

JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Concord-Carlisle School Committee
Concord School Committee
CCHS Library
December 10, 2013

Present: Louis Salemy, Chair, CCSC
Pamela Gannon, Chair, CSC; CCSC
Kathleen Snook, Vice Chair, CSC; CCSC
Phil Benincasa, CSC, CCSC
Johanna Boynton, CSC, CCSC
Melissa McMorrow, CCSC

Present From Administration: Diana Rigby, Superintendent of Schools, CPS & CCRSD
John Flaherty, Deputy Superintendent of Finance & Operations, CPS & CCRSD

Absent: Jennifer Munn, Vice Chair, CCSC, CSC

I. CALL TO ORDER

The session was called to order by Mr. Salemy for CCSC and Ms. Snook for CSC at 5:30 PM. Ms. Snook noted that the meeting is being recorded by CCTV and a citizen.

A motion was made by Mr. Benincasa and seconded by Ms. Boynton for CSC and CCSC to enter into Executive Session under Purpose 3 of the Open Meeting Law: to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining and litigation as the open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining and litigating position of the public body and to return to Open Session at approximately 6:30 pm.

The motion was unanimously approved by roll call: Salemy, Aye, Snook Aye, Benincasa Aye, McMorrow, Aye, Boynton, Aye.

The Concord School Committee and the Concord-Carlisle School Committee returned to Open Session and was called to order by Mr. Salemy for CCSC and Ms. Gannon for CSC at 6:30 PM. Ms. Gannon noted that the meeting is being recorded by CCTV and a citizen.

Citizens' Comments

1. Miguel Echavarri. Mr. Echavarri stated that he appreciated the chance to speak prior to the committee vote. Mr. Echavarri expressed concern about the estimates provided by School Bus Consultants (SBC) regarding the age of the busses and provided a handout. He does not believe the committee should vote yes on the motion to authorize School Bus Consultants to prepare bids for transportation services until there is additional information.

II. READING OF THE MINUTES - None

III. CHAIRS REPORT

Ms. Gannon thanked Ms. Boynton for her presentation at Town Meeting. Town Meeting voted to pass for Article 1 to pursue the purchase of Knox Trail. Ms. Gannon also thanked Mr. Flaherty and Mr. Benincasa for their hard work.

Mr. Salemy stated that he received a formal notice from the CCTA that they would like to enter into negotiations; this is the last year of their contract. Mr. Salemy and Ms. Snook will be representatives from the school committee.

Ms. Snook reported on the Superintendent/School Committee Coffee was held December 3, 2013 at Peabody Forum from 7:00 – 8:30 PM. Ms. Boynton and Mr. Salemy were also in attendance. There were between 25 and 30 people there. Ms. Snook stated that the first hour of the coffee was spent discussing the bus and transportation issues and preparing for the Special Town Meeting and answering questions on those issues. The last thirty minutes of the coffee were spent on educational topics and technology, including upcoming testing. Citizens want to continue talking about technology and to be provided with feedback including what CCHS has planned, get more information on PARCC Testing (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College & Careers). Ms. Snook suggested that the coffees continue and suggested the next one be held at CCHS. She also indicated possibility of

a Saturday morning coffee. The committee informally decided to continue with the coffees for next semester. Ms. Snook will provide suggested dates at the next meeting.

The Chairs noted that CCHS teacher Michael Goodwin was on MSNBC's Morning Joe show. A video of the program excerpt was played.

