

Concord Public Schools and the Concord-Carlisle Regional School District are committed to educating all students to become independent lifelong learners, creative thinkers, caring citizens, and responsible contributors to our increasingly diverse global society. The core values and beliefs include academic excellence, an empathic and respectful community, professional collaboration, educational equity, and continuous improvement.

The School Committees and Superintendent are dedicated to achieving these goals while maintaining a transparent public process related to policy decisions. This article is the first 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.

School Enrollment and New Hires

The Superintendent and members of the School Committees welcomed 3390 students when the schools opened on September 6th. The districts hired 26 new teachers, a new Interim Principal at Thoreau, and a new Facilities Manager.

Nancy Peterson is the new Interim Principal at Thoreau and comes to our community with two decades of experience building professional school cultures as a principal in Stoneham, Danvers and Lexington. Most recently she served as an interim principal in Bedford. Brian Schlegel was hired as the new Facilities Manager; he has extensive experience, serving the last 13 years in the same role for Westborough. The new teachers were hired from a deep pool of more than 1400 applicants, which is indicative of the strong reputation the districts enjoy in the state.

School Committees and Administration to Host Listening Sessions

The School Committees approved a plan to hold monthly listening sessions at various school sites during the academic year. The sessions will provide the public with a forum to comment and ask questions of members of the School Committees and the Superintendent. Participating School Committee members will report back to the full Committee. This is one of several measures the School Committees and Superintendent are considering to enhance public participation and access to information.

Summer School and Professional Development

Many of the districts' teachers and students remained busy during the summer as more than 200 teachers participated in curriculum development technology trainings and approximately 250 students attended summer school. Faculty and staff spent four weeks providing students with high quality, targeted instruction in reading, writing and math.

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 cps@colonial.net and the Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee at cchs@colonial.net.