

Present: Tracey Marano, Chair, CCSC; CSC
Alexa Anderson, Chair, CSC; CCSC
Carrie Rankin, Vice Chair, CSC; CCSC
Courtland Booth, CSC; CCSC
Cynthia Rainey, CSC, CCSC
Sharon Whitt, Vice Chair, CCSC
Sara Wilson, CCSC
Ayesha Lawton, CPS METCO Rep

Absent: Domingos DaRosa, CCRSD METCO Rep

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 6:00 PM and Ms. Anderson then called the CSC meeting to order. Ms. Marano noted that the meeting was being recorded.

II. CCHS STUDENT UPDATE

CCHS Student reps, Harry Crowley, Zariah Alves and Felicity Zhang provided updates from CCHS: students are highly anticipating the new bell schedule, course selections have started, senate is finalizing Valentine's Day festivities, students have appreciated the revamped CCHS Instagram, auditions for Into the Woods start next week, playoffs are starting soon for spring sports and the Black Student Union has been sharing biographies of impactful African-American figures through English classes for Black History Month.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Katalin Egri, 80 Wildwood Drive, Carlisle, MA. Ms. Egri stated that she requested any sex and gender-related education material within all classes, but did not receive a reply. She stated that there should be no place in the curriculum for gender identity and sexualizing children, noting that she finds it appalling the material was voted on to remain in the school library.

2. Robert Egri, 80 Wildwood Drive, Carlisle, MA. Mr. Egri thanked the SC and Administration for the detailed line item budget, but questioned the Superintendent salary listed. He stated that her low salary possibly correlated to the low ranking on the Boston Magazine list.

IV. READING OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to approve the meeting minutes from 12.20.22 and 1.10.23. The motion passed unanimously.

V. SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Dr. Hunter stated that one classroom has been relocated in Thoreau due to the recent pipe that froze over the weekend, noting how grateful she is for the vendors who had also previously responded to the fire. She stated that the middle school student who was hurt in the traffic accident on Friday is home, stabilized, and healing well. Regarding the homeless shelter, Dr. Hunter stated that they might be scaling back to only house families in the temporary mode of 3-5 days. She stated that the third session of strategic planning would be happening the following night, noting that the district received over 1,800 responses to the strategic planning survey. She stated that the plan is to bring the draft plan to the SC prior to the final meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee in March. Regarding METCO enrollments, Dr.

Hunter stated that the goal is to return to the 10 students per grade at Alcott for the 2023-24 school year to get the program back on track.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Anderson stated that CSC received two pieces of correspondence: one about special education break out rooms at CMS and one from the METCO Collective about METCO enrollment. Ms. Marano stated that CCSC received two pieces of correspondence: one on DEIB efforts and another asking for Dr. Hunter's dissertation.

VII. RECOGNITIONS

A. CCHS Science. Mike Vela, Science Department Chair, introduced student Tate Becker who compiled a video on the Engineering program at CCHS. Tate spoke about the Mechanical Engineering class he took at CCHS, noting that the video being shown was about hydraulic arm and walker mechanism projects. Mr. Vela spoke about the engineering courses and engineering certificate available to students at CCHS. Mr. Vela stated that the second video highlights the Science Club's TOYS video (Teach Our Youth Science) created by student Sam Richman. The video showed CCHS students from the TOYS Club working with younger children in the district to spark their interest in Science.

VIII. DISCUSSION

A. 2023-2024 Calendar. Dr. Hunter stated that the Calendar Committee met three times to draft the 2023-2024 calendar, noting that the Committee was comprised of Administration, CTA, CCTA and a SC representative (Ms. Anderson). She stated that the dates fell very similar to the current school year.

B. Concord Finance Committee – CCHS Rankings. Ms. Anderson stated that the Concord Finance Committee recently met and discussed the CPS budget and data around student achievement, noting that there has also been some discussion and concern about the Boston Magazine ranking recently. She stated that CSC has a meeting with the Concord Finance Committee on February 15th to respond to the student achievement discussion. Ms. Marano noted that the Boston Magazine rankings had discrepancies in the CCHS data. Dr. Hunter reviewed the presentation to be given at the Finance Committee meeting, noting that DESE has agreed to republish the data once the core data bank is corrected in the student data clearing house. Dr. Hunter reviewed the presentation, sharing class size, teacher ratio, MCAS data, SAT data, advanced placement data, graduation rate, and percent to college. She noted that percent to college number seems to be the driver of the lower ranking, stating that 91% was reported inaccurately at 72.3%. Dr. Hunter then provided the history of the CCHS rankings from Boston Magazine. Ms. Anderson stated that CCHS is very strong in all of the student achievement metrics, thanking Dr. Hunter for presenting the information in the manner she did.

