



October 5, 2021

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

Approval of a Request of a Grade Level Expansion to Include Kindergarten at the
Ecole Francaise Greater Boston (EFGB)

Recommendation: That the School Committee approve a request of a grade level expansion to include kindergarten at the Ecole Francaise Greater Boston (EFGB) located at 799 Concord Avenue, Cambridge Massachusetts.

Description: Under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 76, Section 1 (compulsory attendance law), the School Committee has to approve private schools. The School Committee's approval under the statute means that children attending the private school may do so without violation of the compulsory attendance law. In giving an advisory opinion of the law as it relates to the committee's liability, the Massachusetts Department of Education has stated, "...that the School Committee's liability would be circumscribed by the fairly limited approval function that G.L. Chapter 76, Section 1, prescribes as long as the School Committee acts reasonably and in good faith."

Supporting Data: M.G. L. Chapter 76, Section 1

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Victoria L. Greer
 Interim Superintendent of Schools



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September 28, 2021

To: Dr. Victoria L. Greer, Interim Superintendent

Re: Approval of Private School Expansion to Include Kindergarten - Ecole Francaise Greater Boston Elementary School

On September 15, 2020, having complied with the requirements of M.G.L Chapter 76, Section 1, the Cambridge School Committee approved Superintendent Recommendation #20-222 for the Ecole Francaise Greater Boston Elementary School (EFGB), to operate as a private school at 799 Concord Avenue, Cambridge, serving students in grades 1-5.

At this time, EFGB is requesting approval of a grade level expansion to include kindergarten. [A PDF copy of the updated EFGB proposal is on file.] This grade level expansion will result in a school structure that includes: 1 Kindergarten classroom; 1 First Grade classroom; 1 Combination Grade 2-3 classroom; and 1 Combination Grade 4-5 classroom.

I have reviewed the expanded curriculum, toured the new classroom space at 799 Concord Avenue and can certify that all requirements of M.G.L Chapter 76, Section 1 have been met.

Please note that EFGB has expressed an interest in including Pre-K students as part of the school experience. I have recommended to EFGB Campus Director Ariana Coleman that we work together during the course of the current school year to develop a separate proposal. The new proposal will need to be aligned with the sample criteria outlined by the MA Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) and should be submitted in the spring of 2022. The proposal will then undergo a standard review with a goal of approval from the School Committee with sufficient time for appropriate planning for a September 2022 launch.

Should you have questions regarding this proposal, I will be happy to assist.