



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
SUMBUL SIDDIQUI



June 8, 2021

Esteemed Members of the CPS COVID-19 Health, Safety, and Facilities Working Group:

We want to thank each of you for your contributions to our COVID-19 response efforts this past year. Since we began our plans for fall school reopening in June 2020, your collective insights and input have been critical to our efforts, as illustrated by the success of our phase-in into the now fully in-person learning across all of our Cambridge Public Schools.

The CPS COVID-19 Health, Safety, and Facilities Working Group was convened to discuss and advise CPS on key COVID-19 health, safety, and facilities questions and help us understand the emerging pandemic and strategies to mitigate its impact on our school community.

A full year ago, we sought your expertise as specialists in global health and epidemiology, pediatric medicine, preparedness planning, and others to bring a range of expertise and experience to inform our decisions with the ability to pivot quickly and effectively as needed. As our world-class scientific and medical advisors, you identified the metrics that we used to determine whether it would be safe to open school buildings and you developed the CPS COVID-19 Safety & Facilities Manual that served as our blueprint for a safe and successful reopening.

Dr. Martin Aryee, Dr. Bradley Bernstein, Dr. Jill Crittenden, Dr. Lisa Dobberteen, Dr. Helen Jenkins, Dr. Alisa Khan, Dr. Jamie Lichtenstein, Dr. Keith Marzilli Ericson, and Associate Chief Tracy Rose-Tynes, we are so fortunate to have such a talented pool of individuals who not only live, teach, and practice in your respective fields but tirelessly have volunteered countless hours to help us keep our children and staff safe. This group was supported by dedicated CPS staff, educators, and community members—a special thank you to Jim Maloney, Dr. Carolyn Turk, Vedad Konjic, William McDonald, Rosalie Rippey, Mary Elizabeth Cranton, Margaret Jeram, and Ena Valenzuela.

Again, we want to thank you all for your tireless dedication to this effort. On behalf of the Cambridge Public Schools community and Cambridge School Committee, we thank you for serving our students, staff, and families by lending your time and expertise during the past 12 months. Your efforts have played a vital role in helping us successfully navigate these most unprecedented times.

Respectfully,

Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui
Chair, Cambridge School Committee

Kenneth N. Salim
Superintendent of Schools