

JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Concord-Carlisle School Committee  
Concord School Committee  
Zoom Meeting  
September 10, 2020

Present: Wallace Johnston, Chair, CCSC; CSC  
Sara Wilson, Vice Chair, CCSC  
Heather Bout, Chair, CSC; CCSC  
Courtland Booth, Vice Chair, CSC; CCSC  
Cynthia Rainey, CSC, CCSC  
Alexa Anderson, CSC; CCSC  
Eva Mostoufi, CCSC

Present from Administration: Dr. Laurie Hunter, Superintendent of Schools, CPS & CCRSD  
Jared Stanton, Director of Finance & Operations, CPS & CCRSD

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The CSC meeting was called to order by Ms. Bout at 4:05 PM, noting that it was being recorded and broadcast via Zoom. Mr. Johnston then called the CCSC meeting to order. *Ms. Mostoufi was not present at this time.*

A. Executive Session. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, that the Concord School Committee and Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee will enter into Executive Session under Purpose 2 of the Open Meeting Law: To conduct strategy sessions in preparations for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel and Purpose 3 of the Open Meeting Law: To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body, and return to Open Session at approximately 5:00 PM. Roll call attendance was taken: Rainey, aye; Booth, aye; Bout, aye; Wilson, aye; Johnston, aye; Anderson, aye. The motion passed by roll call: Wilson, aye; Booth, aye (for both); Bout, aye (for both); Rainey, aye (for both); Johnston, aye (for both) and Open Session ended at 4:07 PM.

Ms. Bout called the CSC back to order and Mr. Johnson called the CCSC back to order at 5:03 PM.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**III. REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION**

A. COVID Testing. Dr. Hunter reviewed a list by company of the COVID testing options, including testing approaches, frequency and cost. *Ms. Mostoufi joined the meeting.* Ms. Bout noted that the CSC has received 5 emails related to testing, 4 with concerns and 1 in favor, noting that the one in favor was signed by approximately 50 people. Ms. Mostoufi noted the "Stop the Spread" program, testing for return to work/school and from travel, also noting that it is completely free. She questioned if any schools are requiring testing besides colleges and Dr. Hunter and Ms. Rask, Concord Public Health Director, both stated that they aren't aware of any districts that are requiring testing. Dr. Hunter noted that staff and students are being required to get COVID tested prior to returning to school if they report symptoms through the screener process. Based on the 5 day transmission rate, the SC discussed if testing would be beneficial if not conducted on a regular basis. Dr. Greene, from the Concord Board of Health, recommended that the SC define its goal of testing. Ms. Rask noted that there are many tools that can prevent outbreaks from happening should a student get COVID.

After discussion, the SC agreed that testing would not provide the benefit that the Committee was hoping for if not given consistently, which is not financially viable. Dr. Hunter noted that testing could be revisited at any time. Ms. Mostoufi noted that less expensive testing options may be available in the future. Ms. Bout asked about the value of a onetime test and asked if that window has passed. Dr. Greene stated that a onetime test could be done in October to assess any asymptomatic students. The SC agreed to not pursue testing now, but agreed to reevaluate in the future.

Dr. Greene urged the SC to reconsider testing if cases begin to ramp up, noting that she hopes to see the conversation continue.

B. Town Meeting Articles. Mr. Johnston stated that there are 2 articles to consider in the upcoming Town Meeting: Article 30 – Healthy School Buses for Students and Article 16 –Junction Village. Regarding Junction Village, Mr. Johnston stated that there may be a 40B development, having an effect on the number of students coming through the doors. Ms. Rainey suggested that citizens educate themselves on the articles and vote at Town Meeting. Regarding Article 30, Mr. Johnston stated that it is tied into the goal of purchasing electric buses through the VW program, totaling \$200,000 to supplement the cost of two electric buses and fueling infrastructure. Mr. Johnston stated that it would be beneficial for the SC to support this article.

A motion was made by Ms. Rainey, seconded by Mr. Booth, that the CSC recommend affirmative action on Article 30. Dr. Hunter noted that the District has worked closely with Mr. Foulds. The motion passed by roll call: Johnston, aye; Rainey, aye; Booth, aye; Bout, aye.

#### **IV. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Vote to Approve CCTA Contract. A motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Booth, to approve a one year contract with the CCTA, including a 1¾% cost of living salary increase. The motion passed by roll call: Booth, aye; Wilson, aye; Bout, aye; Rainey, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Johnston, aye.

B. Vote to Approve FY21 Salary Increases for Non-Union Employees. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, to approve FY21 salary increases for non-union employees. The motion passed by roll call: Booth, aye (for both); Bout, aye (for both); Rainey, aye (for both); Mostoufi, aye; Wilson, aye; Johnston, aye (for both).

#### **V. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Booth, for CSC and CCSC, seconded by Ms. Rainey, for CSC and CCSC, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by roll call: Wilson, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Rainey, aye (for both); Bout, aye (for both); Booth, aye (for both); Johnston, aye (for both) and the meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 10.6.20

Abbreviations:

CCHS	Concord-Carlisle High School
CCRS	Concord-Carlisle Regional School District
CCSC	Concord-Carlisle Regional District School Committee
CCTA	Concord-Carlisle Teachers' Association
CMS	Concord Middle School
CPS	Concord Public Schools
CSC	Concord School Committee
DESE	Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
DCL	Dual County League
FTE	Full Time Employee
MASC	Massachusetts Association of School Committees
METCO	Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity
MIAA	Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association
MMN	Minuteman Media Network
SC	School Committee

SEL  
SEPAC

Social Emotional Learning  
Special Education Parent Advisory Council