

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  
Carrie Patel, CCSC  
Domingos DaRosa, CCRSD METCO Rep

Absent: Sharon Whitt, Vice Chair, CCSC  
Ayesha Lawton, CPS 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**

Ms. Marano called the CCSC to order and Ms. Anderson called the CSC to order at 5:03 PM.

**A. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, seconded by Ms. Anderson, for the Concord School Committee and Concord-Carlisle School Committee to enter into Executive Session under Purpose 2 of the Open Meeting Law: to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel and Purpose 3 of the Open Meeting Law to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Maintenance union, and return to Open Session. The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, aye (for both); Booth, aye (for both); Marano, aye (for both); Patel, aye; Rainey, aye (for both); Rankin, aye (for both).

The School Committees returned from Executive Session at 6:20 PM.

**II. RECOGNITIONS**

A. Concord Ed Fund. Members of the Concord Ed Fund stated that they had a record-breaking year, noting that there were over 20 applications this year with over \$113,000 worth of grants awarded. They stated that mental health, diversity, and inclusion was one of the grant trends, as well as outdoor and innovative ways of learning, noting that they tried to seek equity across the schools by ensuring each school was aware of grants the others had been awarded.

B. Retirees. Ms. Anderson recognized Donna Balmuth from CIPS for her 29 years of service and Dr. Hunter recognized CIPS nurse, Polly King. Ms. Krakow recognized Alcott art teacher, Barbara Gordon for her 23 years of service and Alcott nurse Paula Amante. Mr. Lucey recognized Willard's Sharon Hehn for her 23 years of service. Ms. Bradford recognized CMS's Elizabeth Stockwood (18 years), Sharon Kabelitz (15 years), Sharon Staggers-Moss (31 years). Ms. Marano also recognized Paul Crowley and Bernard Wenstrom from CMS. Mr. Miller and Ms. Stahl recognized Deb Smith, Sandy Haupt, Bo Feng, Nora Murphy, Elaine Picard, Todd Sawyer, Ingrid Sutter and Linda Vice-Hisey.

C. Introduction of Justin Sparks, Incoming Thoreau Principal. Dr. Hunter introduced Justin Sparks, incoming principal at Thoreau, noting that he was coming to the district from Fitchburg. Mr. Sparks thanked the SC for inviting him to the meeting, noting how grateful he was to be there. He stated that he was finishing up his 4<sup>th</sup> year at Reingold Elementary in Fitchburg, noting how excited he was to join the district. He noted the joy of learning he witnessed across Thoreau School.

**III. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Community Chest Donations
- B. Concord Ed Fund Donations (\$56,593)
- C. TD Bank Resolution Bus Financing
- D. 3/8/23 DEIB Meeting Minutes
- E. 4/6/23 Policy Meeting Minutes
- F. CCRSD Warrant
  - Payroll Warrant #23 - \$919,895.83
  - Payroll Warrant #24 - \$917,123.24
  - AP Warrants 1260, 1261, 1262 - \$209,491.72
  - Payroll Warrant #23 - \$1,516,508.68
  - Payroll Warrant #24 - \$1,610,513.02
  - AP Warrant 1060 - \$281,207.81
- H. 4/28/23 CSC Meeting Minutes
- I. 4/30/23 CSC Meeting Minutes
- J. Surplus Books at Alcott, Thoreau and Willard Libraries

A motion was made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to approve the Consent Agenda as written on the agenda, requesting that individual items are noted in the minutes. The motion passed by roll call.

#### **IV. CCHS STUDENT UPDATE**

CCHS Students Harry Crowley and Felicity Zhang provided an update from CCHS: elections concluded for Senate and Class Government, French students went on a trip to the Museum of Fine Arts, 8<sup>th</sup> grade tours took place the prior week, seniors have graduated, the flex block trial would take place on Thursday, and finals start on Friday.

#### **V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Elizabeth Frank, 1283 Elm Street, Concord MA. Ms. Frank expressed her appreciation for Dr. Hunter's five-year strategic plan, noting the importance of ensuring that all students have a sense of belonging.
2. Heidi Kaiter, 100 Elm Brook Lane, Concord MA. Ms. Kaiter read a letter in opposition to the installation of a cell phone tower at CCHS and recognized the CMS teachers that recently retired.

#### **VI. CORRESPONDENCE**

Ms. Anderson stated that CSC was copied on emails to CCSC and Ms. Marano stated that CCSC received four pieces of correspondence: one regarding the incident on the CMS Boston bus, two on the cell tower and one on early literacy.

