal Punishment:** The subcommittee recommended **removing** this policy as it is redundant and covered under Policy JKAA.

- **Policy JKAA - Physical Restraint of Students:** This item was **tabled** to incorporate new DESE guidance regarding seclusion and "time out" procedures.
- **Policy JKF - Student Conduct - Special Needs Students:** Ms. Mallon recommended removal, stating the language belongs in IEPs. Mr. Biton and Dr. Stellman expressed a preference for keeping it to ensure families feel their rights are clearly codified. The policy was **tabled** for administrative review. Mr. Biton volunteered to be the primary contact.
- **Policy JL - Student Welfare:** The subcommittee recommended the MASC update, which adds cross-references and grammatical fixes to the Somerville version.
- **Policy JLA - Student Insurance Program:** The subcommittee recommended to **remove** this policy as it is outdated; the district maintains general insurance that is not a standalone "student program".
- **Policy JLC - Student Health Services and Requirements:** The group recommended **approving** the MASC version. Mr. Nash confirmed that current practice involves notifying the School Committee of major incidents (e.g., when an ambulance is called) while maintaining student privacy.
- **Policy JLCA - Physical Examinations of Students:** **Tabled** for the next meeting.

The chair adjourned the meeting at **6:30 p.m.** following a unanimous roll call vote.

E. School Committee Meeting for the Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting: August 20, 2026
(Member Biton)

**Report to School Committee on the
Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting for August 20, 2026**

To: Somerville School Committee

From: Leiran Biton, Chair of the Rules Management Subcommittee

The School Committee (SC) Rules Management Subcommittee met on August 20, 2026, via Zoom.

Attending:

- School Committee: Leiran Biton, chair; Dr. Emma Stellman, vice chair; Michele Lippens.
- SPS: Darryl Nash, SPS Communications Director.
- Alicia Mallon, MASC Field Director

The chair called the subcommittee meeting to order at 5:32 p.m., establishing a quorum with all members present. The subcommittee proceeded to review the agenda items in the order listed, except for taking item 4 before item 3.

1) Approval of the report from the July 9, 2026 meeting

The report from the July 9, 2026 meeting was recommended to the full committee for **approval**, with a motion by Ms. Lippens and a second by Dr. Stellman with all members voting in favor.

2) Harmful AI Policy

Dr. Stellman reported that she has not yet held a formal meeting with the district's data staff, though they are working on related materials. Ms. Mallon reported that MASC field directors and legal counsel are conducting a comprehensive review of their policy manual and plan to compile an AI policy for districts, as well as add provisions related to deepfakes to standard harassment and bullying policies rather than creating a standalone policy. To address immediate district needs, Dr. Stellman proposed drafting a short interim placeholder to integrate into the existing harassment policy. Ms. Mallon recommended also reviewing the bullying policy and adding digital bullying and harassment rules to the district's Acceptable Use Agreement, which is managed by the district rather than the School Committee, noting this aligned with recommendations from a Stanford institute. Dr. Stellman agreed to draft this short integration to present at the next meeting.

3) *MASC Policy Manual Review (Sections J and K)*

The subcommittee continued its review of Section J.

- **Policy JLCB - Immunization of Students:** *Ms. Mallon recommended adopting the MASC version, which rewrites the introduction to require a physician's certificate for any student registering in the district rather than distinguishing first-time admissions from transfers. The subcommittee agreed to **adopt the MASC version**.*

- **Policy JLCC - Communicable Diseases:** *Ms. Mallon presented MASC updates, including changing "children" to "students", replacing the specific term "acquired immune deficiency syndrome" with "chronic life-threatening illnesses", and updating "handicap" to "disabled". Mr. Biton proposed changing "disabled student" to "student with disabilities" and suggested a minor grammatical edit in the second paragraph. The subcommittee requested that the draft be reviewed by Director of School Health Services Liz Quaratiello, and Dr. Stellman suggested encouraging Ms. Quaratiello to update any procedures or outdated medical language. The item was **tabled** pending this review.*

- **Policy JLCD - Administering Medicines to Students:** *Ms. Mallon presented MASC's updated 2026 JLCD policy, which covers the self-administration and self-carry of inhalers, enzyme supplements, insulin, and epinephrine. The subcommittee recommended that the policy be **tabled** pending review by the health department and Ms. Quaratiello.*

