

Present: Johanna Boynton, Chair, CCSC; CSC  
Wallace Johnston, Chair, CSC; CCSC  
Heather Bout, Vice Chair; CSC; CCSC  
Dan Conti, CSC; CCSC  
Bob Grom, CSC; CCSC

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

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The session was called to order by Mr. Johnston at 6:30 PM. Mr. Johnston noted that the meeting is being recorded.

A. ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEE: Ms. Rigby stated that annually, at the first School Committee meeting following the conclusion of Town Meeting, the first order of business is to seat the new School Committee, to elect its officers and to make other necessary appointments.

A. Seating of the Concord School Committee Members – CSC. A motion was made by Ms. Boynton, seconded by Ms. Bout, to recognize Johanna Boynton, Wallace Johnston, Heather Bout, Daniel Conti and Robert Grom as members of the Concord School Committee. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Election of Officers of the Concord School Committee - CSC. A motion was made by Ms. Boynton, seconded by Ms. Bout, to elect Mr. Johnston Chair of the Concord School Committee. The motion was unanimously approved. Mr. Johnston accepted the nomination. A motion was made by Ms. Boynton, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to elect Ms. Bout to Vice Chair of the Concord School Committee. The motion was unanimously approved. Ms. Bout accepted the nomination.

C. Appointment of School Committee Recording Secretary – CSC/CCSC. A motion was made by Ms. Boynton, seconded by Ms. Bout, to appoint Erin Higgins as the School Committee Recording Secretary. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Executive Session. A motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Ms. Bout, for The Concord School Committee to enter into Executive Session under Purpose 3 of the Open Meeting Law: To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining because having the discussion in an open session will be detrimental to the public body’s bargaining position and return to Open Session at approximately 7:30PM. The motion passed by roll call: Bout, aye; Johnston, aye; Boynton, aye; Conti, aye; Grom, aye.

The Concord School Committee returned from Executive Session at approximately 7:20PM, but waited to continue the Open Session at 7:30PM, which was the published time.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. Julie-Ann Cancio, 36 Bristers Hill Rd, Concord, MA. Ms. Cancio commented on Question 1 on the Ballot – she stated that she felt that the SC doesn’t really have a choice to remediate the landfill and noted that there was a deadline. She stated that an asphalt parking lot was not one of the acceptable methods approved by the DPW. She also noted that if a landfill cap is put in, that it doesn’t mean in 10 years that it can’t be dug up and have the cap removed. She stated that right now, the problem is that there is an environmental impact and noted that the landfill was officially reclassified as a tier 1 site, meaning there was a release of hazardous materials that wasn’t previously detected. She noted that analysis has detected soluble arsenic, oil and other hazardous materials in the ground water. She stated that groundwater at that site is within zone 2 for a public drinking water supply, noting that it serves her area. She voiced her concern for the drinking water. Ms. Cancio noted that there are other areas on the site for additional

parking spaces and felt that they don't need to dig up this area to get additional parking areas because they might want to put in a parking lot later down the road. She stated that she would be happy to volunteer her time to help the SC investigate other ways to find parking on the site. She gave the SC a copy of the report that the DEP had given her.

2. Anne Hayden, 342 Sudbury Rd, Concord, MA. Ms. Hayden stated she has 2 concerns. Her first concern was that this meeting is a Concord Public School Committee meeting and not a regional School Committee Meeting. She noted that the CPS statement regarding the landfill vote should not be in the Chair's comments and that there should be no discussion of this Ballot Article or the Town Meeting Article at all during a CPS meeting. She noted that the landfill is an issue for the Regional School Committee and solely their responsibility. She stated that this is one example of how the operations of the 2 districts have become more intertwined in inappropriate ways. She spoke regarding filling the superintendent position and recommended 2 votes: 1 by RSC members and another for the CPSC members. Ms. Hayden's second concern was that it was clear at TM that the assembled body wanted the Regional School Committee to go back to square one and request additional comprehensive reports to investigate other options for capping the landfill. She stated that because the SC indicated that they wanted to find a way to get around the TM vote, only underlines why there is a lack of trust for both school committees. She stated that the community would be watching very closely the actions that they take over the next several months.

3. Nancy Beeuwkes, 1360 Monument St, Concord, MA. Ms. Beeuwkes, from the League of Women Voters, congratulated the SC on another year as well as the appointments and new member. She invited the SC to a program on April 27<sup>th</sup> at Sanborn regarding choosing the new superintendent. She noted that Tom Scott would be a moderator for the meeting. Mr. Johnston noted that he sent the SC the information for this meeting.

