

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  
Carrie Patel, CCSC  
Ayesha Lawton, CPS METCO Rep  
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 Anderson, Asst. Superintendent of Teaching & Learning, CPS & CCRSD

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Hunter called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM and meeting members introduced themselves to new SC member, Carrie Patel.

**II. SEATING OF THE CONCORD CARLISLE REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

A. Seating of the CCSC members. A motion was made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Booth, to recognize Alexa Anderson, Court Booth, Tracey Marano, Cynthia Rainey and Carrie Rankin as Concord members of the CCSC and Sharon Whitt and Carrie Patel as Carlisle members of the CCSC. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Election of Officers of the CCSC. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, seconded by Mr. Booth, to nominate Tracey Marano as Chair of the CCSC. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to nominate Sharon Whitt as Vice Chair of the CCSC. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Appointment of SC Recording Secretary CCSC. A motion was made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to appoint Erin Higgins as Recording Secretary CCSC. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Appointment of a Treasurer. A motion was made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to appoint Allison Brake as Treasurer of the CCRSD. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Marano stated that Ayesha Lawton and Domingos DaRosa were reseated as METCO Reps to the SC.

**III. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Patel, for the CSC and CCSC to enter into Executive Session under Purpose 3 of the Open Meeting Law to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Secretaries and Maintenance unions, and return to Open Session. The motion passed unanimously.

The SC returned from Executive Session at 6:31 PM.

**IV. CCHS STUDENT UPDATE**

CCHS students, Harry Crowley, Zariah Alves and Felicity Zhang provided an update from CCHS: Student Senate had just finished spring spirit week events, class government and student senate elections were underway and this was the last

week of classes for the Seniors, students were meeting with guidance counselors to select courses for the fall, Into the Woods was a huge success, the Performing Arts Pops Concerts were this week, Sophomores took MCAS, and current advisory leaders learned about a reformed program for next year.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Akia Obas, Boston parent. Ms. Obas stated that CPS overreacted when involving the police in response to the incident that occurred on the bus from Boston to Concord on May 4<sup>th</sup>, noting that the overreaction was very traumatizing to the students on the bus. She stated that the trauma was compounded by the fact that elementary students could have possibly been on the bus. She stated that there was a systematic issue underlying the incident, noting that there has been no consistent bus monitor on the CMS bus. She requested: 1) Dr. Hunter, the bus driver and/or the dispatcher apologize to the students, 2) parents be notified when a bus monitor was unavailable for any of the METCO routes, 3) an emergency bus monitor be secured for the CMS bus as soon as possible, 4) bus drivers and dispatchers be required to participate in the annual DEI training, and 5) the SC reevaluate CPS bus policies and create one consistent and fair policy that applies to all routes.

2. Elizabeth Frank, 1283 Elm Street, Concord MA. Ms. Frank stated that she was in support of Ms. Obas's comments, noting that she appreciated Dr. Hunter's communication on the incident. She asked that a further follow up communication could be sent out regarding further steps and actions, and that the SC add the transportation policy to an upcoming agenda.

**VI. READING OF THE MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, to approve the minutes from the 4/25/23 meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

**VII. CORRESPONDENCE**

Ms. Marano stated that CCSC received two pieces of correspondence: one that was meant for CSC and one on embedded leveling for English at CCHS. Ms. Anderson stated that CSC received three regarding DEIB, one thanking the SC for the budget work at town meeting and one on the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Civics project. She noted that CSC continues to be copied on emails from a non-Concord resident regarding a dispute with the town of Natick and the Concord Police Dept.

**VIII. CHAIRS, LIAISONS AND SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Ms. Marano reviewed the SC goals, including communications, budget, student success and wellbeing, and DEIB.

Dr. Hunter highlighted metrics for the Strategic Plan, including: increasing student performance by 10%, reducing stress levels of students, having 20% of newly hired administrators, faculty and staff identify as people of color by 2025, creating at least one additional outdoor space option at each school, and adding one new multicultural meal option every semester.

**XI. DISCUSSION**

A. SC Meeting Schedule FY24. Ms. Anderson shared the SC meeting schedule, noting that the hope was to add additional summer meetings to conduct some organizational work.

B. Assignments of SC Liaisons. A motion was made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Rankin, to advance the following slate of members to liaise and represent the SC for the following organizations and town committees:

- Concord BOS/Finance Committee – Carrie Patel
- Concord Finance Committee – Alexa Anderson
- Concord Select Board – Court Booth
- Concord DEI Commission – Tracey Marano
- PEG Access – Cynthia Rainey
- Concord Financial Audit Advisory – Court Booth
- Adult & Community Ed – Carrie Patel
- SEPAC – Carrie Rankin
- Sustainability Committee – Cynthia Rainey
- Calendar Committee – Tracey Marano

CMS Building Committee – Alexa Anderson and Court Booth  
DEI Strategic Steering Committee – Sharon Whitt

Regarding CTA and CCTA bargaining, Ms. Anderson stated that the hope was to assign them early due to the extensive time involved and in hopes of starting the bargaining early. She stated that Tracey Marano, Carrie Rankin and Sharon Whitt were interested on being on the CCTA bargaining. A motion was made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to nominate Tracey Marano, Carrie Rankin and Sharon Whitt to the CCTA Bargaining group. Ms. Rainey proposed that Mr. Booth replace one of the Concord members because he had participated in bargaining before. The SC agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.

