

# Monthly Memo from the Superintendent

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Concord Public Schools  
Concord-Carlisle Regional School District

Superintendent  
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## **Strategic Planning**

The strategic planning process is underway! An amazing group of 50 stakeholders including staff, parents, community members and students met twice. During our most recent session, we analyzed feedback gathered during multiple forums across the district as to a vision for the next five years. Themes already began to emerge. Over the next two months, this data will guide us to a formal set of strategic objectives.

## **Cultural Competency**

Over the past few weeks, implementation of the religious holiday accommodation policy has been a priority. The district's Cultural Competency Committee will meet later in April to discuss professional development for next year. A number of administrators attended a diversity hiring fair in March looking to recruit candidates of different backgrounds. We are actively engaged in furthering those hiring processes now.

## **Appointment of Commission of Education and METCO Chief Executive Officer**

We look forward to the work to come as new leadership evolves in two very important agencies connected to the districts. Jeff Riley was sworn in as Massachusetts Commissioner of Education this week. In February, METCO Inc., welcomed Milly Arbaje-Thomas as Chief Executive Officer. The energy of both of these new leaders is very motivating.

## **Jared Stanton Appointed as New Director of Finance and Operations for CPS and CCRSD**

The Concord and Concord-Carlisle School Committees approved the nomination of Jared Stanton as the new Director of Finance and Operations for both districts at the Joint School Committee meeting held on April 3<sup>rd</sup> following an extensive search process. Jared has experience in serving a regional school district working for the Groton-Dunstable Schools and currently serves as School Business Manager for the

Peabody Public Schools. Jared will replace Deputy Superintendent John Flaherty who is retiring in June.

### **CCHS Campus Advisory Committee**

The CCHS Campus Advisory received over 30 ideas for use of the CCHS campus. The committee is currently reviewing those and ideas and looking to prioritize them. While one focus of the group is the newly remediated “landfill” site, the committee is taking a broad look at the entire high school campus. A report is due to the regional school committee during the month of May.

### **Curriculum Work 2017-2018**

Under the leadership of Kristen Herbert, Director of Teaching and Learning, the district’s curriculum work this year targets the areas of writing and music instruction. Vertical committees of K-12 educators met throughout the year to conduct a review of our current programs and provide recommendations for growth.

### **Special Education Reviews**

In October, the district asked consultants to review the CCHS special education program. This report is currently under review by the CCHS staff in order to determine new approaches to service delivery. In March, the same consultants visited the elementary and middle schools. Their report is expected by the close of the school year. The goal of this process is to maximize the effectiveness of our work with students.

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