CARLISLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS www.carlisle.k12.ma.us
83 School Street, Carlisle, MA 01741 Phone: 978-369-6550 Fax: 978-371-2400

CARLISLE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2026
6:00 PM
COMMUNITY ROOM, ROBBINS BUILDING
AND REMOTE ZOOM ACCESS

Present – School Committee: Scott Jamison, Lynette Kelleher, James Steele, Brian Waterson, Sharon Whitt
Present – 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 6-10-26
Time: Jun 10, 2026 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting
https://carlisle-k12-ma-us.zoom.us/j/81376831755?pwd=6hEyuZ3Ee7cLxzbjONahQqAAgWivkC.1
Meeting ID: 813 7683 1755
Passcode: 369223

I. Call to Order

School Committee Chair Jamison called the School Committee meeting to order at 6:02 PM and announced the meeting was being recorded.

II. Consent Agenda

A. CSC Meeting Minutes 5.13.26
B. CSC Meeting Minutes 5.19.26
C. CSC Meeting Minutes 5.26.26
D. CSC Meeting Minutes 5.28.26
E. CSC Meeting Minutes 6.3.26
F. CSC Meeting Minutes 6.4.26
G. CSC Meeting Minutes 6.5.26
H. Joint SESC/SEPAC Meeting 4.30.26
I. Joint SESC/SEPAC Meeting 5.28.26
J. Warrants
    a. Accounts Payable Warrant 26SE23;$162,137.01
    b. Accounts Payable Warrant 26SE24;$94,356.17
    c. Payroll Warrant 26PR23; $471,859.48
    d. Payroll Warrant 26PR24;$620,412.43

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, not including the minutes from the 6.3.26 meeting, was made by Ms. Whitt and seconded by Mr. Waterson. The motion passed unanimously.
Vote: Jamison, aye; Kelleher, aye; Steele, aye; Waterson, aye; Whitt, aye

There was discussion regarding adding additional language to the 6.3.26 Carlisle School Committee Minutes Under Section II Committee Reorganization. The following text was requested to be inserted after the motion to appoint Ms. Kelleher and Mr. Waterson to the Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee for the 2026-2027 year:
Mr. Waterson made a motion to appoint James Steele as Carlisle School Committee primary warrant signer for the 2026-2027 year. The motion was seconded by Ms. Whitt. The motion passed with a roll call vote: Jamison, aye; Kelleher, aye; Steele, aye; Waterson, aye; Whitt, aye.

A motion to approve the amended 6.3.26 School Committee minutes to include text under Section II Committee Reorganization regarding the appointment of Mr. Steele as the primary warrant signer was made by Mr. Waterson and seconded by Mr. Steele. The motion passed unanimously.
Vote: Jamison, aye; Kelleher, aye; Steele, aye; Waterson, aye; Whitt, aye

III. Public Comments

- Sesha Gadey, 62 Hart Farm Road, Carlisle, MA

IV. Information/Discussion Items -

A. Student Update - Student Representative Ms. Svatek provided her final report before graduation. She shared that the Ultimate Frisbee team had a successful season, and the annual student-versus-staff volleyball game concluded with a staff victory. She also highlighted several end-of-year activities for the eighth-grade class, including the Washington, DC trip, a visit to CCHS, meetings with CCHS sports coaches, and performances of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Ms. Svatek noted the Drama Club's successful production and reported that a representative from the METCO program at CCHS gave a presentation to the eighth-grade students. She also recognized the success of the Unified School recess program, in which older students partnered with younger students during recess to provide additional support throughout the spring.