4. Colleen Walston, 1 Hawthorne Village, Concord, MA. Ms. Walston spoke regarding the Concord Integrated Preschool and the space issues at the Ripley building. She noted Jessica Murphy's presentation, which stated that there would be increased enrollment in the Integrated Preschool. She stated that there would be a new classroom created in the fall. Ms. Walston stated that there is a working committee forming under SEPAC to take a look at the Integrated Preschool and would present their findings and recommendations to the SC next spring. She noted how surprised she was to hear that there might be plans to create a "Maker Space" at Ripley. She stated that although the STEAM lab sounds cool, it would be a real misstep to jeopardize the future growth or integration of the preschool and that until there is true insight as to the longer-term needs of the preschool, they need to be sure that isn't the case. She urged the CSC and administration to refrain from committing space at the Ripley building for a maker space or any other purpose not related to the preschool until the SEPAC has completed and presented their review.

### **III. READING OF THE MINUTES**

None.

### **IV. CHAIRS REPORT**

Ms. Boynton provided the SC with a sheet that explained the ballot questions 1 and 2, which she was hoping to provide to different groups in Town. She stated that there is a special Town Election on Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> and that 2 of the ballot questions are important initiatives to the CSC and the CCRSC. She stated that ballot question 1 is related to the landfill and that it's Article 14 and noted that the Article was defeated at Town Meeting, but remains on the ballot for Thursday. Ms. Boynton encouraged people to go vote and understand what they are voting on. She stated that if the question passes at the polls, they have the opportunity to further discuss the remediation option at the HS and take another Town Meeting vote. Mr. Johnston stated that his biggest concern with Question 1 is that they have a bid in hand. He opened the meeting for any public comments. Ms. Beeuwkes asked how people will know if it passes and Mr. Johnston stated it's majority of votes. She also commented that if they send out something to help people vote, that they have to balance it by letting people know the weight of the votes and the outcomes should they vote certain ways. Ms. Bout stated that she was in favor of the information sheet with that type of edit.

Ms. Boynton noted that both committees agreed to add a Joint meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30PM at Ripley to meet with HYA Consultants regarding next steps in the superintendent search. Ms. Rigby noted that it would be a public meeting.

### **V. CORRESPONDENCE**

A. Edco. Mr. Johnston stated they received a letter from EDCO asking to join them in support of House Bill 457.

B. 2016 Patriots Day Activities. Mr. Johnston stated that he received an email regarding the 2016 Patriots Day Bridge Ceremony and Dawn Salute and noted that they were invited to walk in the parade.

C. Concord's Holocaust Remembrance. Ms. Rigby stated that she received an invitation from the Concord-Carlisle Human Rights Council to attend the Concord's Holocaust Remembrance on May 1<sup>st</sup> from 7:00-8:00 PM at the Concord Town House.

## **VI. RECOGNITIONS**

A. Willard: Carol Hauser, Jane Downes, Julee Vitello. On behalf of Pat Fernandes, Ms. Rigby recognized Carol Hauser and Jane Downes for their work associated with a panel discussion on hearing loss in which Ms. Hauser was the moderator and Ms. Downes was a panelist. She also recognized Willard's school counselor, Julee Vitello for facilitating the Willard Food Drive for Willard 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

B. Alcott: K Teachers Colleen Desmond, Gayle Chatlosh, Allison Forseter, Darcy McSweeney. Ms. Sharon Young recognized the kindergarten teachers, Colleen Desmond, Gayle Chatlosh, Allison Forseter, Darcy McSweeney; for doing an amazing job at individualizing instruction for each and every student.

C. CMS: Brian Revell, Anna Anderson, Chris Noce, Paul Halpainy, Dan Rivenburgh. Ms. Rigby, on behalf of Lynne Beattie at CMS, recognized Brian Revell, for providing curriculum support to substitute teachers in social studies; Anna Anderson, Chris Noce, Paul Halpainy, Dan Rivenburgh for their MICA accomplishments.

D. Thoreau: K Team Christine Apollos, Johanna Ellis, Sadie Gordon, Jacqui McKenna and Donna Macone and Maria Scholfield. Ms. Rigby, on behalf of Angel Charles, recognized the members of the Thoreau kindergarten team and the administrative assistants for all of their hard work preparing and running 2 successful kindergarten registrations: Christine Apollos, Johanna Ellis, Sadie Gordon, Jacqui McKenna and Donna Macone and Maria Scholfield.

E. Sharon Young and Aaron Joncas. Ms. Rigby recognized the leadership of Sharon Young and Aaron Joncas. She noted that the District has worked really hard closing the achievement gap and Ms. Young and Mr. Joncas have taken risks over the last 2 years of developing different ways of providing support in academics as well as enrichment for K, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Boston students. She noted that the results are incredible.

