

School Committee Report

November 18, 2013

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.

FY 2015 Budget Process: Coordination with Concord Finance Committee

Representatives of the School Committees and Administrative team met for a second time with the Concord Finance Committee on November 14 to present a proposed budget and to discuss budget priorities. The meeting is an opportunity to have a public dialogue and to share information about budget assumptions and cost drivers as well as how the school district will manage non-recurring expenses such as the potential purchase of Knox Trail land. This is an important step in crafting the budget that will be presented to citizens at Town Meeting. The Finance Committee is expected to vote on their final budget guidelines for the school districts on Thursday, November 21.

Upcoming Meetings

The School Committees will review the final report from School Bus Consultants, LLC, on private bus transportation services and efficiencies at the November 26 meeting. Concord Carlisle at Play will present a plan for CCHS recreation facilities renovation and enhancement at a special meeting on Monday, December 2, at 6:30pm at Ripley.

School Committee Community Coffee

The Community Coffee has been rescheduled for Tuesday, December 3, 7-8:30pm at the Peabody Forum. Please submit suggested topics to the School Committees via email.

School Committee Website Design Upgrade and Superintendent on Twitter

As part of the strategy to improve communications with citizens, Superintendent Rigby has created a Twitter account (concord_super) and the School Committee is re-designing its web page, www.concordpublicschools.net/school-committee, to be more user friendly. Both actions are elements in the plan launched by the School Committees this year to improve transparency and to create more dialogue with the community.

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.