Welcome Student Representatives:

Cecilia Spiers stated that Spirit Week was a huge success this year. The Senate and Interactive Leadership are thinking about holding a Blood Drive. A fundraiser for wreaths for the Arlington National Cemetery is being held. The Student Senate would like to thank the school committee for their work regarding the cuts in the English and Technology budgets. They are happy there was a compromise.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

- A. Letter from NEASC. Ms. Rigby stated that a letter was received from NEASC stating that the committee requests that school officials submit another Special Progress Report by October 1, 2014 providing an update on the high school building project, including the anticipated date of occupancy.
- B. Adult & Community Education Director's December Report from Court Booth.
- C. CC at Play Correspondence. 3 emails from Dean Banfield, an email from Anne Hayden and an email from John Boynton.
- D. Letters from The Abrahams Group regarding consolidation with the Town of Concord. They have completed Phase I. Phase II will include analyzing facilities, grounds and vehicles.

V. RECOGNITIONS

- A. Ms. Rigby presented the Certificate of Academic Excellence award to Ms. Stevie Yang.

VI. REPORTS & ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

- A. CCHS Engineering Presentation: Michael Hamblin and Mike Vela. Mr. Hamblin gave a presentation on what he does with his students in his engineering class. After researching various programs, Mr. Hamblin wanted to develop a course this is problem based. He currently has about 50 students, mostly juniors and seniors. The students recently developed a lighting system to replace kerosene lamps using only recycled parts as one of their projects. Mr. Hamblin stated that the Robotics Game Kick Off would be January 4, 2014 during an international web cast.
- B. CCHS Student Performance Data. Mr. Badalament, Principal, gave a presentation on CCHS Data Report for 2013 and the formation of the STEAM Committee (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, & Math). Mr. Badalament indicated the study skills class and coordinating freshmen student programming helped in improving performance of some high needs students. He also indicated CCHS is meeting their goal of student-adult connections which has been helped by Advisory. Over 90% of seniors were accepted in one of their top 3 school choices. 97% of students who took an AP exam scored a 3 or better.
- C. FY15 Budget Proposals & 2014 Town Meeting Warrant Articles. Mr. Flaherty stated that for Concord Public Schools the initial planning request was for a 4.5% increase. The Finance Committee guidelines moved up to 4.17%. Mr. Flaherty stated that for Concord-Carlisle Regional School Budget the initial increase request was 3.25% in the operating budget. The Finance Committee guideline allowed for a 3.01% operating budget increase. Major cost drivers are teacher and staff salaries, special education expenses, increased enrollment, the technology replacement cycle and transportation costs. Mr. Flaherty outlined the expected articles to be moved at Town Meeting in May.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Vote to approve CCHS Building Project Change Order # 2. A motion was made by Ms. Gannon seconded by Mr. Benincasa that the CCSC votes to approve an increase of \$209,711 to the Turner Construction contract for a contract value of \$76,421,416. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Vote to authorize School Bus Consultants (SBC) to prepare bids for transportation services and disposition of the bus fleet. A motion was made by Ms. Snook seconded by Ms. Boynton that "CSC and CCSC vote to authorize School Bus Consultants to prepare bids for transportation services with existing bell times and prepare documents for disposition of the bus fleet." The motions were unanimously approved.

C. Vote to approve the CC at Play, Inc. Fields Renovation Plan in concept and to authorize further actions regarding the implementation of the renovation plan. A motion was made by Ms. Snook seconded by Mr. Benincasa that the CCSC votes the following: "The School Committee, having had presented to it by Concord Carlisle at Play, Inc., ("CC") a proposed Renovation Plan for certain of the playing fields and outside athletic facilities of the School District at a prior School Committee meeting (the "Renovation Plan") and having considered the same, gives preliminary approval (subject to final approval by the Committee, as described below) to the general concept of the Renovation Plan. The School Committee further designates and appoints the following two of its members, Pamela Gannon and Jennifer Munn (the "Designees"), in conjunction with the School District's administrative officials and the School District's legal counsel, to develop the appropriate framework and process to implement the Renovation Plan in compliance with applicable law and to discuss and negotiate with CC and other necessary stakeholders (as determined by the Designees), the terms, conditions, means and agreements to carry out the Renovation Plan. The School Committee directs the Designees, once such preparatory work is completed, to present the Designees' recommendations to the School Committee so that the Committee may then consider and approve any necessary actions related to implementing the Renovation Plan in an appropriate manner including authorizing any formal bid processes, and/or agreements that may be required, all of which actions (including without limitation any decisions reached or agreements negotiated by the Designees) shall require a further approving vote of this Committee in order to be effective." The motion was unanimously approved. Ms. Boynton recused herself from the vote. Ms. McMorrow who has recused herself from decisions on this topic was not present for the vote.