B. Superintendent's Update - Mr. O'Shea reported that Deb Bookis has signed a two-year contract to serve as Director of Curriculum and Instruction/Assistant Principal. He provided an update on ongoing meetings with the Finance Committee regarding the district budget and thanked the community for approving the FY27 school budget at Town Meeting. Mr. O'Shea highlighted several end-of-year activities taking place across the campus, including a DEICAC year-end event, Growing into Kindergarten for incoming kindergarten students and their families, the 6th grade Element Museum, 4th grade State Projects, Field Days, and the upcoming Lillian Award ceremony. He also shared an update on the hiring process for a Grade 5 ELA/Social Studies teacher, noting that the search is focused on identifying a candidate with strong ELA expertise and expressing hope that a candidate would be selected within the following week. Mr. O'Shea announced that a Strategic Planning meeting is scheduled for June 15. He noted that CCHS seniors recently returned for a day of service, providing a welcome opportunity to reconnect with former students. Congratulations were given to Ms. Pixley on the Drama Club's outstanding spring production. Mr. O'Shea concluded by thanking the School Committee members for their collaboration and support throughout his years in the district.

C. DEICAC Update - Lauren Margulies, DEICAC representative, reviewed the presentation that was linked to the meeting agenda. She emphasized the importance of recognizing the diversity within the school community as well as continuing to foster meaningful conversations, provide educational opportunities, and share resources that promote inclusion and belonging. Ms. Margulies also provided an overview of DEICAC and its

history. Rachel Freed, one of the founding members of DEICAC, joined the meeting and reflected on the committee's longstanding collaboration with Superintendent O'Shea. She expressed appreciation for that partnership and shared the committee's commitment to continuing its work with the district's new leadership.

D. Special Education Staffing Update - Mr. O'Shea explained that the Director of Student Support Services is out on leave and that the hope is that they will return in July. A plan is being formulated to have Mary Emmons, retired Special Education Director, work in a part time capacity in July and potentially move into a more full time position at the end of the summer for the start of the 26-27 school year to ensure that someone is filling the director role. Ms. Emmons has been working for several months as a consultant for the district. It was asked how decisions are being made with an absent Director. Mr. O'Shea indicated that IEP changes are team decisions. It was noted that there needs to be a person at each IEP meeting who has the ability to allocate resources. Administrators in the district have stepped up to attend IEP meetings and be available as needed for Special Education staff. Student Support Services Administrative Assistant Lori Aquavella has gone above and beyond to ensure that work is moving forward and getting completed. Many people have pitched in this year but it has taken a toll. Work has begun to create caseloads for special educators and service providers for the upcoming school year. As a former Director of Special Education, Mary Emmons brings a lot of knowledge and experience to the district and has been extremely helpful. Mr. Watterson brought up concerns regarding the current situation. The School Committee received an email this month regarding the potential of collaborating with the Concord-Carlisle Regional district for special education services. Ms. Kelleher commented that as a parent and a School Committee member it is very concerning. Ms. Whitt noted she would like to see additional supports in the Special Education Department. There was discussion of how the committee will monitor the situation. Committee members understand there are fiscal impacts, but want to make sure that the district does what is best for students and families.

E. Budget - Mr. Paquette joined the meeting and reviewed the FY26 Budget update that was linked to the agenda. He noted that there are still three weeks left in the fiscal year and work continues to review open purchase orders. Additionally there may be unexpected expenses prior to the close of the fiscal year. He reviewed the budget transfers and explained the reasoning behind making these transfers. Mr. Paquette discussed what the options are to use excess FY26 funds to help defray out of district tuition costs in FY27. Even with the use of any remaining FY26 funds, there will still be a need for additional funding above what was budgeted for FY27 to cover out of district tuition costs. There have been ongoing conversations with the Finance Committee regarding the current status of out of district tuition costs.
    a. FY26 Budget Update
    b. Transfers

F. Interim Superintendent Search Update - Mr. Waterson reviewed the current status of the superintendent search process. He explained that the School Committee would need to complete any due diligence it deemed necessary and schedule a meeting for deliberations prior to making an offer. The timeline would also need to allow for reference checks and the collection of feedback from staff. Following guidance from MASC, a vote to dissolve the Interim Search Committee was included on the agenda. Mr. Jamison suggested holding the deliberation meeting on Monday, June 15, and the Committee agreed to that date. The meeting would be held remotely via Zoom and would include an opportunity for public comment. Community members unable to attend were encouraged to submit

comments to the School Committee by email. The School Committee expressed its appreciation to everyone who has participated in the search process.

