

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 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.

**School Committees and Superintendent Announce Dates for Listening Sessions**

The School Committees and Superintendent invite Concord and Carlisle community members to join them for coffee and conversation on the following dates:

- Wednesday, October 9, 9:30-11 am, Ripley #1 Conference Room
- Tuesday, October 29, 7-8:30 pm Alcott Cafeteria
- Tuesday, November 19, 7-8:30 pm, Peabody Forum

The School Committee created the plan to hold monthly listening sessions at various school sites to provide the public with a forum to comment and ask questions of members of the School Committees and the Superintendent. This is one of several measures the School Committees and Superintendent are instituting to enhance public participation and access to information.

**District Goals Adopted**

The School Committees approved the District Goals for 2013-14 at the September 10th meeting. The seven goals will guide planning and resource allocation for the District in the coming year. The goals are: (1) increase achievement for all students and narrow the achievement gaps for identified student groups, (2) provide students with a rigorous and coherent curriculum and high quality instruction that motivates and engages all students to develop their curiosity, creativity, critical thinking and collaborative problem solving skills, (3) foster a respectful and empathetic learning environment in which all students become more responsible citizens, (4) develop professional collaboration by analyzing student work and assessment data, sharing instructional strategies, and providing job-embedded professional development that supports district teaching and learning goals, (5) implement the new Educator Evaluation system with a focus on continuous improvement for teaching and learning, (6) provide students and staff with resources, materials, and infrastructure to support high quality learning environments; and (7) build support, consensus, and community engagement around the district mission, core values, goals, challenges, accomplishments, and critical decisions using a variety of communication strategies.

The Superintendent and School Committees have an action plan to achieve each goal with process and outcome benchmarks to measure success. More information about the goals, actions, and benchmarks is available on the District website at [www.concordpublicschools.net/superintendent](http://www.concordpublicschools.net/superintendent).

**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](http://www.concordtv.org). The district web site ([www.concordpublicschools.net](http://www.concordpublicschools.net)) contains updated information on meetings and interested individuals can contact the Concord School Committee via email at [cps@colonial.net](mailto:cps@colonial.net) and the Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee at [cchs@colonial.net](mailto:cchs@colonial.net).

