

JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Concord-Carlisle School Committee
Concord School Committee
Conference Room 4 & Zoom
October 25, 2022

Present: Tracey Marano, Chair, CCSC; CSC
Alexa Anderson, Chair, CSC; CCSC
Carrie Rankin, Vice Chair, CSC; CCSC
Sharon Whitt, Vice Chair, CCSC
Courtland Booth, CSC; CCSC
Cynthia Rainey, CSC, CCSC
Sara Wilson, CCSC
Domingos DaRosa, CCRSD METCO Rep
Ayesha Lawton, CPS METCO Rep (via Zoom)

Present from Administration: Dr. Laurie Hunter, Superintendent of Schools, CPS & CCRSD
Robert Conry, Asst. Superintendent of Finance & Operations, CPS & CCRSD
Kristen Herbert, Asst. Superintendent of Teaching & Learning, CPS & CCRSD

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Marano called the CCSC meeting to order at 5:04 PM and Ms. Anderson then called the CSC meeting to order.

Executive Session. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, seconded by Mr. Booth, for the Concord School Committee and Concord-Carlisle School Committee to enter into Executive Session under Purpose 3 of the Open Meeting Law: To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and return to Open Session. The motion passed unanimously.

The SC returned from Executive Session at 5:45 PM.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Louis Salemy, 68 Great Meadows Road, Concord MA. Mr. Salemy stated that he is very concerned for the fate of the middle school building project. He stated that he has been following the project closely and has been critical of many of the decisions made since schematic design began. He stated that the explanation being given by the CMSBC for the project being over budget is a false narrative, noting that it is over budget because the project professionals assumed cost inflation that was well below the actual rate of construction inflation. He stated that the issue was raised in public meeting and ignored, also noting the insufficient funds estimated for contingency costs. He asked the SC how it could be so confident in prevailing at Town Meeting with the Select Board and Finance Committee opposed. He suggested that the SC direct the CMSBC to meet the Select Board and Finance Committee half way and increase the amount of value engineering.

III. RECOGNITIONS – K-5 MUSIC

Kristen Herbert introduced K-5 Music teachers: Alcott – Kenneth Toland, Thoreau – Kayla McLaughlin, Willard – David Piper. The teachers shared the components of music class at the elementary level: music literacy, musician of the month, and fun/community building, providing an example of a sample class. The teachers shared curriculum resources, how notes are taught to the students, different instruments used in the classrooms by grade level, how the musician of the month works, examples of joyful music making/fun/community building, and ways in which creativity is nurtured.

IV. READING OF THE MINUTES

A. Open Session 9/27/22. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, seconded by Mr. Booth, to approve the minutes from 9/27/22. The motion was unanimously approved.

V. CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Anderson stated that CSC received no correspondence regarding CPS specifically, but received emails about gifted programs, anti-racist initiatives from COAR, and a SC training suggestion from COAR. Ms. Marano stated that there was a piece of correspondence to both committees on racism and also an email from a teacher for CCSC.

VI. CHAIRS, LIAISONS & SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Booth stated that the Concord-Nanae sister city group is inquiring again about the possibility of naming the ring road at CCHS after Nanae, to reciprocate naming a road in Nanae after Concord. He noted that there has not been a formal request, but that he wanted to get it on the SC's radar.

Ms. Anderson stated that she attended the Finance Committee meeting, noting that FINCOM presented initial guidelines for the school budgets, and Mr. Conry noted 2.52% for CPS and 2.46% for CCRSD.

Ms. Marano stated that she and Ms. Anderson attended the PTG meeting.

Dr. Hunter stated that Strategic Planning kicked off on Monday night, noting the great conversations around visioning. She stated that attendees would now replicate the process with the groups they represent.

Ms. Marano stated that the first DEIB Steering Committee meeting is the following night at 6:00 PM on Zoom. She also noted that she attended the CCTA Diversify in Hiring meeting, noting that it was great.

