



CITY COUNCIL

ROUNDTABLE/WORKING MEETING

~ MINUTES ~

Monday, January 30, 2023

5:30 PM

Remote Meeting

I. Call to Order

Attendee Name	Present	Absent	Late	Arrived
Burhan Azeem	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Dennis J. Carlone	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Alanna Mallon	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Marc C. McGovern	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Patricia Nolan	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
E. Denise Simmons	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Paul F. Toner	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Quinton Zondervan	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Sumbul Siddiqui	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

UPDATED MEETING NOTICE: This meeting will be remote only via Zoom. Please join via Zoom by clicking on the following link: <https://cambridgema.zoom.us/j/97895847144> The City Council and School Committee will hold a Joint Budget Roundtable/Working meeting to discuss Cambridge Public Schools FY24 Budget Priorities.

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT ROUNDTABLE/WORKING MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL AND THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
Monday, January 30, 2023**

A Joint Roundtable/Working Meeting of the Cambridge City Council and the School Committee was held on Monday, January 30, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by the Honorable Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui. Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2022 adopted by the Massachusetts General Assembly and approved by the Governor, this public meeting was remote only via zoom.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui called the meeting to order and asked the Clerk to call the roll of both bodies.

City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll of the Cambridge City Council.

Councillor Burhan Azeem – Present
Councillor Dennis J. Carlone – Present
Vice Mayor Alanna M. Mallon – Present
Councillor Marc C. McGovern – Present
Councillor Patricia Nolan – Present
Councillor E. Denise Simmons – Present
Councillor Paul Toner – Present
Councillor Quinton Y. Zondervan – Present
Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Present

Present-9. Quorum established.

City Clerk LeBlanc called the roll of the Cambridge School Committee

School Committee Member Alfred Fantini - Present
School Committee Member Caroline Hunter - Present
School Committee Member Jose Luis Rojas - Present
School Committee Member David Weinstein - Present
School Committee Member Vice Chair, Rachel Weinstein - Present
School Committee Member Ayesha Wilson - Absent
Chair, Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui – Present

Present-6, Absent-1. Quorum established.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui led the Pledge of Allegiance and called for a moment of silence.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui noted that pursuant to City Council Rule 24 C2, this is a roundtable/working meeting and there shall be no public comment. The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui further noted that written comments will be accepted and made part of the record of the roundtable meeting and the opportunity for the public to make oral comments on items discussed at this meeting shall be at the regular meeting at which the item may be considered for action by the City Council.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui stated that the purpose of this Joint Roundtable/Working Meeting was to discuss Cambridge Public Schools FY24 Budget Priorities.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Superintendent, Dr. Victoria Greer who noted that she looks forward to discussing and sharing information on the budget process and where they are right now to be able to develop a budget for the school committee. Superintendent Greer introduced the Co-Chairs who helped to facilitate the process. It was noted that there have been many internal and community conversations about budget.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized City Manager Huang who noted that there have been close conversations with the Finance Team for City and the School Department, and he is excited about budget season and supporting the process.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized School Committee Vice Chair, Rachel Weinstein who noted that she looks forward to the conversation to hear what the Council thoughts are on the budget and noted that this year the School Department will be able provide more context about the budget. The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized School Committee Member Jose Luis Rojas who offered similar comments.

Superintendent Greer and Chief Financial Officer Clair Spinner gave a presentation titled, FY2024 Budget City Council/School Committee Joint Meeting, which is attached to these minutes. They reviewed the District focus and initiatives for 2022-2025 as it relates to the 3 year District Plan, provided and update on where the focus is this year, and where the focus will be in FY24 and provided an overview of the budget process. **After the presentation, the Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized Councillors for comments and questions. Superintendent Greer, Chief Financial Officer Spinner, Dr. Omolara Fatiregun and other members of the team responded.**

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui recognized City Manager Huang and Superintendent Greer for closing comments.

The Chair, Mayor Siddiqui also offered closing comments and noted that the next Joint Roundtable/Working Meeting would be on Universal Pre-K.

Noting that there was no additional business, the Chair of both bodies, Mayor Siddiqui, declared the meeting to be adjourned shortly after 7:30 p.m.