IX. ACTION ITEMS

A. Vote to Approve Staff Enrollments. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, to approve the following staff requests to enroll their children in Concord Public Schools/Concord-Carlisle Regional School District for the 2023-2024 School Year, and that tuition be waived: CCHS teacher - son to enroll in Kindergarten at Willard (sibling currently attending Willard) and CCHS teacher – daughter to enroll in 9th grade at CCHS. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Vote to Approve 2023-2024 Calendar. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, for CSC and CCSC, seconded by Mr. Booth, for CSC and CCSC, to approve the 2023-2024 School Calendar, as presented. Dr. Hunter noted that there would also be 10 early release days added at CCHS. The motion was unanimously approved.

X. ADJOURNMENT CCSC

Ms. Marano adjourned the CCSC meeting at 7:12 PM.

XI. DISCUSSION

A. CMS Solar Discussion. Ms. Anderson stated that the SC invited CMLP Chair Brian Foulds and Director David Wood to the meeting to have a conversation about solar at the new CMS building to ensure everyone was on the same page. Mr. Booth stated that his understanding was that the CMLP takes responsibility for bringing solar to the building project but the jurisdiction lands ultimately with the schools in partnership with the town through CMLP. Mr. Booth noted that he is unsure if the CMSBC has seen the draft of the solar project rendering. Mr. Foulds stated that the rendering of the solar canopy over the parking lot has been the design since the beginning of the project, noting that CMLP has heard feedback from the community that they have not heard a lot regarding the solar component of the project. He

stated that CMLP would be holding a forum on February 28th to bring the entire community up to speed with the solar aspect of the project. Mr. Foulds stated that the town amended the project to be net zero, noting that the roof alone would not make it net zero and that it has always been viewed that there would be a canopy in order to get enough production to meet the needs of the building on an annual basis. He stated that the goal is to maximize the solar generation on the property without intruding on the primary function of education. Mr. Wood stated that CMLP is in the final stages of updating numbers at its meeting the following day. Ms. Rankin noted that the community has become comfortable with the rendering of the school without the solar array, recommending that a rendering be made available at the February 28th forum that includes the solar array. Ms. Anderson asked what the increased annual cost would be to ratepayers and Mr. Wood stated that they would be presenting this at the meeting the following day.

B. FY24 CPS Budget Updates. Mr. Conry shared the two items identified to help with the budget delta, including a \$50,000 decrease in special education transportation due to updated guidance from CASE and a \$100,000 reduction in the out of district tuition budget, utilizing the circuit breaker reserves. He noted that best practice is to carry over a full one-year balance, but noted that with the extraordinary 14% rate increase in special education tuitions, he felt it made sense to leverage the reserves. Mr. Conry stated that the combination of these two items would reduce the budget by \$150,000, which would result in a budget of \$45,047,176 or an increase of 4.74% over the FY23 budget. Mr. Booth questioned if making a change to the budget prior to meeting with FINCOM sent a signal to them that the district is not in conversation with them and Dr. Hunter stated that the district is not signaling anything, but doing it's due diligence to review the budget. Ms. Anderson stated that the intention of voting is to have the SC accept these recommendations, have record of it, and for FINCOM to consider in negotiations. Mr. Booth shared his concern for the misinterpretation that could occur by voting. Ms. Rainey stated that she would like more information on circuit breaker. Dr. Hunter noted that the message from FINCOM was direct, noting that the SC is going to have to advocate for the budget. She stated that the budget was shaved too deeply the prior year.

XII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Vote to Approve FY24 CPS Budget Revision. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to accept the report as submitted by Mr. Conry and Dr. Hunter, relative to the CPS budget. Ms. Marano noted that she feels as though the middle school project is affecting the operating budget, noting the importance of the two items being kept separate and the SC advocating for the operating budget of the current students. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Vote to Accept Donation from Thoreau PTG. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, seconded by Mr. Booth, to accept a donation from the Thoreau PTG in the amount of \$70,000 to support the Thoreau Playground project. Mr. Booth requested that Ms. Anderson reach out to the officers of the PTG with thanks. The motion was unanimously approved.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT CSC

Ms. Anderson adjourned the meeting at 8:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 3.28.23

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
COAR	Communities Organizing Against Racism
CPS	Concord Public Schools
CSC	Concord School Committee
CTA	Concord Teachers Association
DEIB	Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging
ELA	English Language Arts
FINCOM	Finance Committee
MTSS	Multi-Tiered System of Supports
PD	Professional Development
SC	School Committee
SEPAC	Special Education Parent Advisory Council
YRBS	Youth Risk Behavior Survey