

The School Committees Report

The School Committees and Superintendent are dedicated to achieving their educational goals while maintaining a transparent public process related to policy decisions. This article is one in a series that is intended to update and inform the residents of Concord and Carlisle about the districts' on-going activities, initiatives and policies.

District Goals

At the September joint School Committee, Superintendent Rigby and members of the Committees discussed District goals for the academic year. These goals address student achievement as well as operations, such as managing the April 2015 move to the new high school building.

Each June, the principals report on results from their prior year's goals, student achievement data, and goal-setting for the coming year, when they present their School Improvement Plans. These plans are developed with input from teachers, administrators and parents. The School Improvement Plans in addition to student achievement data create a foundation for developing the annual districts' goals. This year's goals include:

1. Increase achievement for all students and narrow the achievement gaps for identified student groups.
2. Provide students with a rigorous, coherent, and aligned prek-12 curriculum that includes a variety of authentic learning experiences, Common Core State Standards, assessment strategies, and use of digital tools
3. Increase instructional strategies that promote student curiosity, critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and opportunities for innovation.
4. Foster a respectful and empathic learning environment in which all students become more responsible and engaged citizens.
5. Increase professional collaboration including analyzing student work and progress, sharing instructional strategies, and providing job-embedded professional development that supports district and schools teaching and learning goals.
6. Effectively implement the new Educator Evaluation system with a focus on continuous improvement in teaching and learning.
7. Develop FY16 budgets to support educational excellence and enrollment growth while maintaining fiscal sustainability.
8. Manage CCHS Building project to completion and April 2015 move-in.
9. Implement interim plan for Transportation Services for 2015-2016.
10. Complete collective bargaining contract settlements with CTA, Secretaries unit, CCHS and CPS Building Service Workers, and Maintenance.
11. Build support, consensus, and community engagement around the district mission, core values, goals, challenges, accomplishments, and critical decisions using multiple communication strategies.

A full description of these proposed goals and measurement criteria for achieving them are posted on the School Committee webpage, under attachments to the September 23 Joint Meeting.

The School Committees Contact Information

The School Committees and Superintendent are committed to on-going public dialogue and to ensuring that residents of Carlisle and Concord are informed. School Committee meetings are open to the public and the public is encouraged to attend. The meetings are broadcast on CCTV and are available on demand at www.concordtv.org. The district web site (www.concordpublicschools.net) contains updated information on meetings and interested individuals can contact the Concord School Committee via email at concordschoolcommittee@colonial.net and the Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee at concordcarliseschoolcommittee@colonial.net or the Your Voice Matters link on the District's home page at www.concordpublicschools.net.