Attachment: Presentation “FY2024 Budget City Council/School Committee Joint Meeting”

Clerk’s Note: The City of Cambridge/22 City View records every City Council meeting and every City Council Committee meeting. This is a permanent record. The video for this meeting can be viewed at:

https://cambridgema.granicus.com/player/clip/425?view_id=1&redirect=true&h=730dc4a4ab099c3b37599fbf991f2b8f



FY 2024 Budget

City Council/School Committee Joint Meeting



Agenda

- District focus and initiatives 2022-2025
- Budget Process
- Discussion



CAMBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

High Expectations ● Equitable Opportunity ● Joy of Learning ● Wellness

VISION

Cambridge Public Schools is widely recognized as an institution of excellence. **Our schools** deliver an inclusive, safe, high-quality learning experience that cultivates every student's potential, works to dismantle educational inequities, and strengthens family and community partnerships.

Our students are critical thinkers, lifelong learners, and builders of a more equitable society who graduate prepared to make informed choices about their future.

MISSION

Cambridge Public Schools delivers an excellent education that **inspires, acknowledges, empowers, and supports** every student on their personal journey to achieve their highest potential in and beyond school and as productive members of their communities.



Sense of Belonging ● Personal & Collective Responsibility ● Partnership

● Continuous Improvement

What are the district's priorities?

CPS's 2022-2025 District Plan is focused on four Objectives
Resources are aligned to support attainment of these objectives



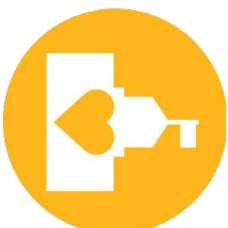
OBJECTIVE 1:
Deliver Ambitious
Instruction &
Effective Supports



OBJECTIVE 2:
Provide Accessible
College & Career
Pathways



OBJECTIVE 3:
Effective Staff
Learning & Support



OBJECTIVE 4:
Build Welcoming &
Supportive Schools
& District

The four Objectives will be advanced through 12 specific Strategic Initiatives



OBJECTIVE 1:
Deliver Ambitious
Instruction & Effective
Supports



OBJECTIVE 2:
Provide Accessible
College & Career
Pathways



OBJECTIVE 3:
Implement Effective Staff
Learning & Support



OBJECTIVE 4:
Build Welcoming &
Supportive Schools &
District

1. Define a **districtwide instructional framework** that guides consistent, high-quality instruction in every classroom.

4. Collaborate to implement city-wide plan for **universal preschool** to promote equitable access as a foundation for student success.

7. Strengthen and expand **educator and leader career pathway programs**, prioritizing hard-to-staff roles and diversification of staff.

10. Improve **families access to resources** within and beyond CPS.

2. Align **instructional practices and resources** to instructional framework across content areas and grade bands.

5. Implement a system of **individualized student success planning and supports** that prepare students for effective transitions and post-graduation success.

8. Establish a **comprehensive, role-based professional learning strategy and system** that improves practices in alignment with district vision.

11. Promote positive school cultures and climate through district-wide vision of **inclusive and restorative discipline policies and practices**.

3. Establish robust **multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS)** to support students' academic, social, emotional, and behavioral needs.

6. Embed **college & career exploration and experiences** across the JK-12 continuum.





9. **Improve evaluation systems** for all staff to support professional growth as part of a culture of continuous improvement.