#### **VII. DISCUSSION**

A. School Improvement Plans. Elementary principals, Ms. Charles, Ms. Krakow and Mr. Lucey, provided highlights from the Elementary School Improvement Plans. Ms. Krakow noted how interconnected the Alcott plan was, highlighting the MTSS for social/emotional learning and mental health and the responsive classroom initiative. She also highlighted the Cultural Competency Committee work and looking for ways to build connection and belonging. Ms. Charles thanked the School Advisory Council for helping with the plan. She highlighted the new data platform to house all of the assessment data, initiative around opportunities for faculty and staff to connect, and noted the feasibility study to address outdoor spaces and allow students to have hands on nature play. She stated that they were continuing to partner with the PTG to dig out the grounds for learning space. Mr. Lucey stated that one of the initiatives was to work on mental health and restorative practices for staff, noting the work with responsive classroom as well. He highlighted the initiative to increase student voice, noting the request from students to change some of the food in the dining hall. Mr. Lucey noted the excitement of continuing to engage with Verrill Farm.

Olive Bradford, Assistant Principal at CMS, highlighted CMS's School Improvement Plan. She stated that they would continue to use STAR assessment and would continue to support teachers in developing stronger in-class practices for differentiating and supporting students who are learning in different ways and at different speeds. She stated that CMS would be adopting a social emotional screener and would be focusing on positive behavior with students. Ms. Bradford stated that they would use restorative circles in homeBase next year and pilot restorative chats. She noted the building of the new middle school, the breakfast program, and the reconfiguration of the health program.

Co-Principals Brian Miller and Katie Stahl shared the CCHS Improvement Plan, highlighting: increasing enrollment in the Calculus Project and AP classes for the historically underrepresented groups, expanding student driven learning opportunities, enhancing opportunities for students to evaluate post-secondary transition, implementing flex block, ensuring students feel they can connect with the Guidance Office, addressing students social emotional/mental health issues with the use of screeners, offering professional development to the staff around social/emotional learning and trauma and grief, offering professional development on DEIB, piloting restorative justice practices, and continuing to expand 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Academy.

B. School Committee Self Evaluation. Ms. Anderson stated that the SC used an MASC generated tool to conduct their evaluation the prior year, noting that the tool helped to identify areas needing improvement. Ms. Anderson stated that they would be using the tool again this year and would be reviewing the evaluation on August 15, 2023, noting that Ms. Presser from MASC would be aggregating the data prior to the meeting.

C. CCHS Campus Safety and Cell Coverage. Dr. Hunter shared an updated blue light map based on feedback from campus leaders, noting that installation would cost about \$16,000. She stated that the Police and Fire Chief both reaffirmed that they were supportive of the process. Dr. Hunter noted the recent bus accident in which a middle school bus was rear-ended as it came up on Walden to get to Route 2. She noted the issues with trying to communicate with everyone involved, included families of those students on the bus, while physically being at the high school. Ms. Marano noted that the town was continuing to investigate options of where they could place a cell tower. Ms. Rainey noted the importance of letting the community know that the installation of the blue lights was not due to a safety issue on campus, but rather because there was an issue in communicating with emergency services when needed.

**VIII. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Vote to Approve CCTA Bargaining Representatives. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Patel, to appoint Sharon Patel, Carrie Rankin and Tracey Marano as CCTA bargaining representatives. The motion passed by roll call.

Dr. Hunter recognized that Information Officer Tom Lucey has been with the district for ten years, thanking him for all of his work.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT CCSC**

Ms. Marano adjourned the CCSC meeting at 8:20 PM.

**X. STAFFING UPDATE**

Dr. Hunter stated that enrollment numbers were starting to solidify at CPS, noting that preschool numbers were high, and the needs of the students are high. She stated that they would be adding a teacher and an additional section for one year, noting that it would be an integrated setting. She stated that Thoreau would also be needing an additional kindergarten teacher and assistant for a fourth classroom due to enrollment numbers. Dr. Hunter stated that there were three incoming Kindergarteners with significant language needs in the long-term stay at the shelter. She stated that there could be an additional 6-7 kindergarteners in the short stay families, noting that she would be getting more information. She stated that they would be adding an additional ELL teacher for a one-year period at Willard to meet the language needs of these students. Ms. Anderson suggested sending the Concord Finance Committee a memo noting the additional staffing needs to keep them updated of budget changes.

**XI. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Vote to Approve CTA Bargaining Representatives. A motion was made by Ms. Marano, seconded by Ms. Rankin, to appoint Court Booth and Alexa Anderson as CTA bargaining representatives. The motion passed unanimously.

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Anderson adjourned the CSC meeting at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 7.20.23

Abbreviations:

|        |   |
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| 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                                      |
| SEAC   | Special Education Parent Advisory Council             |
| WRAP   | Writing, Reading, and Academic Processes              |
| YRBS   | Youth Risk Behavior Survey                            |