G. Strategic Planning Update - An update was provided on the district's Strategic Planning process. The final meeting of the Strategic Planning group is scheduled for Monday, June 15, with the goal of finalizing the district's core values. A community survey on the proposed core values has been distributed, and draft planning documents have been developed. The group will continue refining these documents to identify the district's priorities for the coming years. It was noted that the planning process is focused primarily on fine-tuning existing practices, as the district is in a strong position and does not have major issues requiring significant attention.

H. Carlisle Public School Plaza Next Steps - Mr. Waterson provided an update on the proposed resurfacing of the school plaza. He reported that the Playground Committee met in May and noted that several playground items had been damaged in recent weeks, along with reports of graffiti. He reviewed the committee's previous discussions regarding replacing a portion of the plaza with a softer surface and explained that the committee believes it has explored the issue as thoroughly as possible. The resurfacing project has been placed on hold due to time constraints, the emergence of other issues such as wall repairs, and requests from community members to consider additional resurfacing options. Mr. Waterson noted that discussions about the plaza surface have been ongoing since 2021 and have included considerations such as accommodating vehicle access, managing surface transitions, snow removal, and long-term maintenance. The Playground Committee has evaluated multiple options, including natural grass, synthetic turf with crumb rubber or sand infill, Corkeen, and other sports surfacing products. Questions remain about how to move the project forward and should the scope of the project be revisited? Alternative recess locations, including the use of Spalding Field with additional supervision were discussed; however, logistical challenges were identified.

I. Superintendent Evaluation - The Superintendent's evaluation form, including individual ratings, was linked to the meeting agenda for Committee members' review. The School Committee's evaluation of Mr. O'Shea for the 2025-2026 school year resulted in an overall rating of Proficient. Mr. Waterson thanked Mr. O'Shea for his visibility and engagement within both the school and the broader Carlisle community. Mr. Steele commended Mr. O'Shea for fostering an environment in which individuals feel heard and are given the opportunity to express their perspectives. Ms. Whitt expressed her admiration for Mr. O'Shea's authentic and genuine connections with students.

J. School Committee Goals 25-26 - The School Committee reviewed its current goals and discussed progress made during the year. Members identified several initiatives that require additional work and may be carried forward into the upcoming school year, including developing a mentorship and onboarding process for new School Committee members, continuing the Portrait of the Graduate work with students, identifying a special education workshop or training opportunity for School Committee members, and researching potential grant opportunities.

K. School Committee Subcommittee/Liaison Appointments - The Committee reviewed the Subcommittee/Liaison list linked to the agenda and made appointments - revised list.

L. Draft 2026-2027 Meeting Schedule/Summer Planning - The School Committee reviewed the draft 2026-2027 meeting schedule and identified several conflicts with the Regional School Committee meeting calendar. Additional research will be conducted to resolve these scheduling conflicts. Members also noted that, due to ongoing district business, an additional School Committee meeting may be needed during the summer. The August 5,

2026 meeting will be held in person and will focus on planning and goal setting for the upcoming school year.

V. Communications/Correspondence - The Committee received sixteen (16) emails since the May 13, 2026 meeting; eleven (11) regarding the superintendent search, three (3) regarding the plaza surface, one (1) regarding Old Home Day, and one (1) regarding special education services.

VI. Members'/Committee Reports as Needed

A. Regional Committee - Brian Waterson will be the chair of the regional school committee for the upcoming year. The committee is wrapping up the current school year while also planning for the upcoming school year.
B. SESC - The subcommittee had an end of year review meeting with SEPAC. SEPAC is looking for board members.
C. Recreation Commission - School Committee liaison Scott Jamison noted that the Recreation Commission is also looking for new members.