- **Policy JLCDC - Self-administration and Self-Carry of Medications:** *Ms. Mallon presented MASC's new companion policy to JLCD that describes self-carry of medications. The committee **tabled** this policy pending review by the health department and Ms. Quaratiello.*

- **Policy JLCDD - Managing Life-Threatening Food Allergies in the Educational Environment:** *Ms. Mallon noted that MASC does not have a model policy for this because it typically belongs in handbooks, but Somerville has historically maintained a standalone policy. The group debated whether to keep the policy or move it entirely to student handbooks. Dr. Stellman emphasized the need to understand from school principals and other stakeholders (e.g., food services) what enduring problems they face and what support they need. Ms. Mallon also noted that this guidance is useful for outside groups using school spaces, such as Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) and afterschool programs. Ms. Lippens asked whether we also need a policy about training educators on the use of certain treatments (e.g., EpiPens). The subcommittee agreed to **table** the decision about moving the policy to the handbook pending stakeholder and administrative input (nutrition, health).*

- **Policy JLCDD-R - Life-Threatening Food Allergies Guidelines:** *The subcommittee*

agreed to **table** this policy for review alongside Policy JLCDD.

· **Policy JLCE - Students with Comfort Care / Do Not Resuscitate Orders/Medical Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment:** Ms. Mallon noted that this policy is highly procedural and typically lives in individual health plans, but suggested there might be a historical or litigation-related reason for its inclusion in the policy manual. Dr. Stellman requested that the subcommittee research the historical background of the policy before routing it for administrative review. The subcommittee agreed to **table** the policy pending this historical investigation.

· **Policy JLD - Guidance Program:** Ms. Mallon recommended removing this policy from the manual, as it is procedural and more appropriate for Section I or programmatic documents. The subcommittee agreed to recommend **removal** of the policy.

· **Policy JLD-E - Guidance Program:** Ms. Mallon recommended removing this policy from the manual. The subcommittee agreed to recommend **removal** of the policy.

· **Policy JLDBA - Trauma Sensitive Schools Vision Statement:** Ms. Mallon suggested checking if the statement still aligns with the current mission. Mr. Biton and Dr. Stellman recommended removing it because it functions as an aspirational vision statement rather than an actionable policy, and maintaining loose ends in policy documents can create future problems. The subcommittee agreed to recommend its **removal**.

4) Policy JKAA - Time-out, Seclusion, and Physical Restraint of Students

Ms. Mallon shared a completely rewritten version of Policy JKAA, updated to encompass a comprehensive "Time-out, Seclusion, and Physical Restraint of Students" policy based directly on recent Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) guidance. Dr. Stellman noted that the checklist-oriented, operational format of the policy is highly useful for educators making rapid decisions. Ms. Mallon noted that although procedures are typically kept separate from high-level policy, MASC legal counsel included these details because DESE indicated districts must have them.

In response to questions from Ms. Lippens and Dr. Stellman regarding parent notification timeframes, Ms. Mallon clarified that the policy requires reasonable efforts to verbally notify parents within 24 hours and send a written report within three school working days. Dr. Stellman, Ms. Lippens, and Mr. Nash discussed collaborating with the special education department to ensure alignment with their procedures.

The subcommittee unanimously **approved** a motion by Ms. Lippens with a second by Dr. Stellman to send draft Policy JKAA to the full School Committee for a first reading, pending input from the administration.

The chair adjourned the meeting at **6:18pm** following a 2-0 vote (Ms. Lippens left at 6:15pm).

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Field Trips (Recommended Action: Approval)

MOTION: There was a motion by Rep. Lippens seconded by Rep Biton to approve a field trip for Sept 23, 2026- Sept 25, 2026 56- six grade students from the Argenziano School will visit Nature's Classroom in Groton, MA. Travel via bus, student cost \$0-

The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote.

B. SY26 Somerville High School Diploma:(Recommended action: Approval)

MOTION: There was a motion by Dr. Stellman seconded by Rep Biton to approve SY26 Somerville High school diploma for *Cadnan Said*

The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote

C. Somerville Public Schools Policy Manual

The following policy is being presented this evening for the **first** reading

- File- JKAA Time-out, Seclusion, and Physical Restraint of Students

Rep. Biton: Explained that JKAA, regarding time-out, seclusion, and physical restraint of students, is a template policy provided by MASC. He noted that DESE recently updated its requirements and that districts are expected to have the policy in place at the start of the school year. The policy is currently under administrative review, and the Committee was provided a first reading while the Rules Subcommittee continues its review. The goal is to expedite the adoption process and bring the policy back to the full Committee with final feedback.

