

JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Concord – Carlisle School Committee
Concord School Committee
Ripley Building
December 18, 2018

Present: Johanna Boynton, Chair, CSC; CCSC
Wallace Johnston, Vice Chair, CSC; CCSC
Robert Grom, Chair, CCSC; CSC
Mary Storrs, Vice Chair, CCSC
Heather Bout, CSC; CCSC
Courtland Booth, CSC; CCSC
Christine Lear, CCSC

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

At 5:46 PM, Ms. Boynton called the CSC to order. A motion was made by Ms. Bout, seconded by Mr. Johnston, that the CSC 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 return to Open Session at approximately 6:30 PM. The motion passed by roll call: Johnston, aye; Boynton, aye; Grom, aye; Bout, aye; Booth, aye.

At 6:35 PM, Ms. Boynton called the CSC back into order.

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II. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Grom called the CCSC meeting to order at 6:35 PM and noted that they were being recorded.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Grom stated that he received a detailed email from a well-informed resident regarding the high school campus. He stated that he also received an email regarding the middle school discussion.

A motion was made by Ms. Bout, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Mr. Johnston, for both CSC and CCSC, to move directly to Action Items on the agenda until the guest for the Old Business items arrives. The motion was unanimously approved.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Vote to approve 2019-2020 School Calendar. A motion was made by Ms. Bout, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, to approve the 2019-2020 School Calendar as recommended by the Calendar Committee. Ms. Storrs noted that Carlisle has the same start date. Mr. Booth thanked the Calendar Committee for all of their hard work. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. Vote to approve School Committee Policies:

- File JFABC – Admission of Transfer Students
- File JFABD - Homeless Students: Enrollment Rights and Services
- File JFABE – Educational Opportunities for Military Children
- File JFABF – Educational Opportunities for Children in Foster Care

- File JFBB – School Choice
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A motion was made by Ms. Bout, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Ms. Boynton, for both CSC and CCSC, to approve School Committee policies: JFABC, JFABD, JFABE, JFABF, and JFBB. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. Vote to approve CCRSD Building Workers Contract. A motion was made by Ms. Storrs, seconded by Ms. Bout, to approve the Building Service Workers contract for the period of 2018-2021. Ms. Bout questioned if the edits previously discussed were included in this contract and Dr. Hunter stated that they were included. The motion was unanimously approved.

D. Vote to approve three CCHS Field Trips:

- Nordic Ski Team Training Trip
- US Squash Championship Trip
- Softball Mystery Trip

A motion was made by Ms. Storrs, seconded by Ms. Boynton, to approve three CCHS out-of-state trips (listed above) for 2018-2019 with the condition that a signed district liability insurance waiver (MIIA) is received from all participants. The motion was unanimously approved.

E. Vote to accept donations to CPS Enrichment Fund. A motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Mr. Booth, to accept the CPS Enrichment Fund donations in the amount of \$512. Dr. Hunter stated that \$500 was donated by a family, noting her gratitude, and the \$12 was from proceeds from a clothing drive. The motion was unanimously approved.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. CCHS Campus Feasibility Study. Dr. Hunter stated that they need to settle on priorities and approach to warrant articles. She highlighted the topics being discussed with Gale, including: lighting and drainage of the parking lot and funds for engineering fees for full designs. John Perry, Senior Project Manager from Gale Associates, provided an update to last week's presentation on the Campus Feasibility Study. He stated that they added engineering fee estimates and increased the contingency from 10% to 15%. He stated that, regarding the parking lot numbers, they initially used \$3,000 per space, noting that that number did include aspects of drainage and lighting. He stated that they have since added in another line item for drainage and lighting due to the special conditions of the soils and drainage. Mr. Perry stated that they've looked at the options of the track and parking lot and were able to move the parking lot to the north, which reduced the parking spaces from 125 to 104. He noted that this change only slightly changed the impervious area calculations. He noted that they didn't modify any of the other options.

Mr. Perry provided an updated cost summary, noting that the increase was due to adding the 10% design cost, increasing the contingency from 10% to 15% and an increase in a couple of line items. Ms. Bout questioned if the initial numbers didn't include drainage and lighting. Ms. Perry stated that they added extra for the drainage and lighting to remain conservative with the numbers. Ms. Lear questioned the site irrigation line and Mr. Perry stated that the site irrigation is for the baseball fields and green space around the perimeter of the school. Mr. Johnston questioned the cost of the parking spaces and Mr. Perry stated that there are some nuances in the parking space number due to contingency and the number is approximate. Mr. Booth suggested considering independent solar generation for the parking lot lighting.

