

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

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Wilson called the CCSC to order at 6:30 PM, noting that it was being recorded, and Ms. Rainey then called the CSC meeting to order. Roll call attendance was taken: Anderson, aye; Booth, aye; Marano, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Rainey, aye; Wilson, aye.

II. CCHS STUDENT UPDATE

CCHS Student Rep, Harry Crowley, stated that everyone is anxious for break, noting that teachers are trying to cram in a lot of work before break. He stated that there is some tension around Omicron and students wondering if they will be going remote. Harry stated that there have been challenges around reinstating the attendance policy after having been remote last year, noting the short passing period between classes.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. RECOGNITIONS

A. Grade 8 Project 351 Ambassador. CMS Principal, Justin Cameron stated that Project 351 is a nonprofit organization in Massachusetts created to inspire leadership in middle school students by organizing one 8th grader from every community in Massachusetts to represent the school or town. Mr. Cameron introduced this year's CMS nomination, Tyler Shepard. Tyler stated that he has been attending multiple zooms on Project 351, noting several of the events occurring to help MA towns and communities. The SC congratulated Tyler on his nomination and asked Tyler to return to a meeting in the spring to give an update. Mr. Cameron stated that he would like to return with Tyler to an upcoming meeting to also discuss the Playbook Initiative, noting that it would be run through the Advisory Program this year.

V. READING OF THE MINUTES

A. Executive Session 11/9/21. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to approve the Executive Session minutes from 11/9/21. The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, aye; Booth, aye; Marano, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Rainey, aye; Wilson, aye.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Wilson stated that CCSC received correspondence on charging stations and COVID protocols and testing. Ms. Rainey stated that CSC received emails on the literacy curriculum.

VI. CHAIRS & LIAISONS REPORT

Ms. Marano stated that the next DEI Subcommittee meeting would be January 5th and noted that they would be discussing the survey. She stated that the focus group would be held on Thursday, January 6th over Zoom.

Mr. Booth stated that the Policy Subcommittee has been working with the Business Office on the facilities policy, noting that they should be finished with it by January 6th in order to bring forward to the SC at the January 11th meeting. He stated that the Policy Subcommittee would be meeting again on January 13th.

Ms. Marano stated that she and Mr. Booth attended Concord's DEI Commission meeting, suggesting that a SC observer attend meetings going forward. Mr. Booth noted that the next meeting is Wednesday, January 12th.

Ms. Anderson stated that the SEPAC Board met December 13th, noting that having Ms. Dixon attend these meetings on a regular basis has been helpful. She noted that SEPAC amended its bylaws, noting that SEPACs do not need to be subject to Open Meeting Laws. Ms. Mostoufi stated that having Ms. Dixon attend the meeting opened up communication levels and provided the families with detailed information, commending Ms. Dixon for attending. She stated that SEPAC would still be posting agendas to the town's website and that their advisory role has not changed.

Ms. Mostoufi stated that Concord-Carlisle Community Education met on December 10th, noting that they are discussing a program called "Meet the Town Offices", the winter offerings are now available, and drivers education has strong participation.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Regarding mental health, Dr. Hunter stated that the district is seeing more kids in crisis due to the pandemic. She stated that Ms. Herbert is working with the mental health team on expanding options of connecting with telehealth. Regarding equity and DEI work, she stated that Mr. Nyamekye is closing out the equity survey shortly and the consultants will be brought in to aggregate and summarize the data to share, review and analyze. She noted that they will be working on a protocol first at the high school, then the middle school, on how to handle racist language in English and Social Studies.

VIII. DISCUSSION

A. COVID Updates. Dr. Hunter stated that the COVID numbers are manageable, noting that other communities are seeing faster spikes. She stated that there are 11 cases so far this week, noting that they have been coming from outside exposures. Dr. Hunter stated that testing participation has remained steady and noted that the Commissioner stated mask mandates would be reviewed in January, but noted that there is another meeting with him the next day. The Commissioner also stated that snow days would remain traditional unless there is an extreme winter. Dr. Hunter stated that there is a tentative date scheduled in January for a possible booster vaccine clinic at CCHS. Ms. Wilson noted all of the current testing options available and encouraged those who were participating in indoor sports activities to take advantage of testing. Ms. Rainey asked for a revisit of the current ventilation status in the schools and Dr. Hunter stated that they could bring the SC a monitoring update on the ventilation systems at the schools.

