

The School Committees Report: School Committees Welcome New Members and Elect Chairs; School Calendar Update

School Calendar Update

The School Committees approved a new school calendar through the end of 2020; the Committees will discuss the first quarter of 2021 at the end of November. Important dates include:

November 4	CPS K-5 Conference Day
November 11	Veterans Day, no school
November 16	Professional Day, no classes for students
November 25	Half-day
November 26-27	Thanksgiving Recess
December 11	Professional Day, no classes for students
December 15	CPS Conference Day for CMS
December 23	Half-day
December 24-31	Winter Recess
January 4, 2021	Classes resume

School Committees Welcome New Members and Elect Chairs

Similar to other town government practices and procedures, the timing for School Committee terms was delayed due to the pandemic. School Committee terms are linked to the timing of the Town Meetings in Concord and Carlisle. All meetings since the spring have been held remotely, however, Committee members are pleased that there has been an increase in public attendance and participation at their meetings via Zoom.

New members to the Concord and Concord-Carlisle Committees include Concord residents Alexa Anderson and Fatima Mezdad. Joining the Concord-Carlisle Committee as a new representative from Carlisle is Sara Wilson.

As the Committees were welcoming the new members, Fatima Mezdad commented, “I am honored and humbled to have been elected to the Concord School Committee. I see this as an opportunity for my own personal growth as I look forward to learning from each of my colleagues on the committee as well the excellent talent and expertise in our school district and in our community of students and families. I will support and coax our district towards the ambitious goals set in our strategic plan by broadening the spectrum and the lens through which we view our past, present and future. My personal background spans a variety of life experiences that I hope will help inform our work as a district. I am a Muslim immigrant and single parent on the lower end of the socio-economic scale raising a family in an affluent town. While this represents its own set of challenges, my aspiration is to put this experience to work and inform the collective journey forward together with this beautiful and welcoming community during this pivotal point in our history.”

Alexa Anderson added, “I’ve lived nearly my entire life in Concord and I’m so grateful to be able to raise my children here. After serving on the District’s strategic planning committee, I wanted to be a part of seeing the goals set by that committee achieved and the School Committee was the best vehicle to accomplish that task.”

One of the first orders of business for the new Committees was to elect Chairs. Members of the Committee voted for Court Booth to serve as Chair for the Concord School Committee and Sara Wilson was elected Chair for the Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee.

The Committees immediately started a goal setting process that is expected to be completed by the end of October.

School Committees Express Thanks to Wallace Johnston and David Model

Members of the Committees expressed their gratitude to Wallace Johnston of Concord and David Model of Carlisle for their service to the Committees. Wally served for two terms which included tenures as Chair for both Committees. David, a Carlisle resident, served as Vice-chair of the Regional Committee and is now serving on the Carlisle Select Board.

Sign up for School Committee News

Individuals who are interested in knowing more about the role of the School Committees as well as receiving the latest updates on school budgets and informational events are encouraged to enroll in the "School Committee News" Subscriber List. These updates will include timely information such as meeting dates and agendas, minutes, event announcements, and the School Committee Report.

Individuals can sign up at www.concordps.org/school_committee_subscriber_list. Individuals interested in the Concord Middle School Building Committee (a Town of Concord Committee) can find updates and all relevant materials at <https://www.concordps.org/cms-building-project/cms-building-committee-updates/>

The School Committees Contact Information

You can link to the School Committees' emails on the Districts' home page at www.concordps.org. Or, you can email the Concord Public School Committee at concordschoolcommittee@concordps.org and the Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee at concordcarliseschoolcommittee@concordps.org. You can reach out to the Superintendent and the School Committees through the Your Voice Matters link on the Districts' home page. Interested individuals are encouraged to sign up for the School Committees subscriber's list which is also on the District's web page.