Rep. Green: Asked whether JKAA is a new policy or an update to an existing policy and requested clarification on the changes and the District's current policy.

Dr. Stellman: Noted that she serves on the Policy and Rules Committee with Rep. Lippens and explained that the updated policy includes specific language required by MASC and DESE, leaving limited flexibility. She agreed that providing a comparison of the previous and updated policies would be helpful and offered to share it.

Chair Dr. Ackman: Stated that providing the comparison should not delay a vote at the next meeting and that it will be included in the packet when available.

Rep. Green: Explained that, given the extent of the required changes, understanding the context and how the updated policy relates to the existing policy would be helpful.

Vice Chair Pitone: Clarified that the current JKAA policy, adopted in 2015, is relatively brief and that most of the updated policy will consist of new language. She agreed to provide a comparison and additional context in the packet when the policy returns to the Committee.

Dr. Stellman: Emphasized the importance of involving key stakeholders and noted that, while the policy includes language required by DESE and MASC, the District can still make changes specific to its needs. She stressed the value of educator input and a thorough review of the policy, including comparing the previous and updated versions, to ensure important language and practices are not unintentionally removed.

Rep. Pitone: Clarified that the current version is based on the MASC template with minor language edits. She noted that the next packet will include both the previous and updated versions and requested a summary of the key changes to help the Committee understand the overall shift in the policy.

Rep. Green: Added that it would be helpful to identify which provisions are required by DESE or MASC and where the District has flexibility to make changes based on its needs.

Rep. Eldridge: Asked when the second reading and vote on JKAA will take place and how community members can provide feedback or share relevant experiences with the Rules Subcommittee.

Vice Chair Pitone: Explained that the timing of the second reading may be adjusted because the next Rules Subcommittee meeting is immediately before the next full Committee meeting, potentially moving the second reading to early October. She encouraged community members to provide feedback through public comment, email, or by contacting any School Committee member. She noted that Rep. Lippens and Dr. Stellman also serve on the Rules Subcommittee.

Chair Dr. Ackman: Yes. And that is listed on our website. Great. Anything else? Thank you. We will have a second reading at some point. All right. And just to echo what the vice chair said he has been leading a yeoman's effort to update language intent like really pour through our uh policies and make sure that they are in line with our values and our actions. and hats off to you and to the members and please keep up the good work.

D. Cumming School Warming Center

Rep. Pitone: Asked about the MOU's September 2026 start date and whether it would be retroactively effective if the Committee does not vote until its next meeting. She also asked whether any work covered by the MOU would proceed before the vote.

Mayor Wilson: Explained that little work is required at this time and that the work is expected to occur closer to the start of colder weather. He did not anticipate any work being needed before the next meeting.

Rep. Green: Noted that the Committee had raised concerns last year about emergency building plans and that the requested plan has still not been provided. He asked for an update on the warming center's operations and outcome data from previous winters, as well as a status update on efforts to address the concerns raised by the Committee.

Mayor Wilson: Agreed to share available data from HHS and explained that the City is working to identify a more suitable location for the warming center. He noted that the City had hoped to relocate it before this winter but did not have sufficient time and will continue exploring alternatives to the Prescott Street location.

Chair Dr. Ackman: Stated that the Committee will vote on the matter at a future meeting,

E. Acceptance of FY27 Grants Funds (Recommended action: approval)

MOTION: There was a motion by Rep Biton seconded by Rep. Eldridge To accept all federal entitlement and continuation grants and all state continuation grants awarded to the Somerville Public Schools listed below:

Private

Morris Bender Foundation- Argenziano School – 12,500.00

State:

Metro North Regional -SCALE PACMAN Follow-up- \$6,000.00

Adult Ed. & Family Literacy-SCALE- \$732,519.00

Federal

Adult Ed. & Family Literacy – SCALE-\$183,130.00

The motion was approved unanimously via roll call vote

Rep. Pitone: Asked whether the grants were additive grants or operating grants.

Dr. Boston Davis: Explained that these are entitlement grants that support District operations, including Title II grants used to support SCALE operations.

