

JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Concord-Carlisle School Committee  
Concord School Committee  
Zoom Meeting  
August 21, 2020

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

Absent: Heather Bout, Chair, 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**

Mr. Johnston called the CCSC meeting to order at 9:03 AM, noting that it was being recorded. Mr. Booth then called the CSC to order. Roll call attendance was taken: Wilson, aye; Rainey, aye; Booth, aye; Johnston, aye; Anderson, aye.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

Mr. Booth noted that he received 3 emails related to reopening.

**III. REPORTS FOR DISCUSSION**

Dr. Hunter provided an update on reopening: DPH and DESE have aligned the protocols for illness, noting that the District's protocols will be aligned with these. Calendars and schedules have been built for the teachers return on August 27<sup>th</sup>. Webinars are being held with the Concord Health Director and Public Health Nurse with teachers and parents, noting how well attended the webinars have been. The COVID handbooks will be ready at each building by Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup>. The Aspen symptom screener has been built for all staff, K-8 parents and CCHS students to log in 1 hour prior to the start of school each day to report any symptoms. DESE and MIAA have provided guidance for review at the local level, noting the earliest start date for sports of September 18<sup>th</sup>. There is a free option for staff COVID testing and the option for rapid testing from the state of MA.

Dr. Hunter stated that the State would send rapid response teams to any schools that have outbreaks, to provide broad-based testing, including asymptomatic students. She stated that Ginko BioWorks, a biotech company in Cambridge, has offered districts in MA a free saliva test for all staff prior to reentry to school to get a baseline, with a pool of 30% being tested regularly, similar to nursing home testing practices. She reviewed testing costs after the initial free test as well as options for testing. Mr. Booth suggested getting a sense of the sentiments from the bargaining units on whether or not they would like this opportunity. Ms. Mostoufi noted that free testing is available through the Stop the Spread program through the state of MA.

Ms. Rainey asked about open campus and attendance at the high school. She noted that many of her questions will probably be answered in the handbooks. She also asked for more understanding of remote learning and how the District would pivot to all remote, if needed. Dr. Hunter stated that she would bring drafts of the handbooks on Tuesday. Ms. Mostoufi asked for clarification of supports for students around technology and organization as well as the mechanism for feedback loops. Dr. Hunter noted that the administrators would be joining the meeting on Tuesday to help answer questions that the SC may have.

Ms. Wilson noted that Carlisle voted on a calendar and will be opening September 15<sup>th</sup>, with hybrid half days K-8 leading up to hybrid full days, with the hope full days in person by mid-late October.

#### **IV. ACTION ITEMS**

A. Vote to Approve Policies: File: EBC – (Supplemental) General Policy on COVID-Related Issues, File: EBCFA – Face Coverings, File: IHBHE – Remote Learning, File: IHBHE-E – Remote Learning Addendum. A motion was made by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Mr. Johnston, for CSC and Ms. Wilson for CCSC, to approve policies: EBC, IHBHE and IHBHE-E. The motion passed by roll call: Rainey, aye (for both); Booth, aye (for both); Wilson, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Johnston, aye (for both).

Dr. Hunter reviewed recommended updates to File: EBCFA – Face Coverings, noting that there is also discussion around the effectiveness of gators based on a recent study by Duke University. The SC agreed to revisit the policy at the next meeting for approval.

B. Vote to Support Engagement with Ginko BioWorks. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and CCSC, for the School Committee to support Dr. Hunter’s engagement with Ginko BioWorks regarding free faculty and staff COVID testing, subject to positive discussions with staff member groups. The motion passed by roll call: Rainey, aye (for both); Booth, aye (for both); Wilson, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Johnston, aye (for both).

#### **V. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A. Executive Session. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Ms. Rainey, for both CSC and 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 (for both); Booth, aye (for both); Wilson, aye; Johnson, aye (for both) and Open Session adjourned at 10:08 AM.

#### **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rainey to adjourn Executive Session. The motion passed by roll call and Executive Session adjourned at 10:40 AM.

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
DESE	Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
FTE	Full Time Employee
METCO	Metropolitan Council for Educational Opportunity
MIAA	Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association
MMN	Minuteman Media Network
SC	School Committee

SEPAC

Special Education Parent Advisory Council