Ms. Storrs noted her disappointment that the numbers got considerably higher since last week and questioned the reason for the increase. Mr. Perry stated that much of it includes the 10% engineering fees and contingency increase. She questioned why the engineering fees were not included last week and Mr. Perry stated that they were only considering construction costs, but added engineering costs once they were made aware that the district would be requesting both engineering and construction costs together. Mr. Perry stated that the drainage was also added as an additional parking cost after hearing concerns at the last meeting. Dr. Hunter noted that the original concern with the lighting in the parking lot was not penetrating the cap, noting that it has been such an ongoing dialogue to consider all of the factors. Mr. Schlegel noted that they could install the lighting in the center island of the parking lot, which would not affect the cap. Dr. Hunter also stated how public each iteration of what Gale Associates has been working on has

been, noting that the SC has been part of the ups and downs of the changes, rather than getting a finished package at the end of the process. Mr. Perry stated that, after further discussions with their geotechnical and environmental consultant, the option showing a field house/skating rink has considerations from an environmental standpoint, noting that the DEP might have objections to having a building that people occupy for a long period of time over the cap.

B. CCRSD Warrant Articles. Mr. Grom suggested focusing on the access road and parking. Mr. Booth suggested focusing on the access road, parking and site irrigation. Ms. Boynton asked Mr. Schlegel, Mr. Stanton and Dr. Hunter for their sense of urgency for the site irrigation and Dr. Hunter stated that she would not put that in the same category as paving and parking, but that they should keep it on the radar. Mr. Schlegel recommended lumping the irrigation in with the amenities building since the work in that area could be done at one time. Ms. Bout noted that she feels with the possible CMS article request, that they should limit their requests on the CCRSD side to what is priority. Ms. Boynton suggested moving an article with the 104-space lot and paving, for about \$2 million total. Dr. Hunter stated that she has more confidence that the number shouldn't go over \$2 million due to all of the work over the past week. Ms. Bout stated that she feels there should be 2 separate articles due to the risk of controversy of 1 taking the other down with it. Ms. Boynton questioned if they were in agreement that paving and parking were the 2 items they wanted to focus on and then suggested that they decide upon creating a combined article or separate article. Mr. Johnston stated his concern with the high cost for parking spaces, noting that it puts the article at risk. Ms. Lear stated that many people do not understand the stress the parking issue is causing on the campus. Ms. Storrs noted the value that the amenities building would bring to the community, suggesting they keep it on the radar for the future. Mr. Booth asked if the paving would benefit the Beede Center and community and Dr. Hunter stated it would benefit well beyond the high school community. Ms. Bout stated that the paving and lighting have to be done because of safety issues. She also noted that it was a good chance that CPS would be submitting an article for a feasibility study for CMS. Mr. Booth questioned if they could get a lower cost if they aggregate the cost for parking and paving.

Public Comment: Dean Banfield, 73 Walden Terrace, Concord, MA. Mr. Banfield stated that he lives adjacent to the campus and was speaking for himself, although he was a member of the Finance Committee. He questioned what the sewerage treatment would be if they were to build an amenities building. Mr. Perry stated that there is a sewer stub near the tennis courts and Mr. Schlegel noted that there were lines down the hill to the fields that could be tapped into.

The SC discussed how to package the articles and Ms. Boynton suggested combining them into 1 article for cost savings. Dr. Hunter stated that she feels putting them together in 1 package is a comprehensive look at finishing the lower campus and is a natural extension of paving to talk parking. Mr. Grom agreed with Mr. Booth that the parking is an important part of the students' educational experience and agreed with having 1 article. Ms. Lear noted that most people would see this as an optional item and will have a tough time seeing it as 1 project. Mr. Booth questioned what the District loses if not doing parking and paving and Dr. Hunter stated student wellness and administrative time. She noted all of the emails from students regarding parking issues and the stress that it's causing the students, noting that they do not have answers for the kids. She stated that if they have a chance to alleviate student stress, they should do it and noted that paving the ring road is an ongoing safety issue that they are putting money towards to patch potholes. Dr. Hunter stated that their job is to convey the need to the community.