Rep. Pitone: Suggested that future grant presentations distinguish between traditional operating grants and additive grants. She noted that this distinction would help the Committee understand which grants are essential to ongoing operations and which provide additional funding for new or expanded programming. She commended SCALE for its success in securing additional grant funding.

Chair Dr. Ackman: Agreed that the distinction would be helpful.

Rep. Green: Built on Rep. Pitone's suggestion and asked that the Committee also receive a five-year history of these grants. She noted that many of the grants are enrollment-based and that funding was significantly impacted following the pandemic, and said the historical data would help the Committee understand funding trends since that time.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. MSBA UPDATE

Superintendent Carmona: Reported that the District reached an important milestone by submitting the Preferred Schematic Report to MSBA. He noted that the District is expected to present to MSBA in September to respond to questions regarding educational programming and the proposed design. He stated that the Mayor, architects, and District representatives are expected to participate. He shared that the Committee is anticipated to vote on the next phase in October, followed by the schematic design phase, which will return to the Committee for review and approval. He also noted that the ad hoc committee continues to work on data and school assignment catchment areas. Community engagement will remain ongoing, and the District continues to meet regularly with the Building Committee to monitor progress.

Chair Dr. Ackman: Shared that the School Assignment Advisory Committee is nearly finalized and announced that, pending final confirmation, Rep. Green will serve as Chair and Rep. Pitone as Vice Chair. She expressed excitement about launching the committee in the coming month and thanked community members, educators, and administrators for their willingness and enthusiasm to participate in the work.

VII. COMMUNITY OR CALENDAR ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Chair Dr. Ackman: Returned to Community and Calendar Items and provided an update on the public comment microphone issue. She explained that, because the current microphone cannot be muted from the Committee's table, there are concerns about potential legal liability. She emphasized that the Committee values public comment from community members and union representatives. She noted that the City proposed an alternative microphone setup that would require District funding, which would involve reallocating previously approved funds. Chair Dr. Ackman stated that she brought the matter before the Committee because of the budget implications. She also shared that Council President Davis had recently been made aware of the issue and suggested that the Chair, Mayor Wilson, and Council President Davis discuss the matter together to identify a solution without requiring a budget reallocation.

Mayor Wilson: Apologized for arriving late and shared that he followed up with the City regarding the microphone issue. He recalled being told previously that the wiring was buried, making the system difficult and costly to troubleshoot. He said he has asked the City to reexamine whether the existing mechanism could be replaced and expressed his willingness to work with the Committee to resolve the issue.

Chair Dr. Ackman: Expressed the Committee's desire to resolve the microphone issue as quickly as possible. She noted that if the issue is not resolved before the next meeting, she will work with City staff to identify an interim solution, including the possibility of holding public comment remotely. She thanked Mayor Wilson for his willingness to collaborate and then invited members to raise additional community or calendar items.

Rep. Pitone: Clarified that the estimated cost to address the microphone issue is approximately \$2,000, not \$1 million. She noted that the issue appears to be a City Hall facility matter rather than an issue specific to the School Committee and expressed hope that the City could fund the necessary repairs so the chambers can function as intended.

Dr. Boston Davis: Shared that the District's rock-climbing wall will soon be operational and announced that SPS educators and the K-12 Health and Physical Education Department Chair will be featured on Channel 5 News at 6:15 a.m. the following morning during a segment highlighting community programs.

Chair Dr. Ackman: Expressed enthusiasm about the rock-climbing wall being utilized after the Committee had approved insurance coverage for it in previous years. She thanked Dr. Boston Davis for the update.

VIII. UPCOMING MEETING TOPICS

- **September**
 - **Enrollment Update, School Readiness (DPW/IAM)**

Chair Dr. Ackman: Previewed upcoming September meeting topics, including an enrollment update and a school readiness update from DPW and IAM. She noted that these are typical early fall updates and said the Committee looks forward to the presentations.

Mayor Wilson: Shared that fall varsity and JV sports are beginning and encouraged community members to support student athletes. He directed families to Arbiter, the website and app used to track athletic schedules, including practices and games.

Chair Dr. Ackman: Encouraged the community to support the Highlanders and thanked Mayor Wilson for the reminder.

