CARLISLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS www.carlisle.k12.ma.us
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SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2026
5:00 PM
REMOTE MEETING WITH ZOOM ACCESS

Present via Zoom – School Committee: Scott Jamison, Lynette Kelleher, James Steele, Brian Waterson, Sharon Whitt
Present via Zoom – School Administration: James O'Shea, Superintendent; Mary O'Regan, Assistant to the Superintendent

Pursuant to Governor Healey's approved legislation, H. 62, a bill extending authorizations for all local boards, commissions, and committees to hold public meetings remotely or in a hybrid format Extended Timeline, amending Section 30A of Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, most recently amended by Section 40 of Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, and replacing the current expiration date of "March 31, 2025" with "June 30, 2027." Therefore, this meeting of the Carlisle School Committee is being conducted via remote participation in order to ensure public access to the deliberations of the Carlisle School Committee. Members of the public can access the meeting via live stream at:
Topic: CSC Meeting 5-19-26
Time: May 19, 2026 05:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
https://carlisle-k12-ma-us.zoom.us/j/83210479541?pwd=xVCsQjrankbaEGpMErYUieaXlbuHaN.1
Meeting ID: 832 1047 9541
Passcode: 295893

I. **Call to Order -** Mr. Waterson called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM.
Roll Call: Jamison, aye; Kelleher, aye; Steele, aye; Waterson, aye; Whitt, aye

II. **Public Comments -** There were no public comments.

III. **Information/Discussion Items**

A. Superintendent Succession Planning - Mr. Waterson provided an overview of the four options available to the School Committee for selecting an interim superintendent: (1) return the process to the Search Committee for further review, (2) work from the list of experienced superintendents provided by MASC who are available to serve in an interim capacity for one year, (3) make an internal appointment, or (4) explore participation in a short-term superintendency union. School Committee members discussed the district's need for an experienced candidate who could assume the role immediately and provide leadership without a lengthy transition period. Mr. Waterson reported that MASC had indicated there would be no issue obtaining a waiver for a retired superintendent to serve as interim superintendent for one year.

The School Committee discussed whether to continue utilizing the Search Committee or proceed directly with candidate review at the School Committee level. Members agreed that reposting the position would not be beneficial at this stage. Mr. Waterson explained the composition of the MASC candidate list, and members expressed support for using the information already gathered by the Search Committee rather than reconvening that group in order to expedite the process. Discussion also focused on how to review the MASC list and narrow the field of candidates to be contacted to determine their interest in

the position. It was noted that the School Committee is tasked with hiring a properly certified candidate and conducting interviews in an open public meeting.

Mr. Waterson volunteered to contact the top candidates identified by the Search Committee as well as leading candidates from the MASC list to gauge their interest and request resumes from any individuals for whom the district did not already have one on file. Additional discussion centered on the qualities and experience desired in the ideal candidate. Members noted that the district's strategic plan is expected to be completed within the next few weeks and that the interim superintendent would be expected to use the plan as a roadmap for priorities and initiatives during the coming year.

The School Committee also discussed establishing a consistent candidate evaluation process. Members supported holding a meeting to develop a rating system that would ensure alignment among committee members when reviewing candidates. Discussion further addressed opportunities for public participation while balancing the compressed timeline and the need to move the process forward efficiently. It was noted that the School Committee was not required to establish a Search Committee and could have made an appointment without recommendations from that group.

Following discussion, the School Committee determined that a combination of using data from the Search Committee and pursuing candidates from the MASC list was the preferred course of action. Mr. Waterson will take the lead in contacting prospective candidates.

The committee agreed to schedule two additional meetings: one to develop a candidate rating system and another to review candidate resumes. Mr. Waterson will work with committee members to identify dates for those meetings.

Members also suggested providing opportunities for public comment at both the beginning and end of upcoming meetings.

6:00 PM Mr. Jamison left the meeting.

IV. Action Items

A. Potential Vote on Superintendent Search Next Steps - No votes were taken.

V. Adjournment - A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Whitt and seconded by Mr. Steele. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:02 PM.
Roll Call Vote: Kelleher, aye; Steele, aye; Waterson, aye; Whitt, aye

Respectfully Submitted
Mary O'Regan
Assistant to the Superintendent
May 19, 2026