

Present: Wallace Johnston, Chair, CCSC; CSC
Sara Wilson, Vice Chair, CCSC
Heather Bout, Chair, CSC; CCSC
Courtland Booth, Vice Chair, CSC; CCSC
Cynthia Rainey, CSC, CCSC
Eva Mostoufi, CCSC
Alexa Anderson, 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

The CCSC meeting was called to order by Mr. Johnston at 4:02 PM, noting that it was being recorded by MMN. The CSC meeting was then called to order by Ms. Booth. Roll call attendance was taken: Rainey, aye; Wilson, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Bout, aye; Booth, aye; Johnston, aye.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Melynda Gambino. Ms. Gambino shared sentiments written by a group of parents encouraging the SC to move forward with the hybrid model, noting how eager everyone is to return to the classroom. Mr. Johnston noted that there were 82 people signed onto the letter.
2. Samantha Jaddou. Ms. Jaddou noted the importance of not letting guards down in terms of social distancing and stated that parents are willing to help out in any way possible.
3. Zoe Jackson, CC Senior and VP of the Senior Class. Ms. Jackson stated that Student Government. sent out a survey in July to students to get their thoughts/concerns of the alphabetical split in the hybrid plan. She stated that 150 seniors signed a petition for another plan to be considered. She stated that 105 students also emailed the SC to voice their concerns as well. Ms. Jackson asked the SC to allow the students to help come up with solutions to return to school in the best way possible, noting how damaging it is to be split from their support systems.
4. Madeleine Pooler, Concord Resident, parent and teacher. Ms. Pooler stated that she is ready to return in the hybrid model, suggesting the District partner with the police/government. She stated that in person learning is going to require ongoing sacrifices to make it work.
5. Carrie Patel, CCHS parent. Ms. Patel read a statement she wrote, noting that she is not sending her children back to school this year.

III. READING OF THE MINUTES

A. Joint Session – 6/30/20, 7/13/20. A motion was made by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, to approve the joint meeting minutes from 6/30/20 and 7/13/20. The motion passed by roll call: Booth, aye (for both); Mostoufi, aye; Bout, aye (for both); Wilson, aye; Rainey, aye (for both); Johnston, aye (for both).

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Johnston stated that he received 35 emails since Monday's meeting around school start, 3 emails on anti-racism, 1 regarding a personnel matter and 1 miscellaneous email.

V. CHAIRS & LIAISONS REPORT

Mr. Johnston stated that there was a Finance Committee meeting after the last SC meeting, noting that the Finance Committee recognized the challenging situation for tax payers and the significant number of unemployment cases of Concord residents. He noted that there is a series of public hearings coming up and will be broadcast on Zoom. Mr. Booth noted that Town Meeting is scheduled for September 13th. Mr. Johnston noted that the SC budget hearing will be held prior to the SC meeting next week on August 18th.

Mr. Booth stated that the Policy Subcommittee met last week and would be bringing COVID related policies to the SC for a first reading. He stated that the next meeting of the Policy Subcommittee is this Thursday, August 13th, at 4:00 PM.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Hunter stated that she can combine her report with the reopening updates.

VII. REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION

A. Fall 2020 Reopening/Task Force Updates. Dr. Hunter shared slides highlighting the work of the last few weeks. She reviewed the work of the building based task forces, response to individual remote learning plans, responses to transportation waivers, HVAC updates, MIAA Athletic updates (season postponed until at least September 14th), and staffing updates. Dr. Hunter stated that she has been regularly meeting with Concord Health Officials, noting that the option of COVID testing prior to returning to school has been brought up in discussion. She stated that there is an opportunity to work with Emerson in collaboration with the Broad Institute in Cambridge to set up testing for staff. She stated that DESE is not mandating student testing, but the local districts can. Dr. Hunter stated that, at the least, testing students prior to the return to school can increase the chances of success. She stated that the SC can make a local policy prohibiting access to in-person learning without testing. The SC discussed the option of COVID testing for students and staff and Dr. Hunter stated that she would follow up with Emerson Hospital.

Ms. Rainey asked about how information will be communicated out and Dr. Hunter stated that she is sending out information as soon as it's available, noting that the Reopening webpage is built, each building is putting out communication, and that Q&As and handbooks will be available shortly. Mr. Booth asked about the status of the HVAC review and Mr. Stanton stating that each building's HVAC is being reviewed and tested, noting that recommendations would be brought to the SC after the total analysis is complete.

A motion was made by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, to move Item D to consideration up in the agenda. The motion passed by roll call: Booth, aye (for both); Bout, aye (for both); Mostoufi, aye; Wilson, aye; Rainey, aye (for both); Johnston, aye (for both).