B. CASE Capital Plan, CASE Collaborative Reserve Account, and Proposal for CASE Surplus. CASE Executive Director, Sanchita Banerjee, stated that CASE provides special education programming and transportation services. She stated that CASE is required to have an audit each year, noting that in FY21, CASE ended in a surplus, of which there were three actions to take: establishing a capital plan, providing member districts with credits, and returning the surplus to the member districts. She stated that CASE is hoping to establish a capital plan to fund expenditures that may arise from the buildings where CASE operates and add a playground at the CASE building in Acton in order to provide equal access to all students attending the program there. Ms. Banerjee noted that all of the other CASE member districts have been approving this request. She stated that the surplus is \$1.5 million and out of that, the cap is \$500,000.

C. FY23 CCRSD Superintendent's Recommended Budget. Mr. Stanton shared ideas on how to meet the guidelines, including adding an additional \$50,000 to Chapter 71 and an additional \$87,000 to Chapter 70. He stated that \$40,000 of the METCO Supplemental Special Ed Grant could be used to reduce salaries and circuit breaker offset can be increased by \$63,813. He noted that all of these changes would allow the district to meet the guideline. Regarding the METCO grant, Dr. Hunter stated that the state legislatures have passed an allowance for the FY22 money to be expended into December 31st of 2022, noting that this is new information and Mr. Stanton stated that this grant was actually in addition to what she was referring to. Ms. Wilson noted that the public budget hearing is January 11th, 2022.

F. School Committee Goals Update. The SC reviewed it's goals document, including the goals around COVID, budget, policies, superintendent evaluation and support, community engagement, communication and transparency, cultural competency, contract negotiation, special education, SC efficiency and culture, and MS building project.

G. CCHS Capital Plan. Dr. Hunter stated that Mr. Stanton and Mr. Hughes have been getting more information on the paving, lighting and sidewalk project and get a better understanding of the costs, working closely with the town. Mr. Stanton recognized Alan Cathcart and Steve Dookran from the Town of Concord for their help with the project. He stated that they have updated the numbers and options, as well as provided recommendations. Mr. Hughes stated that the cost estimate includes a 14% increase and that it can go out to bid with the Town's work in February, with the work being completed over the summer. Mr. Hughes recommended going with the granite curb option over the asphalt berm.

X. ACTION ITEMS

A. Vote to Approve CASE Capital Plan. A motion was made by Ms. Rainey, seconded by Mr. Booth, to approve the CASE Capital Plan for FY22 for a playground and multipurpose room reoutfitting. The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, aye; Booth, aye; Marano, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Rainey, aye; Wilson, aye.

B. Vote to Establish CASE Collaborative Reserve Account. A motion was made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Marano, to approve the establishment of a CASE capital reserve fund in conformance with the provisions of 603 CMR 50.07 (10) and consistent with the proposal outlined in the December 3, 2021 memo from CASE Collaborative. The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, aye; Booth, aye; Marano, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Rainey, aye; Wilson, aye.

C. Vote to Approve Proposal for CASE Surplus. A motion was made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Booth, to approve the December 3, 2021 CASE Collaborative Capital Plan as outlined in the memo titled CASE Collaborative Cumulative Surplus Resolution Proposal. The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, aye; Booth, aye; Marano, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Rainey, aye; Wilson, aye.

D. Vote to Approve CCHS Exchange Student. A motion was made by Ms. Rainey, seconded by Mr. Booth, to approve one HS USA Global Cultural Exchange student from Italy for the 2022 spring semester at CCHS. The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, aye; Booth, aye; Marano, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Rainey, aye; Wilson, aye.

