

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

Absent from Administration: Jared Stanton, Director of Finance & Operations, CPS & CCRSD

I. CALL TO ORDER - EXECUTIVE SESSION

Roll call attendance was taken: Booth, aye; Model, aye; Rainey, aye; Bout, aye; Johnston, aye. *Ms. Mostoufi was not present at this time.* The CSC meeting was called to order by Ms. Bout, at 5:00 PM, noting that it was being recorded. The CCSC meeting was then called to order by Mr. Johnston, also noting that it was being recorded on Zoom.

A motion was made by Mr. Booth, for CCSC and CSC, seconded by Ms. Rainey, for 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 return to Open Session around 5:20-5:30PM. The motion passed by roll call: Booth, aye (for both); Rainey, aye (for both); Johnston, aye (for both); Model, aye; Bout, aye (for both), and the CCSC entered into Executive Session at 5:16 PM.

The Committees returned from Executive Session at approximately 5:50 PM.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

III. READING OF THE MINUTES

A. Open Session – Joint meeting 5/26/20, 6/2/20. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded to Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, to accept the Joint meeting minutes from 5/26/20 and 6/2/20. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call: Booth, aye (for both), Bout, aye (for both); Rainey, aye (for both); Model, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Johnston, aye (for both).

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Johnston stated that the received a business solicitation and an email from someone requesting to be in touch with the SC.

V. CHAIRS & LIASIONS REPORT

Ms. Bout congratulated everyone for getting through the year.

Mr. Model stated that he is running unopposed for the Carlisle Select Board. He stated that the Carlisle School Committee is a contested race, noting that July 8th is the first meeting of the Carlisle School Committee. Mr. Booth thanked Mr. Model for his dedication to the CCSC. Ms. Bout noted that she’s enjoyed the perspective and experience Mr. Model has brought to the Committee. Ms. Rainey noted how valuable Mr. Model has been and Ms. Mostoufi noted that she would miss her mentor. Mr. Johnston thanked Mr. Model and the perspective that he brought.

Ms. Bout stated that the Concord Finance Committee would like the SC's opinion on the CMS stabilization fund article that the Select Board is bringing forward. Mike Lawson, Chair of the Concord Select Board, stated that the Select Board is requesting that each committee and those individuals with articles on the warrant to let the Select Board know if they consider the articles essentials or not. He also stated that the Town Moderator has put together her draft consent calendar and will be meeting with the Select Board to review the articles, which will be followed by a joint meeting to propose a final consent calendar to postpone some articles until a special town meeting. Ms. Bout stated that the SC would be hard-pressed to say this is a dire essential article for this year, given the situation. She stated that the fiscally responsible thing would be to move it since the needs for the middle school have not changed. After discussion, the SC agreed that the article was essential and should be moved. Mr. Johnston noted that the parking lot article would not be moved.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hunter commended everyone for their efforts in putting forth an engaging last week of school for the kids, noting that families and kids felt very connected. She stated that the last day for staff was June 19th and expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the staff. Dr. Hunter stated that the District continues to provide food to the community on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the summer, noting that the high school kids were helping to pack groceries. She stated that Open Table has offered to supply food as well and Gaining Ground is sending produce, noting how well supported the District is. She stated that the fields are now open to practices, with guidelines in place, and that Concord Recreation opened up its camp at Alcott and CCHS this week. She stated that Concord Children's Center opened up at Ripley as well. Dr. Hunter stated that the Ripley Administration Building would remain closed until August 3rd, and safety protocols are being worked on in July. Dr. Hunter stated that there was a social media post last night by a CCHS student that was racist and homophobic, noting that the family and police were notified. She stated that this is unacceptable and will not be tolerated, noting all of the work being done to address the current climate. *Ms. Mostoufi joined the meeting.* She stated that the District Cultural Competency Committee would be meeting all summer and that the staff would have access to professional development opportunities around having difficult conversations around race with students. *Mr. Model joined the meeting.*

VII. REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION

A. COVID-19 Task Force Update. Dr. Hunter stated that the DESE guidance came out last Thursday, June 25th, sharing DESE's presentation. She noted that the District is feeling well supported by the state and that she is appreciative of the dialogue between them, noting that the health directives in the presentation are mandates and the educational delivery is more at the local level. Dr. Hunter stated that the priority is to safely return all students to in-person school settings, noting that this aligns with the health and safety working group recommendation. She stated that, as of today, the data shows that children are less susceptible to and are less likely to transmit COVID-19. She reviewed the strategies for returning to school, including: wearing masks, physical distancing of 3 feet, handwashing/sanitizing and protocols around staying home when sick. She noted that temperature screenings and point of entry screenings are not mandated. Dr. Hunter stated that the District needs to plan for in-person with safety requirements, hybrid learning, and remote learning, noting that the priority was in-person, but the health data would drive final decisions. Ms. Bout noted that some families may not feel comfortable sending kids to school, noting that some staff may not feel comfortable either. Dr. Hunter stated that learning and teaching would be provided to those kids that are at home because of family situations, noting that staff with medical needs will also have opportunities to work from home as well. She stated that there will be many variations in place. Dr. Hunter stated that comprehensive guidance will be coming in July from DESE. Ms. Mostoufi questioned funding for these changes and Dr. Hunter stated that districts are hoping for federal funding and that the state has allocated up to \$225 per student, noting that DESE is aware that their guidelines are contingent on funds.