12. Develop a **multi-year facilities improvement plan** based on pending building study.

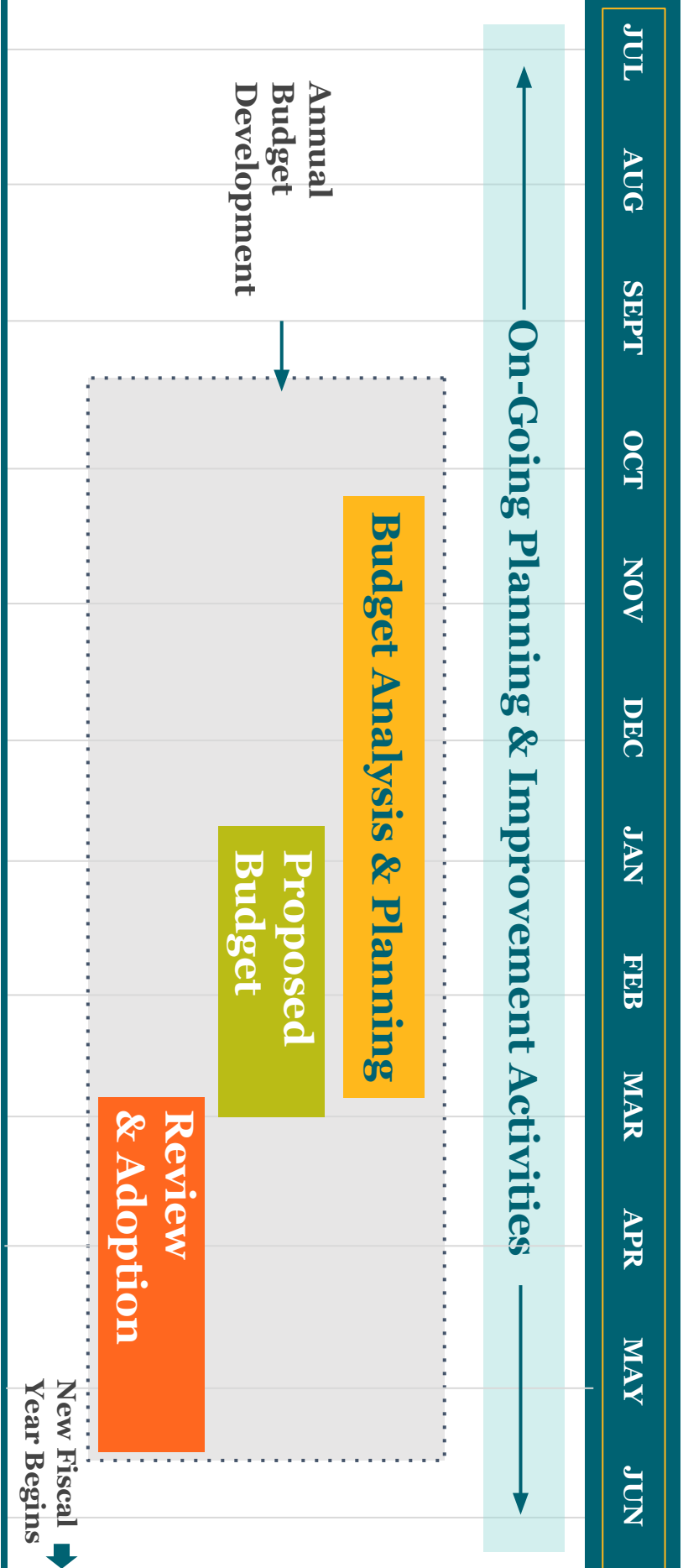
Summary: District Plan Targets

Indicators		Proposed Target for 2025
Literacy & math*	<p>Aspirational: 100% of students meet grade-level expectations</p> <p><i>By 2025:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">100% of students make at least moderate growth90% of students who are "not meeting / partially meeting grade-level standards" achieve "high growth"Increase Mean SGP for "high-needs" students from "moderate growth" to "high growth"	
Chronic absenteeism*	<p>Annually reduce number of chronically absent students by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Gr. 1-8: 2023: 1.7 percentage points <i>2024:</i> 2 percentage points <i>2025:</i> 2 percentage pointsGr. 9-12: 2023: 2.5 percentage points <i>2024:</i> 5 percentage points <i>2025:</i> 7 percentage points	
Overage and undercredited*	<p>By 2025, reduce number of overage and under-credited students by 75%</p>	
Individual student success planning	<p>By 2025, 95% of eligible students will complete grade level milestones on the MyCAP (My Career & Academic Plan) individual student success plan</p>	
Advanced coursework participation*	<p>By 2025, the percent of students participating in advanced coursework increases by 5% and reflects the student population</p>	
Earned college credits or industry recognized credential	<p>By 2025, the percent of students earning college credits or industry recognized credentials increases by 5% and reflects the student population</p>	
Graduation rates*	<p>By 2025, increase:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">4-year rate to 93% for all students and each student groupextended year rate to 95% for all students and each student group	

