

Present: Wallace Johnston, Chair, CCSC; CSC  
David Model, Vice Chair, CCSC  
Heather Bout, Chair, CSC; CCSC  
Courtland Booth, Vice Chair, CSC; CCSC  
Cynthia Rainey, CSC, CCSC  
Eva Mostoufi, CCSC

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

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The CCSC meeting was called to order by Mr. Johnston at 5:03 PM, noting that it was being recorded and the CSC meeting was then called to order by Ms. Bout, also noting that it was being recorded. Roll call attendance was taken: Rainey, aye; Booth, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Bout, aye; Model, aye; Johnston, aye.

**II. READING OF THE MINUTES**

A. Open Session Jt. Meeting – 5/8/20. A motion was made by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, to accept the joint meeting meetings from 5/8/20. The motion passed by roll call: Rainey, aye (for both); Booth, aye (for both); Mostoufi, aye; Bout, aye (for both); Model, aye; Johnston, aye (for both).

**III. CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Johnston stated that he received an email from someone in Chile who is moving into the District, asking how to get access to the District. He stated that he received emails thanking the CCHS team for the commencement run buses and Dr. Hunter noted how well received the buses were. Mr. Johnston stated that he received an email about the League of Women Voters hosting the Concord Select Board Candidate Forum on May 27<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-4:00PM and Ms. Bout noted the forum being held for the School Committee Candidates on May 29<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-2:00PM. Ms. Rainey noted that both forums would not be live, but would be posted by May 30<sup>th</sup>. She stated that the community could send questions for the forum moderators to present to the candidates to: voterservice@lwvcc.org.

**IV. CHAIRS & LIAISONS REPORT**

Dr. Hunter stated that she would be at the Carlisle Board of Selectman’s meeting at 7:30PM to talk about the 1/12<sup>th</sup> budget proposal and will be meeting on Thursday with the Concord Select Board at 4:00PM.

Ms. Mostoufi stated that the last board meeting of SEPAC will be held June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00PM.

**V. REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION**

- A. Coronavirus Impact Updates
  - 1. Phase 4 Fall 2020
  - 2. Superintendent’s COVID-19 Task Force
  - 3. State and DESE Guidance Updates

Dr. Hunter shared a presentation on the COVID-19 Task Force. She stated that the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of this Task Force on May 27<sup>th</sup> would include about 35 stakeholders, including teachers from regular and special ed, parents, leadership, and Board of Health representatives. She stated that the goal is to outline the process to use to make recommendations to the SC, keeping in mind guidance from CDC, DESE, and other agencies, noting that she will highly regard the direction from the Governor. She reviewed the different options for the fall, including remote learning, in-person learning, and blended learning, as well as the draft charge of the Task Force. She reviewed several working groups and building based task forces, noting that there needs to be differentiation between elementary, middle and

secondary levels in implementation recommendations. Dr. Hunter stated that the District is working on parent, staff and student surveys, as well as forums and focus groups for engagement. She reviewed the areas to be discussed in the following four working groups: 1) Health and Safety, 2) Blended Innovative Learning, 3) Whole Child Support and 4) Operations. Dr. Hunter noted that there will be an alternating structure to when the groups meet in order to provide informative recommendations. She stated that the goal is to have a vested set of recommendations by July 31<sup>st</sup>, noting that the SC will be involved throughout the process. She noted that the Task Force will be working on a SWOT analysis when the Task Force meets the following day.

Ms. Bout noted how impressed she was with Dr. Hunter for the depth and breadth of everything she has taken into consideration for this Task Force. Mr. Booth suggested that the SC get an analysis of what has been surveyed already before the SC weighs in on what else it may need to analyze. He suggested looking for any outliers in the patterns that Dr. Hunter has seen in other school systems and noted that he expects to debate educational quality and consistency, thanking Dr. Hunter for her work in creating this task force. Ms. Mostoufi asked if there would be an area for sharing all of the documents that the Task Force is working from and asked if the District is looking at what the private sector is doing. Dr. Hunter stated that a Google folder will be available throughout the process. She noted that it will include many learning plans from private Concord schools, and that there will also be a live page off of the District webpage where the Task Force work will be continually be shared as it progresses. Ms. Rainey asked if Dr. Hunter was planning on creating an early task of eliminating a scenario that may not happen, such as a normal, everyone in the school, same size classrooms, etc. Dr. Hunter stated that she does not see this being the viable direction, noting that she sees more a blended model or remote learning occurring.