IX. CONDOLENCES

The Somerville School Committee extends its deepest condolences to the families of

- ***Eleanor T. "Ellie" Blute, Retired September 9, 2008 - Parent Coordinator Tier 1 at Winter Hill Innovation Community Schools***
- **Brenda Horowitz**, Mother of Michael Horowitz, OST Site Director at the Capuano
- **Manuel Centeio** - Grandfather of Kayla Centeio, Health Coordinator for Somerville Public Schools
- **Jose "Joe" Natalino Cardoso** - Father of Jennifer Quinlan MLE Teacher at the Argenziano School and husband of Teresa Cardoso School Committee Member for SPS for more than 20 years
- **Jerry H. Berke** - Father of Elly Berke ESL Specialist at the East Somerville Community School
- **Thomas N. McLaren** - Was an employee of Somerville Public Schools 1988-1991 serving as an Art teacher at the Kennedy and substitute teacher district wide. Father of Leila McLaren, District Substitute and After School Behavior Specialist Argenziano. Husband of Wanda Finigian McLaren, Special Education 1988-2025, 20 years at the Kennedy and 17 years at the Healey, currently part-time Argenziano
- **Charles E. McElroy Sr.** - Father of Richard McElroy, SHS - CTE Instructor in the Graphic Design and Visual Communications Department.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Related documents:

Agenda

[Superintendent Update](#)

[DPW School Building Readiness Memo](#)

[School Readiness \(DPW/IAM\)](#)

Submitted by: G. Silveira/E Garcia

Attach Documents Starting on the next page

CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL
REGULAR MEETING – AUGUST 31, 2026 – 7:00 P.M.

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2026, this meeting of the School Committee will be conducted via hybrid participation.

We will post an audio recording, audio-video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of these proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting on the City of Somerville website and local cable access government channels.

To watch this Regular School Committee meeting live from home please visit the following link:
somervillema.gov/GovTVLive

To listen live to the simultaneous interpretation of this Regular meeting in Spanish, Portuguese or Haitian Creole, please join this Zoom Webinar and choose your desired language by clicking the interpretation globe:

https://k12somerville.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fEybH8XsQambWRiEVB_luQ

Meeting ID: 816 6195 4443

Password: SPSSC26

Somerville Public Schools - School Committee Goals 2023 - 2025

In order to address the root causes of systemic inequity in our schools, the Somerville School Committee and SPS commit to the following goals, knowing that these can only be achieved through ensuring meaningful partnerships with Somerville families, district staff, city government, and community partners. Our goals attempt to address deep-rooted systemic barriers that have prevented us from achieving our district vision of equity and excellence and ensure that all students, regardless of race or ethnicity, have the supports and resources they need to achieve educational success in our district now and in the future.

1. Whole Child Teaching and Learning... we will:

- prepare students to demonstrate strong literacy and mathematics foundation by grade 3, grade 6, and grade 10
- provide all students with integrated classroom lessons from a high quality social-emotional learning curriculum that helps students value and develop their ability to build relationships with other students, to be self aware and socially aware, to self regulate, and to make responsible decisions
- expand access to real-world learning experiences through students' participation in Early College, Advanced Placement courses, CTE, and/or other learning experiences that help students build critical 21st century skills, meeting with their college and career counselor in their junior and senior year, and students graduating with a defined post-secondary plan.

2. Equitable Access to Programming... we will conduct a district enrollment study to understand the prospective future population of the district and create and begin implementing a strategy for school building development, school assignment, and programming that aligns with the district's equity policy, and which is based on results of the enrollment study and the projected 10+ year plan for school facilities.

3. Workforce Diversity... we will increase the percentage of support staff of color, teachers and counselors of color, and administrators of color by 6% per group compared to SY22 rates through evaluating and strengthening all elements of our personnel system – recruitment, processes, training, retention, development, advancement, and staff data collection systems on which we base and measure our improvement efforts.