D. Vote to accept donation from Global Partners LP. A motion was made by Mr. Benincasa seconded by Ms. Snook that the CCSC votes to accept a donation in the amount of \$500 to the Concord-Carlisle High School from Global Partners LP as part of the ExxonMobil's Educational Alliance Program. The motion was unanimously approved.

E. Adopt FY15 Concord-Carlisle School Committee Proposals & 2014 Town Meeting Warrant Articles.
a. A motion was made by Mr. Benincasa seconded by Ms. Snook that the CSC votes to adopt the FY15 Budget Request in the amount of \$32,440,538. The motion was unanimously approved.
b. A motion was made by Mr. Benincasa seconded by Ms. Snook that the CCSC vote to adopt the FY15 Operating Budget Request in the amount of \$24,605,506. The motion was unanimously approved.
c. A motion was made by Mr. Benincasa seconded by Ms. Snook that the CCSC and CSC votes to approve the 2014 Town Meeting Warrant Articles. The motions were unanimously approved.

F. Vote to approve Fencing Trip to Huntington, NY. A motion was made by Ms. Boynton seconded by Mr. Benincasa that the CCSC votes to approve the overnight Fencing Trip to Huntington, NY. The motion was unanimously approved.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. CDW Phase II, III Submittal to DEP. Mr. Salemy stated that the Phase II and Phase III final report has been submitted.

B. Transportation Update. Ms. Boynton stated that she has met with the Town Manager to talk about permitting and see what the next steps are. There is an existing foundation on site and we could work with that for building repair, housing, administration, fueling and an above ground diesel tank. Mr. Flaherty will work with Nitsch Engineering and possibly an architect. A motion was made by Mr. Benincasa seconded by Ms. Boynton that "the CSC authorize expenditures of approximately \$35,000 or any other sum for expenses necessary to obtain building permits and satisfy the application process for developing, planning, and design for the transportation infrastructure at Knox Trail in Acton." The motion was unanimously approved.

C. CCHS Building Project. Mr. Salemy stated that the next stage is to have the whole building encapsulated in building wrap by the end of December so they can work on the inside. In January the brick façade should be started.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

A. Thoreau Principal Search. Ms. Rigby stated the vacancy announcement is on the Human Resources Webpage, it has been posted in the Sunday Boston Globe, Education Week as well as on line with DESE and Associations for Elementary Principals.

B. PARCC Assessment (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College & Careers). Ms. Codianne, Director of Teaching & Learning will make a formal presentation in January. The district has been chosen to do pilot testing for both mid-year and end of the year testing.

X. CITIZENS’ COMMENTS

1. Ted Hines, 396 Thoreau St., Concord. Mr. Hines stated that he lives next door to the high school, abutting the football field. Mr. Hines expressed concern about drainage from the high school property and run off into the Hugh Cargill well and how this will be affected by the fields renovation project.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Benincasa, seconded by Ms. Boynton for CSC and a motion was made by Mr. Benincasa, seconded by Ms. Boynton, for CCSC to adjourn the meeting. The motions were unanimously approved and the meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally W. Ferguson
Approved: 01/28/14

Abbreviations:

CSC	Concord School Committee
CCSC	Concord-Carlisle Regional District School Committee
CPS	Concord Public Schools
CCRS	Concord-Carlisle Regional School District
CCHS	Concord-Carlisle Regional High School
PARCC	Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College & Careers
SBC	School Bus Consultants