Mr. Model asked about blended learning and low-density classrooms, questioning if this meant that teachers would be repeating lessons twice. Dr. Hunter stated that this is part of the discussion to have, noting that she would hope to avoid situations like this, also noting that she would like to reach the kids remotely with similar content via zoom to keep some more semblance of a pace than what is currently happening. She noted that the challenge is to ensure that everything is accessible to those students who need additional supports. Dr. Hunter stated that, in regards to staffing, the committees need to vet what the best delivery model is. Mr. Model noted that there is an important political component to this, noting that school may be more expensive next year. Dr. Hunter stated that she and Mr. Stanton have determined that the best approach is to zero base the budget again, to enable the District to project forward what the blended, remote learning will require. She stated that the District will be bringing the SC a zero-based budget, based on everything known, by the end of June. Mr. Model suggested building three budget scenarios, 1) a stripped-down version of the budget already created, 2) remote learning and 3) blended learning. Ms. Bout noted her concern for creating different budgets for blended and remote, noting that either has to have the propensity to flip to the other and allow for flexibility. Mr. Model stated that the goal is to have a resource plan, so that whatever happens, the Districts can operate at a high level.

Dr. Hunter stated that she would be sharing Zoom information for tomorrow's Task Force meeting (9:00 AM) and will also be posting a recording of the video. She stated that she and Ms. Grube received guidance on special education summer services from DESE – that DESE is not ready to tell districts to hold live, in person summer special education programs. She stated that the District will be moving forward with a remote special education summer program, which was already being planned.

B. Budget FY21 Updates. Dr. Hunter stated that, three years ago, teachers were offered an incentive opportunity to retire from the District based on years of service, which offered savings to the District over several years. She stated that this program was successful in the past, and suggested that the SC consider it as a possibility again. Ms. Bout questioned if this was for teachers to decide immediately for the FY20-21 year or for future years and Dr. Hunter stated that it depends on the interest of the SC. Ms. Rainey questioned the number of people that would be eligible and Dr. Hunter stated that she and Mr. Stanton would provide numbers for the SC. Dr. Hunter stated that there would be surveys sent out to collect interest prior to putting out a formal invitation. She noted that, during this environment, this option seemed worth exploring. She noted that both teacher contracts have reduction in force deadlines of June 15<sup>th</sup>, with language that says under unusual or extraordinary circumstances, the decisions could be made into the summer. She stated that both union presidents feel that this has reached the threshold of unusual or extraordinary circumstances. Ms. Rainey asked Dr. Hunter to get additional numbers on possible interested teachers and Ms. Mostoufi asked for examples of amounts of incentives being offered by other districts.

**VI. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Vote to Accept Donations to Provide Food to Those in Need. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rainey, that the CCSC accept donations of \$39,595 from 278 individuals and charitable entities in the Concord and Carlisle communities. The motion was unanimously approved, with sincere thanks, by roll call: Rainey, aye; Bout, aye; Booth, aye; Model, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Johnston, aye.

B. Vote to Accept Donation from Alliance Energy. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rainey, that the CSC accept a donation of \$500 from Alliance Energy, LLC. Dr. Hunter noted that this is part of the school charitable program, to be used as needed. The motion passed by roll call, with thanks: Booth, aye; Rainey, aye; Johnston, abstained; Bout, aye.

**VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A. A motion was made by Mr. Model, for CCSC and Mr. Johnston, for CSC, seconded by Ms. Rainey, for both CCSC and CSC, that the Concord School Committee and Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee will enter into Executive Session under Purpose 2 of the Open Meeting Law: To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel and Purpose 3 of the Open Meeting Law: To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body, and not return to Open Session. The motion passed by roll call: Rainey, aye (for both); Booth, aye (for both); Johnston, aye (for both); Model, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Bout, aye (for both) and Open Session ended at 6:27 PM.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rainey. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call and the meeting adjourned at 7:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 6/30/20

Abbreviations:

- CCHS Concord-Carlisle High School
- CCRSD Concord-Carlisle Regional School District
- CCSC Concord-Carlisle Regional District School Committee
- CCTA Concord-Carlisle Teachers’ Association
- CMS Concord Middle School
- CMSBC Concord Middle School Building Committee
- CPS Concord Public Schools
- CSC Concord School Committee
- ESY Extended School Year
- MIAA Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association
- OPM Owners Project Manager
- SC School Committee