## **VII. REPORTS & ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION**

A. Closing the Achievement Gap at Alcott – Sharon Young, Aaron Joncas. Ms. Young and Mr. Joncas presented on meeting the needs of the students and the changing population. Mr. Joncas stated that 31 cities and towns currently participate in the METCO program. He noted that there are 2 entry points in CCRSD, Kindergarten and 9<sup>th</sup> grade. He noted that some of the families are 3<sup>rd</sup> generation participants. He reviewed the demographics of the students and Ms. Young reviewed the many different languages that are spoken by the students at home. Ms. Young stated that there would be 3 full-time METCO tutors placed in Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade in 2016-2017. She also noted that there would be 1 ELL teacher and 1 ELA Curriculum Specialist with ELL certification. Ms. Young stated that 40 high needs students receive extra support in the extended day programming in collaboration with the Umbrella Community Arts Center on Tuesdays. She stated that high-needs students in grades 1 and 2 receive tutoring at Alcott. Mr. Joncas stated that they are working on cultural awareness training by providing professional development, the creation of a Diversity Advisory Council and collaboration with the Center for Parents and Families on parent education. Ms. Young noted that the Diversity Advisory Council is comprised of Concord and Boston parents, faculty and administration. Ms. Young noted that they have achieved Level 1 status. She reviewed the benchmarks as well as next steps for students, including: continuing grade level meetings every 6 weeks, continuing the Tuesday Umbrella Program, investigating ways to support high needs students in grade 3, using open circle to address diversity in the classroom and celebrating cultural contributions that students bring to the school. Mr. Joncas and Ms. Young reviewed the next steps for adults, including: supplementing the kindergarten orientation with parent connections, partnering with IDEAS, Open Circle, Teachers21, etc. to enhance instructional practices and provide teachers with tools to address culture with students, utilizing the Diversity Advisory Council to insure sustainability and effectiveness and initiatives and implement and implementing parent discussion opportunities.

Ms. Boynton stated how impressive what they have accomplished is and noted how sensitively they have included others and how many people have invested time and energy. Ms. Young recognized Ms. Rigby and noted how they

were encouraged by her and noted that many of the ideas were hers. Mr. Joncas noted that he feels incredibly fortunate for the support the District provides. Ms. Bout stated that she loved the genuine and comprehensive way they went about this.

### **VIII. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Vote to accept the donation of a Buddy Bench from the Joseph Middlemiss Big Heart Foundation to the Willard School. Ms. Rigby stated that the Buddy Bench is a tool that is designed to promote kindness among students. She noted that the organization reached out to her because they wanted to donate a bench in honor of Willard 3<sup>rd</sup> grade student, Kayden Dunhan. A motion was made by Ms. Boynton, seconded by Ms. Bout, to accept the donation of a Buddy Bench to the Willard School with gratitude. The motion unanimously approved.

B. Vote to approve the Concord Teachers' Association Successor Agreement for 2015-16 and 2016-2019. A motion was made by Ms. Boynton, seconded by Ms. Bout, to approve the Concord Teachers' Association Successor Agreement for 2015-15 and 2016-2019. Mr. Johnston noted all of the hard work that went into this and thanked Kathi Snook, Jen Munn, Mr. Flaherty and Ms. McCausland for their hard work. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. Vote to approve CMS Trip to Washington DC 2016. A motion was made by Ms. Boynton, seconded by Ms. Bout, to approve the CMS Trip to Washington, DC on June 13-16, 2016 with the condition that we receive a signed District Liability Insurance waiver (MIIA) from all participants. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **IX. OLD BUSINESS**

A. Transportation. Mr. Flaherty stated that he has received all the new buses and they are preparing specifications for the new buses they are going to order. He noted that they are waiting on the ballot for Article 15. He stated that they have received new monies for the capital plan which will allow for renovations to 37 Knox Trail.

### **X. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Ms. Rigby reported that they have hired a new principal for the high school, Mike Mastrullo, current principal of Groton-Dunstable High School. She stated that she appreciated all of their input as well as Kelly McCausland's leadership in leading the Selection Committee. She also thanked all of the participation from the high school teachers. Ms. Rigby also stated that Peter Kelly, Director of Technology, has collaborated with the District Administrative team to reorganize a position that is currently open, the Assistant Director of Technology. She stated that there is a need for leadership in supporting teachers and students in the integration of digital literacy tools. She noted that Mr. Kelly is recommending that the position be filled with an Administrator of Digital Literacy, which will be more focused on the learning aspect of using digital tools. She noted that Ms. Herbert and Mr. Kelly are trying to fill the role.

### **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Ms. Boynton, seconded by Ms. Bout, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting adjourned at 8:59 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 4/26/16

Abbreviations:

CASE	Cooperative Association for Special Education
CDW	CDW Consultants, Inc.
CSC	Concord School Committee
CCSC	Concord-Carlisle Regional District School Committee
CIP	Concord Integrated Preschool
CPA	Community Preservation Act
CPC	Community Preservation Committee

CPS	Concord Public Schools
CCRSD	Concord-Carlisle Regional School District
CCHS	Concord-Carlisle High School
CHPS	The Collaborative for High Performance Schools
CSEC	Comprehensive Sustainable Energy Committee
CPSC	Consumer Products Safety Commission
CPW	Concord Public Works
CTA	Concord Teachers Association
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DESE	Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
FINCOM	Finance Committee
MASC	Massachusetts Association of School Committees
MIAA	Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association
NEASC	New England Association of Schools and Colleges
OPEB	Other Post-Employment Benefits
PAC	Parent Advisory Committee
RTI	Response to Intervention
SEPAC	Special Education Advisory Council
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Math