

Community Input Sought for CCHS Campus

Arriving on the CCHS campus from Thoreau Street, a visitor is greeted by lovely vistas of a state-of-the-art facility that includes a stadium, tennis courts, and lush grass complete with a baseball diamond and a softball field. Nearing the top of the hill the beautiful, award-winning, and eco-friendly high school comes into view. Continuing past the Beede Center toward Walden Street, our visitor will see the remediated landfill area and a few pockets of undeveloped land. These open parcels, the only undeveloped areas of the campus, are essentially a blank canvas with enormous potential. The big question is this: Can those parcels be used to meet unmet needs of the school and our community?

With great excitement, the Concord Carlisle Regional School Committee (CCRSC) formed a CCHS Campus Advisory Committee to study the current and potential future use of the school grounds. The site garnering the most interest and attention is the parcel of land with the most potential. Located on the Walden Street side of the CCHS campus, the recently completed remediation project leaves untapped acreage with latent potential.

The Campus Advisory Committee is soliciting input from the community as it prepares its recommendations for the CCRSC.

The primary function of the CCHS facility is to serve the educational needs of our students. In addition to serving our students, the facilities are used by various entities, including Adult and Community Education, youth sports groups, Concord Town Meeting, and numerous others. To maximize the value of our significant investments in our facilities, the Campus Advisory Committee is developing potential land-use oriented projects that the CCRSC can factor into careful analysis and planning.

The Campus Advisory Committee is charged with studying the future use of the property, and to solicit input from students, the superintendent, principals, athletic director, and all members of the CCHS educational community. To this end, we welcome counsel from all interested community members. We encourage anyone interested to bring forward their best ideas so we can leave a lasting legacy that will benefit students and community members for generations.

There are two upcoming opportunities to learn how you can submit your thoughts on this exciting possibility. Join members of the committee on Tuesday, February 13 at Fern's in Carlisle from 8:00-9:30 am and at the CCHS Learning Commons from 5:00-6:30 pm. You may

also learn at our website – <http://www.concordps.org/school-committee/campus-advisory-committee/>– or by emailing Chair Mary Storrs at storrs.ccrsd@gmail.com

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