



City of Cambridge

COF 2021 #32
IN CITY COUNCIL
April 5, 2021



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Sumbul Siddiqui

Mayor

To: Cambridge City Council
From: Sumbul Siddiqui, Mayor
Date: April 1st, 2021
Subject: Communicating information from the School Committee

To the Honorable, the City Council:

Many students are beginning full-time, in-person learning at the elementary and Amigos schools on Monday, April 5th and at the upper schools on Wednesday, April 28th. More than 50% of our students in grades pre-K-8 will be learning in-person this month and families should expect some [changes to bus routes](#) and meal pickup opportunities.

- All CPS vehicles will operate with increased capacity, open windows, and masks will be required for all riders and bus staff
- Beginning April 5th, students may share their seat with another student
- Bus routes are being updated to ridership across routes and to avoid overcrowding
- Families can use the [CPS Bus Finder](#) to confirm bus information and [this video](#) provides step-by-step instructions on how to do so

The increase of in-person learners eating in school has significantly reduced the number of families who will be picking up remote meals. Starting on Monday, April 5th, CPS is consolidating remote meal pickup sites and the four sites at Amigos School, CRLS, Graham & Parks School, and Tobin Montessori School will no longer be offering remote meals.

The following [sites](#) will continue to offer meal pick-ups beginning April 5th:

- 30 Cambridge Park Drive
- 362-364 Rindge Avenue: in front of Fresh Pond Apartments
- Baldwin School: main entrance on Sacramento Street
- Cambridgeport School: main entrance on Elm Street

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School: loading dock on Kinnaird Street
- Fletcher Maynard Academy: Harvard Avenue
- Haggerty School: main entrance on Cushing Street
- Kennedy-Longfellow School: second door entrance on Spring Street
- King Open School: main entrance on Cambridge Street
- Morse School: main entrance on Granite Street
- Peabody School: main entrance on Rindge Avenue

At 6:00 PM on April 1st, I am holding another virtual COVID Conversation with CPS for parents and caregivers at Amigos, Baldwin, Peabody, and Rindge Ave Upper School to join a Q&A session with the Cambridge Public Health Department. The registration for each COVID Conversation will be available at [this link](#), which is the same link to register for the upcoming Remote Learning Listening Sessions.

Robin Harris, CPS Director of Family Engagement, will be holding Remote Learning Listening Sessions on the following dates and times:

- **April 7th**
 - 6:00 PM: Parents/Guardians (**Grades 6-8**)
 - 7:00 PM: Parents/Guardians (**High School**)
 - 8:00 PM: Students (**Upper and High school**)
- **April 8th**
 - 6:00 PM: Parents/Guardians (**Special Start – Grade 2**)
 - 7:00 PM: **Families of Color**
- **April 10th**
 - 11:00 AM: **All Remote Learners**
- **April 12th**
 - 6:00 PM: **Spanish Speakers**
 - 7:00 PM: **Families of Asian Descent**
- **April 14th**
 - 6:00 PM: Parents/Guardians (**Grades 3-5**)
 - 7:00 PM: **Amharic Speakers**

The 8th Grade Algebra [CAMbridge Program](#) (Comprehensive Algebra Modules) offers all CPS 8th grade students with the opportunity to demonstrate their mathematical understanding and to deepen their confidence in 8th grade Algebra 1 concepts. This program consists of online, self-paced, problem-based modular learning opportunities, in conjunction with synchronous check-ins with CPS educators. Through this program, CPS will provide families with an informed and evidence-based recommendation for high school mathematics placement for their student's freshman year at CRLS.

As I mentioned last week, the School Committee has announced three finalists among 17 applicants for the Interim Superintendent role for the 2021-2022 School Year. They are:

- Dr. Victoria Greer, Superintendent of Schools, Sharon Public Schools
- Dr. Monica Henson, Interim Superintendent of Schools, New Hampshire School Administrative Unit #44
- Dr. Brian Metcalf, Chief Executive Officer, Tindley Accelerated Schools

We invite you to tune into the Virtual Candidate Forums which will be held on April 8th from 5:00-8:00 PM. Members of the community will be able to watch live on Zoom or watch recordings afterwards. Please see this [new webpage](#) for details.

We launched the spring cohorts of Elevate Youth's Local Parks Program at Sennott Park and Danehy Park the week of March 22nd, in partnership with the Work Force Youth Program and MIT's Office of Government and Community Relations. This program continues to be for 4th and 5th grade CPS students who normally would not have the opportunity to experience the outdoors in a structured environment. We are so excited to be continuing this program weekly through this fall and will continue to accept applications from families until capacity is met. Those who are interested should text "CAMBRIDGE" to 857-995-8050 or email Elevate Youth's Program Director Cam Regan at cam@elevate-youth.org.

Our upcoming meetings are as follows:

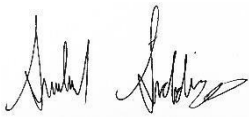
- **Thursday, April 1st, 2021**
 - Buildings & Grounds Subcommittee | 5:00 PM
 - *To discuss the health and safety working group discussions on expanded in-person learning preparations, the Tobin School construction project, and a request from the Cambridge Election Commission*

- **Tuesday, April 6th, 2021**
 - Regular Meeting | 6:00 PM

- **Thursday, April 8th, 2021**
 - Virtual Candidate Forums | 5:00 PM

- **Tuesday, April 13th, 2021**
 - Special Meeting | 6:00 PM
 - *To vote on the FY22 Budget*

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions, suggestions, or concerns.



Respectfully,

Sumbul Siddiqui