Concord School Committee Ripley Conf. Room 4 & Zoom March 8, 2023

Present: Tracey Marano, Chair, CCSC; CSC

Alexa Anderson, Chair, CSC; CCSC Carrie Rankin, Vice Chair, CSC; CCSC

Courtland Booth, CSC; CCSC Cynthia Rainey, CSC, CCSC Ayesha Lawton, CPS METCO Rep

Present from Administration: Dr. Laurie Hunter, Superintendent of Schools, CPS & CCRSD

Robert Conry, Asst. Superintendent of Finance & Operations, CPS & CCRSD Kristen Herbert, Asst. Superintendent of Teaching & Learning, CPS & CCRSD

Andrew Nyamekye, Director of DEIB, CPS & CCRSD

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Anderson called the meeting to order at 4:47 PM.

### II. ACTION ITEMS

A. Vote to Approve FY24 CPS Budget. Ms. Anderson stated that in order to include the \$150,000 recommended reduction to the budget in the slides being presented to the town, the CSC should be voting on the reduction. Mr. Booth stated that he thought it was premature to vote, noting that the SC had not really dug into the budget. He noted the reduction of contingency funds and pulling back on circuit breaker, noting that he thought it was a reckless move and premature. Mr. Conry stated that he felt FINCOM would like to see any reductions that have been identified, noting that he shared Mr. Booth's concerns about risk. He also noted the funding for the homeless shelter was the biggest contingency next year. He noted that the \$150,000 reduction was not overly aggressive, supported the FINCOMs desire to see a lower number, and did not compromise the ability to fund things. Dr. Hunter noted that \$50,000 of the \$150,000 was savings in CASE transportation, stating that it would not be transparent of the district to realize that savings and to not bring it to the SC's attention. Ms. Rainey stated that she does not support the recommendation of the \$100,000 reduction. Ms. Marano stated that she feels comfortable taking the recommendation from Mr. Conry, noting that the bigger picture was whether the SC was comfortable with the reductions list since that was the only way to get to guideline.

A motion was made by Ms. Marano, seconded by Ms. Rankin, to adopt the \$150,000 reductions to the budget as recommended by the Assistant Superintendent. A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to amend the motion to reduce the budget at this point in time by \$50,000, thereby not taking circuit breaker money. Mr. Booth's motion did not pass: Booth, aye; Rainey, aye; Anderson, nay; Marano, nay; Rankin, nay. Ms. Marano's original motion passed: Anderson, aye; Marano, aye; Rankin, aye; Booth, nay; Rainey; nay.

B. Vote to Approve School Committee Resolution Supporting an Increase in Special Education Circuit Breaker Funding. Ms. Marano noted that she, Ms. Rankin and Dr. Hunter attended the recent legislative breakfast around the topic of rising costs in special education. She stated that the resolution is a way of advocating to the legislatures to increase circuit breaker, noting that other area SCs are signing the resolution as well. Mr. Booth stated that the document states that the tuition be increased by 14%, but noted that it should read "up to" 14%. A motion was made by Ms. Rainey, seconded by Ms. Rankin, to approve the School Committee Resolution Supporting an Increase in Special Education Circuit Breaker Funding. Ms. Marano noted that SC names be included at the bottom, including METCO rep Ms. Lawton. The motion passed unanimously.

## III. ADJOURNMENT

The CSC meeting ended at 5:15 PM, but the CSC remained in session for the Joint DEIB meeting.

## Respectfully submitted,

# Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 4.11.23

### Abbreviations:

ARPA American Rescue Plan Act

CCACE Concord Carlisle Adult and Community Education

CCHS Concord-Carlisle High School

CCRSD Concord-Carlisle Regional School District

CCSC Concord-Carlisle Regional District School Committee

CCTA Concord-Carlisle Teachers' Association

CEF Concord Education Fund
CMLP Concord Municipal Light Plant

CMS Concord Middle School

CMSBC Concord Middle School Building Committee
COAR Communities Organizing Against Racism

CPS Concord Public Schools
CSC Concord School Committee
CTA Concord Teachers Association

DEIB Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging

DHCB Department of Housing and Community Development

ELA English Language Arts

ESSER Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund

FINCOM Finance Committee

MOC Making Opportunities Count
MTSS Multi-Tiered System of Supports
PD Professional Development

SC School Committee

SEPAC Special Education Parent Advisory Council

YRBS Youth Risk Behavior Survey