VII. DISCUSSION

A. Special Education Presentation. Debbie Dixon, Interim Director of Student Services, introduced the new Assistant Director of Student Services, Valery Gransewicz and then shared a Special Education update. She provided a program overview by school and grade level, noting that the program descriptions will soon be available on the website as well. Ms. Dixon reviewed Child Find, the kindergarten and preschool screening process, training and professional development, safety care, IEP development, PD paths in Special Education, MCAS data for students with disabilities, and SGP (Student Growth Percentile). Ms. Rainey asked if Ms. Dixon could share details at a future SC meeting on how teachers and staff at CCHS collaborate for those students on IEPs and Ms. Rankin noted it would be helpful to get a picture of how a student's typical day looks to get a better understanding of how the programs intersect with each other. Ms. Whitt noted the achievement gap between the students with disabilities and those without disabilities, asking if the data could be broken down to see where the gaps are happening. Ms. Wilson asked for more data on the current programs and trends and Dr. Hunter stated that this information would be provided via email so as to not identify the students in the smaller programs. Ms. Anderson stated that Ms. Dixon would be coming to more SC meetings before the end of the year, asking members to let her know if there is anything else that they would like more info on.

Due to a forum at Thoreau Elementary School at 7:30 PM, many of the agenda items were postponed to the November 8th, 2022 meeting.

B. Second Reading Policy

- AC - Non-Discrimination including Harassment & Retaliation
- AC-R - Non-Discrimination including Harassment & Retaliation
- ACAB - Sexual Harassment
- JICK - Harassment of Students
- ACA - Policy Prohibiting Harassment
- JBA - Student-to-Student Harassment
- JIC - Student Discipline
- JICA - Student Dress
- GBA - Equal Opportunity Employment
- GCF - Professional Staff Hiring
- JB - Equal Educational Opportunities
- JFBB - School Choice

Discussion moved to the 11/8/22 SC meeting.

C. Advertising on CCHS Campus, First Discussion. *Discussion moved to the 11/8/22 SC meeting.*

D. School Committee Coffee Schedule. Ms. Anderson reviewed upcoming SC coffees: November 1st at Ferns in Carlisle at 9:30 AM, November 9th at 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM at the Concord Library, November 19th at the Hyde Park Library from 10:00-12:00 AM and members discussed who was able to attend.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Vote to Approve School Committee Goals. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to approve the School Committee Goals. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Vote to Approve School Committee Policies. *Moved to the 11/8/22 SC meeting.*

C. Vote to Accept Donation to Sharon Young Scholarship Fund. The SC discussed receiving more information about the Sharon Young Fund at a future meeting to gain a better understanding. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, seconded by Mr. Booth, to accept a donation to the Sharon Young Scholarship Fund from the United Woman's Club of Concord in the amount of \$3,000, with sincere appreciation. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Vote to Surplus Vehicles. *Moved to the 11/8/22 meeting.*

E. Vote to Accept Donation from CC at Play, Inc. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, seconded by Mr. Booth, to accept a donation from CC at Play, Inc. in the estimated amount of \$12,358.63 to be used to fund the replacement of the vinyl wrap on the padding surrounding Memorial Field. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. ADJOURNMENT CCSC

The CCSC meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM.

X. DISCUSSION

A. CMSBC Update. Ms. Anderson stated that the CMSBC continues to meet, noting the continued collaboration with the Finance Committee and Select Board. She stated that the CMSBC recently toured an elementary school renovation in Lincoln by the same architects on the CMS project. She stated that they are taking one final look at additional value engineering possibilities at the upcoming meeting.

XI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Vote to Accept CMS PTG Donation Agenda Books. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, seconded by Mr. Booth, to accept a donation in the amount of \$2,000 from the CMS PTG towards the CMS homework agendas. The motion passed unanimously.

XII. ADJOURNMENT CSC

The CSC meeting adjourned at 7:24 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 11.22.22

Abbreviations:

CCACE	Concord Carlisle Adult and Community Education
CCHS	Concord-Carlisle High School
CCRS	Concord-Carlisle Regional School District
CCSC	Concord-Carlisle Regional District School Committee
CCTA	Concord-Carlisle Teachers' Association
CEF	Concord Education Fund

CMLP	Concord Municipal Light Plant
CMS	Concord Middle School
CMSBC	Concord Middle School Building Committee
CPS	Concord Public Schools
CSC	Concord School Committee
DEIB	Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging
ELA	English Language Arts
ESB	Energy Savings for Business
FINCOM	Finance Committee
MTSS	Multi-Tiered System of Supports
PD	Professional Development
RFP	Request for Proposal
SC	School Committee
SEL	Social Emotional Learning
SEPAC	Special Education Parent Advisory Council
SRO	School Resource Officer