Annual Focus Initiatives

District Plan Objective & Initiative		Year 1: FY23	Year 2: FY24	Year 3: FY25
	1. Instructional framework	FOCUS	Continuous improvement, expansion, alignment	Continuous improvement, expansion, alignment
	2. Aligned instructional resources	Pre-work	FOCUS	Continuous improvement, expansion, alignment
	3. Multi-tiered systems of support	Pre-work	FOCUS	Continuous improvement, expansion, alignment
	4. Universal preschool	FOCUS	FOCUS	FOCUS - LAUNCH
	5. Individual student success planning	FOCUS	Continuous improvement, expansion, alignment	Continuous improvement, expansion, alignment
	6. College & career experiences	Pre-work	FOCUS	Continuous improvement, expansion, alignment
	7. Staff pathways	FOCUS	Continuous improvement, expansion, alignment	Continuous improvement, expansion, alignment
	8. Professional learning	Pre-work	FOCUS	FOCUS
	9. Evaluation Systems	FOCUS	FOCUS	FOCUS
	10. Family access to resources	FOCUS	Continuous improvement, expansion, alignment	Continuous improvement, expansion, alignment
	11. Discipline (behavioral expectations, policies, and practices)	Pre-work	FOCUS	FOCUS
	12. Facilities plan	Pre-work	FOCUS	FOCUS

Budget Development Timeline



Equity Audit of CPS Budget

- Partnership with the Cambridge Community Foundation
- Two-year timeframe
- THRIVE! will conduct an assessment of CPS expenditures and policies to explore:
 - How CPS budget process & resource allocation aligns to equity & success for students
 - How policies, processes, and organizational structures encourage equity and success for all students.
 - Whether our resources targeted to mitigate the achievement gap
- This analysis will be conducted at two levels:
 - Central office
 - Individual schools
- THRIVE! team:
**Dr. Omolara Fatiregun,
CEO, THRIVE!
Thu Cung**



FY 24 Budget Guiding Principles

- The FY 24 budget process will encompass the General Fund Budget and the Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III federal grant.
- The FY 24 Budget will align resources with the CPS District Plan objectives and annual focused initiatives.

District Plan Objectives:



Deliver Ambitious Instruction and Effective Supports



Provide Accessible College and Career Pathways



Implement Effective Staff Learning and Support



Build Welcoming and Supportive Schools and District.



In making budget decisions we will consider the following:

- Does it align with student outcome data & improvement priorities?
- Does it align with school-based data & improvement priorities?
- Is it researched and evidenced based?
- Are resources directed towards our most vulnerable students
- Can we measure return on investment?
- What is our theory of change for the investment?

Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER)

- Federal grant funds to assist school districts in responding to the impact of COVID-19
- Funding allocations supported **multi-year** planning and spending cycle

ESSER Projections

Grant	Original Amount	Projected Balance August 31, 2023	Expenditure Deadline
ESSER I	\$1.1 M	-0-	Sept. 30, 2022
ESSER II	\$3.5 M	-0-	Sept. 30, 2023
ESSER III	\$8.0 M	\$3.5 M	Sept. 30, 2024
Total	\$12.6 M	\$3.5 M	

ESSER III Planning

CPS Guidelines for FY 24

- Planning for the remaining ESSER III funds as **part of the FY24 budget process**
 - Opportunity to leverage this funding by braiding it into our full spending plan for FY24.
- Reviewing current use of funding and developing new proposals based on **refined CPS ESSER III criteria.**
- Focusing on **one-time investments or a pilot** with an intentional plan for system learning.
- Prioritizing **quality** implementation of high-leverage strategies.
- Requiring **evidence-based plans** for implementation

Refined CPS ESSER III Criteria *Aligns with District Plan & Current Data*

Directly supports one of the following:

- 1 **Strategic COVID mitigation strategy,**
- 2 **Addresses the academic impact of lost instructional time by accelerating learning** aligned with one of the following three District Plan outcomes,
 - Students not meeting/partially meeting grade-level standards or making low or very-low growth in math/literacy
 - Students experiencing or at-risk of chronic absence
 - Students that are overage and undercredited
- 3 Supplements existing funding necessary to advance a **District Plan Strategic Initiative**

FY24 Community Engagement

- **Community meetings**

- Translated materials and multilingual support provided
- Food, childcare and transportation for in-person meetings

Date	Time	Target Audience	Location
Jan. 18	6 - 7:45PM	Open to All	308 Rindge Ave
Jan. 19	3:15 - 4:45PM	CPS Staff Session	Virtual
Jan. 21	10 - 11:45AM	Open to All	Fletcher Maynard Academy
Jan. 26	6 - 7:45PM	Open to All	Virtual
Jan. 31	Lunch Period	CRLS Student Session	CRLS

- **Survey**

- Multilingual options
- 519 responses (not yet including student responses)

- **Targeted Outreach by DHSP Community Engagement Team**

- 120 families participated



Discussion:

What clarifying questions do you have?
What resonates with you?
What are wonderings do you have?