

# Monthly Memo from the Superintendent

Dr. Laurie Hunter  
Concord Public Schools  
Concord-Carlisle Regional School District

Superintendent  
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## 2018-2019 Calendar Process

The Joint School Committees spent the fall reviewing data, holding forums, researching the legal aspects of the calendar and developing a policy for religious and cultural observance accommodations. The new policy is found at on the web page through this hot link to the districts' policy manual: [IMDA Accommodations for Religious and Cultural Observances](#) .

On Tuesday, January 9 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the Ripley Building, a forum will allow for public feedback as to the 2018-2019 school calendar. The committees will begin the discussion of the calendar during their business meeting later that evening.

## Concord Middle School Facilities Update

The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) responded to the district's submission of a Statement of Interest relative to a new middle school. Earlier this month, we learned that the district has not been invited into the subsidy program for the 2018 cycle. MSBA encouraged the district to resubmit its application. The Concord School Committee will discuss the decision at an upcoming meeting.

## CCHS Campus Advisory Committee

The Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee developed a CCHS Campus Advisory Committee to develop and make recommendations as to the future use of the campus property. The Advisory Committee includes town officials, staff, administrators, students, parents and community members. The Advisory Committee meets regularly and is holding a public input meeting on Wednesday, January 24, 2018 in the CCHS Learning Commons from 7:00-8:00 p.m.

## Teenage Anxiety

The schools continue to explore strategies to reduce stress and anxiety. Our work includes strategies through Stanford's [Challenge Success](#) and the development of a district approach to mindfulness. The Harvard Graduate School of Education recently released a series of articles on the epidemic of teenage anxiety that I would recommend to all parents. The series is titled "[What Do Anxious Teens Need?](#)" and is found through this hot link.

## K-5 STEAM Kick-Off

The K-5 STEAM kick-off occurred this month at all three elementary schools. What a huge success! Among the projects were fireflies that actually light up and catapults to send balls airborne. The success was a result of the efforts of the science leadership, teachers, the many parent volunteers and Concord Education Fund who supported the purchase of the materials. We look forward to what January brings when the fifth grade visits Ripley!

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