D. Strategic Plan Update – Cultural Competency, Equity, Anti-racism. Kristen Herbert, Director of Teaching and Learning, stated that she's been leading the Pre K-12 Cultural Competency Committee, noting that the District works with many outside consultants. Ms. Herbert and Andrew Nyamekye, METCO Director, shared personal experiences relating to the topics of cultural competency, equity and anti-racism. Mr. Nyamekye shared a quote from a METCO student, who shared his experience with cultural competency in a class at CCHS and Mr. Nyamekye also read a statement he had written around this topic noting the importance for all students to feel connected and be active anti-racists. Ms. Herbert and Mr. Nyamekye reviewed the Strategic Objective of Inclusive Culture and its many initiatives, including: Shared Understanding, Professional Development, Culturally Responsive Curriculum, Diverse Staff, Student Engagement, and Community Engagement. Mr. Nyamekye also spoke to mentoring opportunities for students and families. The SC discussed the importance of creating spaces where the students feel that they can share their thoughts and perspectives. Ms. Mezdad thanked Ms. Herbert, Mr. Nyamekye and Dr. Hunter for all of their efforts and noted her concern for those students that don't speak up, suggesting that discussions also occur with parents. Ms. Herbert spoke to the importance of acting on issues of inequality. Mr. Booth and Ms. Bout noted the full support of the SC.

B. New FY21 Budgets. Mr. Stanton stated that, as of 7/27/20, the CPS Budget is \$40,777,193 and CCRSD's Budget is \$35,144,038. He reviewed CPS & CCRSD revolving accounts/grants and revenue from the CARES Act as well as general fund revenue. Mr. Stanton reviewed prepaid expenses as well. He stated that the current budget is \$310,000 over the Concord Finance Committee Guideline, noting that the real gap is \$432,333 due to the way the

assessments work. In order to close the gap, Mr. Stanton recommended increasing Chapter 70 Revenue, creating a COVID 19 CARES Act budget offset and possibly reducing laptop lines and special education tuitions. Mr. Stanton stated that the line item budgets to be voted on are \$34,958,922 for CCRSD and \$40,777,193 for CPS. Mr. Johnston noted his concern, suggesting that money be used from Concord free cash. The SC discussed closing the gap with the Concord Finance Committee. Mr. Stanton stated that he would never propose something that he is not comfortable with, noting his comfort level with the current recommendations.

- C. First Reading School Committee Policies
 - File: EBC - Supplemental
 - File: EBCFA – Face Coverings
 - File: IHBHE – Remote Learning
 - File: IHBHE-E – Remote Learning Addendum

Mr. Booth reviewed the MASC COVID related policies that the Policy Subcommittee reviewed and revised as needed.

VIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Vote to Approve Staff Children Enrollment 2020-2021. A motion was made by Ms. Rainey, for CSC and CCSC, seconded by Mr. Booth, for CSC and CCSC, to approve the following staff requests to enroll children in CPS/CCRSD for the 2020-2021 school year and that tuition be waived: Erika Reale, teacher at CMS, daughter to enroll in 3rd grade at Willard; Jen Thistle, teacher at Willard, sons to enroll in 4th grade at Willard & 6th grade at CMS; Theresa Ruggiero, teacher at CCHS, daughters to enroll in Kindergarten & 3rd grade at Willard; Patrick Kevane, reading specialist at Willard, daughter to enroll in 1st grade at Willard. The motion passed by roll call: Rainey, aye (for both); Booth, aye (for both); Wilson, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Johnston, aye (for both); Bout, aye (for both).

B. Vote to Approve CPS & CCRSD FY20-21 Budgets. A motion was made by Ms. Rainey, seconded by Mr. Booth, to approve the CPS Budget of \$ 40,777,193 for FY20-21. The motion passed by roll call: Rainey, aye; Booth, aye; Johnston, aye; Bout, aye. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to approve the CCRSD budget of \$34,958,922 for FY20-21. The motion passed by roll call: Rainey, aye; Booth, aye; Wilson, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Bout, aye; Johnston, aye.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Executive Session. A motion was made by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Mr. Johnston, for CSC and Ms. Wilson for CCSC, that the Concord School Committee and Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee will enter into Executive Session under 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; Booth, aye; Wilson, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Johnston, aye; and open session ended at 7:39 PM.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to adjourn and Executive Session ended at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 9.29.20

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
CPS	Concord Public Schools
CSC	Concord School Committee
METCO	Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity
MIAA	Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association
MMN	Minuteman Media Network
SC	School Committee