B. FY21 Budget Update. Dr. Hunter stated that she received notice that the CCRSD 1/12th budget is approved. She stated that state receipts are due July 15th, noting that this is a big driver to making the state budgets. Dr. Hunter stated that Concord's Finance Director has reported that, as of June 25th, property taxes have come in at 99% of expected receipts and personal taxes at 97%, noting that both numbers are slightly higher than a year ago. She stated that the town of Carlisle has approved a level funded amount at Town Meeting. She stated that Concord Town Meeting will be happening on September 12th and Mr. Johnston noted that it was changed to September 13th. Dr. Hunter stated that she and Mr. Stanton have been reviewing and zero-basing the budget, noting that everyone is doing a great job looking through different lenses. Dr. Hunter noted that the budget conversations will include risk and

contingency. Ms. Rainey questioned what the determination was on Article 26, CPS capital, and Dr. Hunter stated that the District needs to reach out to the Town of Concord on this. Ms. Rainey noted that the article is marked “essential”, but that the SC didn’t agree on calling it “essential”.

C. Superintendent Evaluation. Ms. Mostoufi reviewed the evaluation process, noting that the SC decided not to evaluate Dr. Hunter on her work after the closing, from March through the end of the school year, due to the absence of established metrics. She stated that the summative evaluation will be accessible to the public. Ms. Mostoufi stated that proficient is a very high achievement for superintendents, noting that Dr. Hunter received a split vote between exemplary and proficient. Ms. Mostoufi noted Dr. Hunter’s leadership, noting many concepts of: integrity, dedication, student focus, collaboration, inclusion, courage, preparedness, high standards, transparency, composure, humility and empowerment. Ms. Mostoufi highlighted Dr. Hunter’s accomplishments, noting her outstanding leadership. Ms. Mostoufi reviewed the feedback on the Performance Goals, noting the tremendous work Dr. Hunter is doing. Ms. Rainey reviewed the Professional Practice goals and Ms. Mostoufi reviewed the Instructional Leadership goals. Ms. Rainey review Management and Operations, noting how complex leading 2 districts is, as well as Family and Community Engagement, of which all members gave an exemplary rating to Dr. Hunter. Ms. Rainey reviewed Professional Culture, noting that continual nature of this work.

Mr. Booth noted the quality of relationships that Dr. Hunter has built and sustained with so many stakeholders. Ms. Bout stated that Dr. Hunter is a true leader for both the school and entire community, instilling confidence and trust in a very uncertain time. Mr. Johnston echoed everyone’s statements, noting that he is always impressed with Dr. Hunter’s breadth of knowledge, also noting her leadership during this difficult time. Ms. Mostoufi noted how impressed she is with Dr. Hunter’s dedication to the students and schools and noted her efforts in bringing people together. Ms. Rainey stated that it was a privilege to work on the summative review, noting all of Dr. Hunter’s collaborative efforts within the schools as well as the community. Mr. Model echoed everyone’s comments, noting that Dr. Hunter’s work ethic and energy are amazing, noting that her response to the pandemic has been phenomenal. He stated that she is one of the most dedicated and ethically pure persons he’s ever met. He stated how important leadership is, noting that everyone can be approved upon, recommending that special education be present at upcoming meetings to help answer questions and provide information. He stated that the District needs to continue to grow and continue to improve. Ms. Bout noted that the SC needs to be careful with the challenges that need to be addressed and the leadership in addressing these challenges. Ms. Bout stated how incredibly grateful they are for Dr. Hunter. Dr. Hunter thanked the SC for the time and energy put into the evaluation, noting that it is all very important feedback.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Vote to Approve CEF Donation. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, to approve the CEF Donation in the amount of \$80,768, with great appreciation. The motion passed by roll call: Bout, aye (for both); Booth, aye (for both); Rainey, aye (for both); Mostoufi, aye; Model, aye; Johnston, aye (for both).

B. Vote to Approve Superintendent Contract. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, to approve the 5-year Superintendent Contract for 2020-2025. The motion was approved by roll call: Booth, aye (for both); Bout, aye (for both); Rainey, aye (for both); Model, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Johnston, aye (for both).

C. Vote to have Alexa Anderson Participate as a Non-voting Concord School Committee Member until Concord Town Meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, for CSC, seconded by Mr. Johnston, for CSC, that the CSC seat Alexa Anderson tonight as a non-voting member of the CSC. The motion passed by roll call: Booth, aye; Rainey, aye; Johnston, aye; Bout, aye. Dr. Hunter noted that the Concord Select Board has to vote as well.

The SC discussed the date of the next meeting and agreed upon tentatively July 13th at 5:00 PM. The SC thanked Mr. Model for her service on the CCSC.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Booth seconded by Ms. Rainey. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call: Bout, aye (for both); Booth, aye (for both); Rainey, aye (for both); Mostoufi, aye; Model, aye; Johnston, aye (for both) and the meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 8.11.20

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