

JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Concord – Carlisle School Committee  
Concord School Committee  
Ripley Building  
August 7, 2018

Present: Johanna Boynton, Chair, CSC; CCSC  
Robert Grom, Chair, CCSC; CSC  
Mary Storrs, Vice Chair, CCSC  
Heather Bout, CSC; CCSC  
Christine Lear, CCSC

Absent: Wallace Johnston, Vice Chair, CSC; CCSC  
Courtland Booth, CSC; CCSC

Present from Administration: Dr. Laurie Hunter, Superintendent of Schools, CPS & CCRSD  
Jared Stanton, Director of Finance & Operations, CPS & CCRSD

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Boynton called the CSC to order at 6:02 PM and Mr. Grom called the CCSC meeting to order, noting that the meeting was being recorded.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. Gerald Soucy, 770 Main Street, Concord, MA. Mr. Soucy stated that he has an independent practice called Death Nurse, LLC, noting his work with end of life and serious illness. He stated that patients and families play a key role in today's healthcare. He shared his idea of a program titled "Concord Talks About Death", with the goal of the program becoming the premier community and adult ed event every year, beginning in October. He stated that the program would consist of 3 related programs on 3 nights in October, each with a short documentary and a speaker. He noted that the programs would be open to the community at no charge. He stated that he is working with clinical colleagues and select organizations to develop the content and raise support. He reviewed the 3 programs: 10/2 – "Steelmantown" presented by Caitlin Doughty; 10/18 – "End Game", presented by Artie O'Donnell; 10/31 – "Extremis", presented by Susan Glock.

**III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Hunter stated that CC at Play is in conversation with the Town of Concord regarding some of the pervious/impervious conversations around the placement of the shed that was gifted to CCHS.

Dr. Hunter stated that on Tuesday morning, July 31<sup>st</sup>, there was a fire at CCHS that was caused from a heating device outside of a fish tank in one of the classrooms, which ignited. She stated that there was no smoke detector in the classroom, noting that they are not required by code to have them. She stated that they are at code as long as there are sprinklers in the classrooms, which CCHS has. Dr. Hunter stated that the fire burned from 5:40 AM to 6:05 AM, at which time the room became hot enough to trip the sprinkler, alerting the fire department. She stated that the sprinkler ran for about 15 -20 minutes, accumulating about 3 inches of water in the classroom. She stated that the water seeped in the corridors outside of the classroom, seeped through the rugs and walls to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, through the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor rugs and walls to the gym-ceiling underneath to the gym floor. She stated that the 4<sup>th</sup> floor is a demolition zone in that section of the corridor, noting that the contractors have opened the walls up anywhere from 4-10 inches, depending on what portion of the wall was affected. She stated that classroom 404, where the fire occurred, is stripped down to beams and studs, noting that they are essentially rebuilding the classroom. She stated that the room adjacent, room 408, had significant damage since the connecting door was open at the time of the fire and it will require extensive cleanup, but not as extensive as room 404. She stated that room 404 would be offline until October. She stated that the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor hallways have also been opened up, noting that the biggest impact occurred in the common area due to water damage in the walls. She stated that the 2 spaces next to the common area, a study skill room and teacher prep room, have rugs that had damage. Dr. Hunter stated that they are still assessing the gym floor, noting

how thankful she is to the custodial team for their work. She stated that they also need to open the ceiling in the gym to assess the damage.

Dr. Hunter stated that the insurance company MIIA (Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Agency) has been incredibly responsive, noting that the District will be paying a deductible of about \$2,000, with everything else being covered.

Ms. Storrs questioned if there were any groups that use the CCHS facilities over the summer and Dr. Hunter stated that there are, and that they have been able to relocate them to one of the private schools in Concord. She noted the high level of community outreach during the fire issue.

Ms. Bout thanked everyone that was on the ground while the situation was happening, as well as Dr. Hunter for her help while she was away on vacation. Dr. Hunter stated that their biggest gratitude was that no one was in the building when the fire occurred. She noted that they are beginning to talk with the Fire Department on prevention and possibly considering smoke detectors in classrooms. She stated that school would still be opening on August 29<sup>th</sup>.

#### **IV. DISCUSSION**

A. Review authorization for borrowing and warrant articles for Concord Special Town Meeting. Mr. Grom thanked Dr. Hunter, Mr. Stanton, Mr. Rhames, the Administration and law firms for having the articles ready discussion to enable the SC to meet the Town Meeting Warrant deadline on Friday. Dr. Hunter stated that they worked closely with bond counsel and town counsel on wording, noting that both finance directors in Concord and Carlisle have been highly engaged in the process as well.