4. Equitable Resource Allocation... we will design, evaluate, and partially or fully implement student-based budgeting by 2025, or identify alternative mechanisms to more equitably allocate district resources.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

I. CALL TO ORDER

Call to order with a moment of silence and a salute to the flag of the United States of America.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- June 8, 2026
- June 15, 2026
- Special Meeting of the Whole August 10, 2026
- Special Meeting of the Whole August 17, 2026

III. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT**A. District Report**

- School Readiness (DPW/IAM)

B. Personnel Report

- June/July/ August

IV. REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEES**A. School Committee Meeting for the Educational Programs and Instruction Subcommittee: May 29, 2026 (Member Pitone)**

MOTION: To accept the report of the Educational Programs subcommittee Meeting for May 29, 2026

B. School Committee Meeting for the Finance and Facilities Subcommittee Meeting: June 17, 2026 (Member Green)

MOTION: To accept the report of the Finance and Facilities subcommittee Meeting for June 17, 2026

B. School Committee Meeting for the Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting: June 15, 2026 (Member Biton)

MOTION: To accept the report of the Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting for June 15, 2026

C. School Committee Meeting for the Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting: July 9, 2026 (Member Biton)

MOTION: To accept the report of the Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting for July 9, 2026

D. School Committee Meeting for the Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting: August 20, 2026 (Member Biton)

MOTION: To accept the report of the Rules Management Subcommittee Meeting for August 20, 2026

V. NEW BUSINESS**A. Field Trips (Recommended Action: Approval)**

Sept 23, 2026-Sept 25, 2026,

56- six grade students from the Argenziano School will visit Nature's Classroom in Groton, MA. Travel via bus, student cost \$0- * PTA will fund all students

B. SY26 Somerville High School Diploma:(Recommended action: Approval)

Cadnan Said

C. Somerville Public Schools Policy Manual

The following policy is being presented this evening for the first reading

- file- JKAA Time-out, Seclusion, and Physical Restraint of Students

D. Acceptance of FY27 Grants Funds (Recommended action: approval)

MOTION: To accept all federal entitlement and continuation grants and all state continuation grants awarded to the Somerville Public Schools listed below:

Private

Morris Bender Foundation- Argenziano School – 12,500.00

State:

Metro North Regional -SCALE PACMAN Follow-up- \$6,000.00

Adult Ed. & Family Literacy-SCALE- \$732,519.00

Federal

Adult Ed. & Family Literacy – SCALE-\$183,130.00

The items listed are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting. Not all items may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**A. MSBA Update****VII. COMMUNITY OR CALENDAR ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

- Sept 28 Regular Meeting
- Joint MASC & MASS Conference Nov 4-6, 2026

VIII. UPCOMING MEETING TOPICS

- September
 - Enrollment Update, School Readiness (DPW/IAM)

IX. CONDOLENCE**X. ADJOURNMENT**

For Simultaneous Interpretation in Spanish, Portuguese and Haitian Creole See below:

Español - Para Interpretación

Para ver la Reunión Regular del Comité Escolar el 31 de agosto a las 7:00, en vivo desde casa, visite el siguiente enlace y elija GovTV: <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/communications-and-community-engagement/somerville-city-tv>

Para escuchar en vivo la interpretación simultánea de la Reunión Regular en español, portugués o criollo haitiano, únase a este Zoom y elija el idioma que desee haciendo clic al globo de interpretación:

https://k12somerville.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fEybhBXsQambWRiEVB_luQ

Identificación de la reunión: 816 6195 4443

Contraseña: SPSSC26

Português - Para Interpretação

Para assistir à Reunião Regular do Comitê Escolar 31 de agosto às 7:00, ao vivo de casa, visite o seguinte link e selecione GovTV: <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/communications-and-community-engagement/somerville-city-tv>

Para ouvir ao vivo a tradução simultânea da Assembleia Ordinária em espanhol, português ou crioulo haitiano, entre neste Zoom e escolha o idioma desejado clicando no balão de interpretação:

https://k12somerville.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fEybhBXsQambWRiEVB_luQ

ID da reunião: 816 6195 4443

Senha: SPSC26

Kreyòl ayisyen - Pou entèpretasyon

Pou gade reyinyon regilye Komite Lekòl la 31 Out a 7:00, an dirèk nan kay la, vizite lyen sa a epi chwazi GovTV: <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/communications-and-community-engagement/somerville-city-tv>

Pou w tande entèpretasyon similtane Reyinyon Regilye a an panyòl, pòtigè oswa kreyòl ayisyen an, rantre nan Zoom sa a epi chwazi lang ou vle a lè w klike sou balon entèpretasyon an:

https://k12somerville.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fEybhBXsQambWRiEVB_luQ

Reyinyon ID: 816 6195 4443

Modpas: SPSSC26

The items listed are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting. Not all items may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law