

## Madalyn Letellier

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**From:** Andrew Sessa <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 21, 2024 9:25 AM  
**To:** Rich Raiche; Melissa Woods  
**Cc:** All City Council; Public Comments; Carmona, Rubén; Mayor; PTA Council; Ilana Krepchin; Sarah Phillips; Emily Ackman; Andre Green; Laura Pitone; Ellenor Barish; [REDACTED]; Courtney Gosselin  
**Subject:** Somerville PTAs' request for information to be shared at the 3/25 meeting of the School Building Facilities and Maintenance Special Committee on WI@E

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Mr. Raiche and Ms. Woods,

I write today on behalf of the PTAs of Somerville's schools. The purpose of this letter is to address the memo that you released this past Monday, March 18, prior to the School Committee meeting that evening, which was then discussed at the meeting, *and* to provide you with a list of the pieces of information the SPS community, and particularly the WHCIS community, need addressed at this coming Monday's meeting of the City Council's School Building Facilities and Maintenance Special Committee. (For your convenience, you can also see a read-only Google Document version of this letter at the open link [here](#).)

Many of these requests for more complete, and especially quantitative information, are borne out of questions School Committee members asked the Mayor and the Superintendent at the March 18 School Committee Meeting. At that meeting, School Committee members and the public were told that more complete information and updates—about the future of Winter Hill at the Edgerly, and specifically about uniting Winter Hill at the Edgerly—would be forthcoming at the March 25 Committee meeting, and that this information would come from IAM and CP.

The questions below are those that the SPS community needs to have addressed at the March 25 meeting, and it would be very helpful to have in advance of that meeting a presentation with charts and bullet points that respond to each of these topics:

**1. Changes to the Edgerly's Assessment:**

- a. Please walk us through in detail what changed in the assessment and renovation plan, with numbers and timelines.
  - i. By how much has Edgerly's assessed value dropped?
  - ii. What is the maximum that can be spent on Edgerly (and Boxing Club) improvements over the next two years without triggering ADA compliance for the entire building?
  - iii. Please note: A request for these numbers to be shared at this coming Monday's meeting of the School Building Facilities and Maintenance Special Committee was made by SC member Laura Pitone at the 3/18 SC meeting.

**2. Value Engineering of Boxing Club Project:**

- a. Has the design-build team behind the previously proposed Boxing Club project been asked to value engineer the project?
  - i. If so, how much money can be saved, and what will be lost programmatically from the original scheme?
  - ii. If not, can that value engineering happen as soon as possible?
    1. What would an ETA be for it to be completed?

- iii. If this value engineering is currently in process, when can we expect an update on it?
- 3. **Unification Alternatives to Boxing Club Plan:**
  - a. If the Boxing Club cannot be renovated with the current plans, because they trigger ADA compliance, what are the alternative approaches and options—other than value engineering—that are currently being explored by the city to find a solution that allows the PK and K classes to move to the Edgerly?
    - i. Please note: We understand no final solution has been found or selected yet, but, in the interest of transparency and some peace of mind, we would like an update so the community is informed about what is being considered and could potentially offer feedback and guidance.
- 4. **Proposed Budget Line Items for Summer 2024 Edgerly Work:**
  - a. Please share a line-item budget with cost estimates for this summer's project list, including but not limited to:
    - i. Repair bathrooms, in particular boys' bathroom on the second floor
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    - vi. Pest control inside and in the side yard, specifically to mitigate:
      - 1. rats in the side yard without which a tot lot wouldn't be safe; and
      - 2. mice inside the school

Thank you in advance for your careful attention to these requests and your preparation of a presentation that responds to them.

Sincerely,

Andrew Sessa, Kennedy parent  
 [REDACTED] Somerville, MA, 02144 (Ward 6)  
 on behalf of the following:

Joanna Taylor, Argenziano PTA President, on behalf of the Argenziano

Ryan Williams, Somerville PTA Council President and Brown PTA President, on behalf of the Brown

Meredith Brown, Capuano PTA President, on behalf of the Capuano

Amy Mertl, ESNS PTA President, on behalf of ESNS

Emily Ann Lalka, Healy PTA President, on behalf of the Healey

Becky Lopes-Filho, Kennedy PTA President, on behalf of the Kennedy

Callie Wiser, WSNS PTA President, on behalf of WSNS

Uma Murugan, WHCIS PTA President, on behalf of WHCIS

*in solidarity with the Winter Hill Community Innovation School*

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Richard Raiche, Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management, City of Somerville  
Melissa Woods, Director of Capital Projects, City of Somerville

**From:** The PTAs of the Argenziano, the Brown, the Capuano, ESNS, the Healey,  
the Kennedy, SHS, WSNS and WHCIS

**CC:** Mayor Ballantyne  
Superintendent Carmona  
The members of School Committee and the City Council  
Somerville City Clerk  
Principal Gosselin, Winter Hill Community Innovation School

**Date:** March 21, 2024

**Re:** SPS Community's Expectations for an Update on the Winter Hill Community Innovation School at the Edgerly for the 3/25/24 meeting of the City Council School Building Facilities and Maintenance Special Committee

Mr. Raiche and Ms. Woods,

The purpose of this letter is to address the memo that you released this past Monday, March 18, prior to the School Committee meeting that evening, which was then discussed at the meeting, *and* to provide you with a list of the pieces of information the SPS community, and particularly the WHCIS community, need addressed at this coming Monday's meeting of the City Council's School Building Facilities and Maintenance Special Committee.

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Emily Ann Lalka, Healey PTA President, on behalf of the Healey

Becky Lopes-Filho, Kennedy PTA President, on behalf of the Kennedy

Caroline Shea Rosas, SHS PTA President, on behalf of SHS

Callie Wiser, WSNS PTA President, on behalf of WSNS

Uma Murugan, WHCIS PTA President, on behalf of WHCIS

*in solidarity with the Winter Hill Community Innovation School*

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**From:** Caroline [REDACTED]  
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Good morning,

Alongside the other PTA units listed in the letter, the SHS PTSA also stands in solidarity with the Winter Hill Innovation School community.

Thank you,  
Caroline Rosas  
SHS PTSA President

On Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 09:25:40 AM EDT, Andrew Sessa [REDACTED] wrote:

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