Mr. Stanton stated that that the 1<sup>st</sup> borrowing authorization would include \$100,000 for: capital needs identified for drainage improvements at the Lower Field, spray booth duct work, emergency shower repairs and an ambulance cut to improve access to the nurse's office. He stated that he recommends that the SC appropriate \$100,000 and authorize capital needs of the CCHS building and campus.

Mr. Stanton stated that he also recommends that the SC appropriate and authorize the District Treasurer to borrow funds not to exceed \$200,000 for the purpose of design and engineering study of the of the CCHS building and campus. He stated that he got an initial estimate from Nitsch Engineering, but that they would be reaching out to 3 other firms to get additional estimates. Dr. Hunter noted that if they find that \$200,000 is too high, they would be able to lower it at Town Meeting. Mr. Stanton stated that they could begin the bid process as long as they stipulate that the award is contingent upon Town Meeting approval. Ms. Storrs pointed out that the bids are contingent upon funding, but they are not obligated to proceed even if they receive the funding and Mr. Stanton confirmed. Ms. Lear noted that the Town Clerk listed on the Borrowing Authorization memo was not Charlene Hinton, but Mary de Alderete. Dr. Hunter noted that Mr. Stanton has had very positive conversations with Carlisle regarding the borrowing. Ms. Storrs voiced her concerns for the short time frame and large amount of money being requested. Dr. Hunter stating that they would be doing the design work no matter what, noting that with the public water supply concerns at the CCHS campus, approval of any plans require design work.

Ms. Bout thanked Dr. Hunter and Mr. Stanton for all of their work and Dr. Hunter noted that both town halls have been very helpful and supportive to get to this point in this amount of time.

#### **V. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Vote to approve authorization for borrowing. A motion was made by Ms. Bout, for CCSC, seconded by Ms. Boynton, for CCSC, to approve the authorization for borrowing for the \$100,000 article as outlined in the memo: Suggested Articles and Motions for Concord and Carlisle Town Meetings dated August 7, 2018 from Jared Stanton. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Ms. Bout, for CCSC, seconded by Ms. Lear, for CCSC, to approve authorization for borrowing in the amount of \$200,000 as specified in the memo from Jared Stanton regarding the Suggested Articles and Motions for Concord and Carlisle Town Meetings of August 7, 2018. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Vote to approve warrant articles for Concord Special Town Meeting. A motion was made by Ms. Bout, seconded by Ms. Boynton, to approve the warrant article for \$100,000 for Concord Special Town Meeting as specified in the memo from Jared Stanton dated August 7, 2018. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Ms. Bout, seconded by Ms. Boynton, to approve the warrant article for the Concord Special Town Meeting for \$200,000 for study of the campus as specified in the memo from Jared Stanton dated August 7, 2018. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. Vote to appoint Mary Storrs as Chair of the CCHS Campus Oversight Subcommittee. A motion was made by Ms. Bout, seconded by Ms. Boynton, to appoint Mary Storrs as Chair of the CCHS Campus Oversight Subcommittee. The motion was unanimously approved.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Ms. Bout, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Ms. Storrs, for CCSC and Mr. Grom, for CSC, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting adjourned at 6:41 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 9/25/18

### Abbreviations:

ACLU	American Civil Liberties Union
CASE	Cooperative Association for Special Education
CEF	Concord Education Fund
CSC	Concord School Committee
CCSC	Concord-Carlisle Regional District School Committee
CMLP	Concord Municipal Light Plant
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
CPW	Concord Public Works
CTA	Concord Teachers Association
DESE	Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
ELA	English Language Arts
EOYR	End of the Year
FAAC	Financial Audit Advisory Committee
FINCOM	Finance Committee
FCCPF	Friends of Concord Carlisle Playing Fields
GASB	Governmental Accounting Standards Firm
MAAB	Massachusetts Architectural Access Board
MASC	Massachusetts Association of School Committees
MIAA	Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association
NEASC	New England Association of Schools and Colleges
NESDEC	The New England School Development Council
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association
OPEB	Other Post-Employment Benefits

PEG	Public Education Government
RTI	Response to Intervention
SEPAC	Special Education Parent Advisory Council
SOI	Statement of Interest
SPED	Special Education
SWOT	Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, Threats
YRBS	Youth Risk Behavior Survey