E. Vote to Approve Scoreboard at CCHS Tennis Courts. Bill Grace, Concord resident and last year's pickleball tournament organizer stated that last year's tournament raised about \$41,000, noting that there is currently about \$25,000 left. He stated that the scoreboard and installation would be about \$32,000, noting that they feel confident about raising the difference at the next tournament. A motion was made by Ms. Wilson, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to authorize the expenditure of current monies and accept donations for any supplementally needed funds for the purposes of installation of scoreboards at the tennis courts and approve installation of the scoreboard. The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, aye; Booth, aye; Marano, aye; Mostoufi, aye; Rainey, aye; Wilson, aye.

XI. ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT CCSC

A motion to adjourn the CCSC meeting was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rainey. The motion was unanimously approved and the CCSC meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM.

XIII. DISCUSSION

A. FY23 CPS Superintendent's Recommended Budget. Dr. Hunter stated that the Finance Committee reviewed its preliminary guideline and decided not to increase, noting that there is still a delta between the current recommended budget and the town's. Mr. Stanton stated that the difference is \$486,848 and reviewed \$165,000 in possible reductions to get to closer to the guideline, including: moving METCO salaries over to the METCO grant and reducing circuit breaker offset. He stated that after these, the budget is still \$321,848 away from the guideline. Dr. Hunter stated that there is no revenue on the CPS side, noting there are not many discretionary options on the CPS side. Ms. Rainey noted her confusion on why the Finance Committee gave the region so much and CPS so little, noting she feels FINCOM does not have a firm understanding of the CPS budget. She encouraged everyone to listen to the deliberation at FINCOM's guidelines meeting.

B. CMS Building Project Update. Mr. Booth stated the Schematic Design phase is complete, noting that the final number that will be moved is \$102,816,000. He stated that, as a member of the CMSBC and SC, he is going to strive for more clarity on the capacity to generate solar on the property. He stated that he hopes by Town Meeting, they will be

able to explain when and how the questions on solar will be addressed. Ms. Anderson stated that outreach would resume after the New Year, noting how successful the engagement with small groups in town has been. She stated that the aim is to have two engagements a week prior to January 20th's Special Town Meeting and vote on February 3rd. Ms. Anderson stated that the Public Hearing went very well and the Finance Committee voted unanimously to support the article. Mr. Booth stated that the CMSBC will need to keep the Bruce Freeman Rail trail on the radar.

C. STM Warrant Article. Ms. Rainey stated that the Finance Committee and Select Board have used the \$102,816,000 number for the warrant article.

XIV. ACTION ITEMS

A. Vote to Approve STM Warrant Article. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to vote affirmative action on the warrant article for the new Concord Middle School in the amount of \$102,816,000. The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, aye; Booth, aye; Marano, aye; Rainey, aye.

B. Vote to Approve CPS Capital Plan. Ms. Rainey noted that the plan posted is not what the CSC is voting on and noted her concern for how to allocate the costs at the Ripley Building. Dr. Hunter stated that she would reach out to Kerry Lafleur and Tim Goddard regarding the allocation and the CSC agreed to discuss and approve the Capital Plan at the meeting on January 11th.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Anderson. The motion was unanimously approved and the CSC meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 2.1.22

Abbreviations:

CCHS	Concord-Carlisle High School
CCRSD	Concord-Carlisle Regional School District
CCSC	Concord-Carlisle Regional District School Committee
CCTA	Concord-Carlisle Teachers' Association
CDC	Center for Disease Control & Prevention
CEF	Concord Education Fund
CMLP	Concord Municipal Light Plant
CMS	Concord Middle School
CMSBC	Concord Middle School Building Committee
CPS	Concord Public Schools
CSC	Concord School Committee
E&D	Excess and Deficiency
DEI	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
FINCOM	Finance Committee
MDPH	Massachusetts Department of Public Health
MSBA	Massachusetts School Building Authority
OPEB	Other Post-Employment Benefits
PD	Professional Development
RTI	Response to Intervention
SC	School Committee
SEPAC	Special Education Parent Advisory Council