Ms. Anderson stated that the SC had spoken in the past about moving to one warrant signer and putting items such as grants, warrants and minutes on a consent agenda. A motion was made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Rankin, to appoint Cynthia Rainey as the CPS warrant signer, Carrie Rankin as the CPS warrant signer alternate, Carrie Patel as the CCSC warrant signer, and Sharon Whitt as the CCSC warrant signer alternate. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Mental Health and Wellness Discussion. Kristen Anderson, Asst. Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, presented on student mental health and wellness. She stated that student mental health was the most important issue facing the SC and shared the members on the PreK-22 Mental Health Team. She stated that the student groups that struggle the most are historically marginalized populations of students, noting the high increases in depression and self-harm in the 6<sup>th</sup> graders, depression in 8<sup>th</sup> graders and stress in the high school level. Ms. Anderson reviewed sources of stress, including school/academic workload. Regarding depression, she stated that the numbers have increased, noting that the vast majority identify as students from historically marginalized communities. She stated that students need the information to address public health problems several years before its needed, noting the success of smoking cessation programs back in the seventies and eighties.

Ms. Anderson reviewed the plans to address the mental health problem, including implementing Care Solace, teaching social/emotional skills through Responsive Classroom, Advisory, Fly Five and homeBase, teaching mental health skills through the health curriculum, and Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS). Ms. Anderson reviewed the DESSA screener that had been piloted in the district.

Ms. Anderson shared the restorative justice practices for discipline, noting that every school in the district has made a commitment to adding restorative justice practices. She stated that the district was trying to have any behavioral infractions or broken rules be opportunities for education and learning, sharing the three levels of restorative justice: prevention and skill building, early intervention, and intensive intervention. Ms. Rankin questioned how the district would know if these measures were working and Dr. Hunter stated that there were several indicators and metrics already in place that they could use, as well as qualitative feedback from teachers and students.

D. CCHS Road Update. Mr. Conry stated that the CCHS road repaving was out to bid, noting the bids were due by June 9, 2023. He stated that the bid included a substantial completion date of August 25, 2023 for the paving portion of the work.

E. Campus Safety. Ms. Marano stated that the three possible upgrades that could be made to better communication at the high school included 1) Wi-Fi calling within the building 2) two Wi-Fi access points outside of the building and 3) blue lights on the campus. Regarding the blue lights, IT Director Peter Kelly stated that when someone pressed the call box, it would dial the police and go to dispatch. He stated that data and electrical are required on the campus to set these up, noting that there were existing poles that could be used to save on installation costs. Derek Stiles, System Administrator, shared the five locations on campus that currently have fiber optic cabling and electrical. Mr. Kelly stated that they do not have installation costs yet, but noted that the cost would be less than the cost of the product. Mr. Conry stated that the quotes were approximately \$24,000, or \$5,000 per unit. He noted that, depending on the locations of the units, they could use part of the athletic revolving funds and funds from the operating budget. Ms. Rainey noted that the Doug White fields are town property and asked that the SC review final cost estimate. Ms. Lawton stated that the safety of the kids and access to public safety was more important than the cost, noting the lack of communication means at the high school. Ms. Anderson asked that district administration review the options with high school administration, get install figures and then share them with the SC.

Regarding the cell phone tower, Ms. Marano stated that the SC needs to discuss if they would like to pursue the tower. Ms. Rankin stated that she was in support of a tower if it would help to solve the town-wide problem, noting that the decision should not be made in isolation. Dr. Hunter noted that the district has met with the town's IT Director regarding the cell tower and Ms. Anderson noted that adding a cell tower at CCHS would benefit the entire community, not just CCHS. She stated that she and Ms. Marano would reach out to the Select Board to collaborate.

Ms. Whitt noted that CCACE received \$13,000 from Community Chest for scholarships and another \$15,000 for parent education.

**X. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Vote to Approve Furniture Donation. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, for CCSC, seconded by Ms. Patel, for CCSC, to approve a furniture donation of 4 desks and 6 chairs from Wally Johnston at Energy for the Common Good. The motion was unanimously approved. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, for CSC, seconded by Ms. Marano, for CSC, to approve a furniture donation of 4 desks and 6 chairs from Wally Johnston at Energy for the Common Good. The motion was unanimously approved.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT CCSC**

Ms. Marano adjourned the CCSC meeting at 9:10 PM.

**XII. DISCUSSION**

A. CPS Capital Project Updates. Mr. Conry highlighted some of the recent capital projects, including the ERU replacement at Thoreau, carpet/tile replacement at each school, integrated playground upgrades at Thoreau, new flooring at Ripley, paving/sidewalks at Ripley, and placeholders for Sanborn and Peabody.

**XIII. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Vote to Approve CMS Field Trip. A motion was made by Ms. Rainey, seconded by Ms. Rankin, to approve the CMS field trip to Connecticut on May 31<sup>st</sup>. The motion was unanimously approved.

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Anderson adjourned the CSC meeting at 9:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 7.20.23

Abbreviations:

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
CMS	Concord Middle School
CMSBC	Concord Middle School Building Committee
COAR	Communities Organizing Against Racism
CPC	Community Preservation Committee
CPS	Concord Public Schools
CSC	Concord School Committee
CTA	Concord Teachers Association
DEIB	Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging
DHCB	Department of Housing and Community Development
ESSER	Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund

FINCOM	Finance Committee
LEAP	Learning Executive and Academic Processes
MTSS	Multi-Tiered System of Supports
PD	Professional Development
SC	School Committee
SEPAC	Special Education Parent Advisory Council
WRAP	Writing, Reading, and Academic Processes
YRBS	Youth Risk Behavior Survey