VII. Action Items

A. Vote to waive usual voting procedure and vote at this meeting on the FY26 Budget Transfers as presented
A motion to waive usual voting procedure and vote at this meeting on the FY26 Budget Transfers as presented was made by Mr. Waterson and seconded by Ms. Kelleher. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
Vote: Jamison, aye; Kelleher, aye; Steele, aye; Waterson, aye; Whitt, aye
B. Vote to approve the FY26 Budget Transfers
A motion to approve the FY26 Budget Transfers was made by Mr. Waterson and seconded by Ms. Whitt. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
Vote: Jamison, aye; Kelleher, aye; Steele, aye; Waterson, aye; Whitt, aye
C. Vote to direct administration to use the FY26 Local Budget first with the goal to save revolving account funds for use in FY27 to help offset increased out of district placement tuitions
A motion to direct administration to use the FY26 Local Budget first with the goal to save revolving account funds for use in FY27 to help offset increased out of district placement tuitions was made by Mr. Steele and seconded by Mr. Waterson. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
Vote: Jamison, aye; Kelleher, aye; Steele, aye; Waterson, aye; Whitt, aye

D. Vote to waive usual voting procedure and vote at this meeting to dissolve the Interim Superintendent Search Committee
A motion to waive usual voting procedure and vote at this meeting to dissolve the Interim Superintendent Search Committee was made by Mr. Waterson and seconded by Mr. Steele. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
Vote: Jamison, aye; Kelleher, aye; Steele, aye; Waterson, aye; Whitt, aye

E. Vote to dissolve the Interim Superintendent Search Committee
A motion to dissolve the Interim Superintendent Search Committee was made by Mr. Steele and seconded by Ms. Kelleher. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
Vote: Jamison, aye; Kelleher, aye; Steele, aye; Waterson, aye; Whitt, aye

F. Vote to waive usual voting procedure and vote at this meeting to approve the Superintendent Evaluation
A motion to waive usual voting procedure and vote at this meeting to approve the Superintendent Evaluation was made by Ms. Whitt and seconded by Mr. Waterson. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
Vote: Jamison, aye; Kelleher, aye; Steele, aye; Waterson, aye; Whitt, aye

G. Vote to Approve the Superintendent's Evaluation
A motion to approve the Superintendent's Evaluation as presented was made by Mr. Waterson and seconded by Ms. Kelleher. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
Vote: Jamison, aye; Kelleher, aye; Steele, aye; Waterson, aye; Whitt, aye

VIII. Public Comments

- Justin Harrison, 847 North Road, Carlisle, MA
- Sesha Gadey, 62 Hart Farm Road, Carlisle, MA
- Jessie Pescatore, 509 South Street, Carlisle, MA
- Brooke Mackintosh, 303 Russell Street, Carlisle, MA

IX. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Waterson and seconded by Ms. Whitt.
The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:48 PM.
Vote: Jamison, aye; Kelleher, aye; Steele, aye; Waterson, aye; Whitt, aye

Respectfully Submitted
Mary O'Regan
Assistant to the Superintendent
June 10, 2026

List of Documents Viewed and/or Reviewed:
CSC Meeting Minutes 5.13.26
CSC Meeting Minutes 5.19.26
CSC Meeting Minutes 5.26.26
CSC Meeting Minutes 5.28.26
CSC Meeting Minutes 6.3.26
CSC Meeting Minutes 6.4.26
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Joint SESC/SEPAC Meeting 4.30.26

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Accounts Payable Warrant 26SE23
Accounts Payable Warrant 26SE24
Payroll Warrant 26PR23
Payroll Warrant 26PR24
DEICAC Presentation
FY26 Budget Update & FY27 Special Education Tuition Options memo
FY26 Budget Transfer memo
Superintendent Evaluation
School Committee Goals 25-26
School Committee Subcommittee/Liaison Appointments
Draft 2026-2027 Meeting Schedule