Ms. Storrs questioned if the speed bumps were included and Mr. Perry stated that they were included. The SC agreed on a \$2 million article to include the parking and paving. Ms. Storrs also questioned if \$2 million was enough and Mr. Perry stated that he was confident that they were on the high end, and was hopeful that they would come in under \$2 million if they bid out the projects together.

A motion was made by Ms. Boynton, seconded by Ms. Bout, to create a warrant article to determine whether the Town of Concord will vote to approve \$2,000,000 of debt authorized by the Concord Carlisle Regional School Committee, for the reconstruction of the access road and design and construction of the parking lot at the high school campus, or to take any other action relative thereto, contingent upon approval of wording by the attorney. Ms. Storrs abstained from the vote. The other members approved the motion.

Dr. Hunter and Ms. Boynton stated that they would work on a communications plan to bring to the January 22nd SC meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Boynton, seconded by Mr. Johnston, that the town meeting article for the budget would read to determine whether the Towns will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of \$36,687,733, or any other sum, for the following necessary and expedient purposes of the Concord-Carlisle Regional School District for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020; or take any other action relative thereto. The motion was unanimously approved.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Ms. Bout, to adjourn the CCSC meeting. The motion was unanimously approved and the CCSC meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.

CONCORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. CMS Facility. Ms. Bout summarized that they haven't been invited into the MSBA pipeline and are considering putting in a placeholder article for a feasibility study. She noted that if they were to submit the article, they would need to engage the community over the next 4 months. She shared a draft Process for CMS Planning Discussion. Dr. Hunter noted that a radiator problem caused a science room to fill with ½ inch of water, displacing the students. Mr. Booth noted that this is a sign that the issue is only getting worse and is growing in magnitude. Mr. Grom noted that if they want to move this article, they all need to commit to the effort. Ms. Boynton noted that they've been turned down twice by the state and also noted that the construction costs are only going to rise. She stated that they are compromising the educational experience for the kids, families and staff who work at CMS, noting that they are at the crossroads and need to have the conversation with the Town.

Ms. Bout reviewed the draft plan, including the process and information that needs to be included in presentations to the community. She stated that the Facilities Planning Committee is happy to re-engage. Mr. Johnston questioned if the feasibility study should be completed prior to the visioning work and Dr. Hunter noted her experience of visioning work in Duxbury, as well as hearing about Brookline's project, of visioning being completed prior to feasibility studies. She stated that the visioning could inform needs to determine feasibility and finances, noting that the visioning can anchor the conversation. Mr. Johnston noted that the cost analysis of spending to maintain the buildings, the cost to build new, and the difference in building through the MSBA and through the Town should also be completed.

Ms. Bout stated that they would need to revise the charge of the committee as well as involve parents and citizens to help with the communication efforts. Mr. Johnston noted that there should be a SC member involved in the outreach. Mr. Booth stated that they need to have a good mechanism for collecting information back as well as sending information out. Ms. Bout suggested an online survey. Ms. Boynton stated that they need to start the process of having conversations with the Town in January. Mr. Johnston stated that they should determine the members so they can vote on January 8th. Ms. Boynton stated that this might be rushing due to holiday schedules. Ms. Bout stated that she would reach out to current members to gauge interest. She stated that they could have a charge and structure by January 8th, even if they need to add a couple new members. Ms. Boynton stated that the expectation needs to be clear that there will be a considerable time commitment. Ms. Bout stated that each SC member could individually take on specific tasks. Dr. Hunter and Ms. Bout agreed to review the list and parcel out items. Ms. Boynton noted that she expects most to understand that a new middle school needs to happen, but that it will come down to cost. Ms. Bout stated that by January 8th, they could have: an outline of a new committee with a charge and an outline of questions for Finegold Alexander. Ms. Boynton stated that she would start the outreach to some of the chairs and boards in Town.

B. CPS Warrant Articles. Dr. Hunter stated that the recommendation for the feasibility study for CMS would be \$1.5 million.

IX. ACTION ITEMS

A. Vote CPS Warrant Articles. A motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Ms. Bout, to vote a warrant article to see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, an amount of money not to exceed \$1.5 million to be expended under the direction of the School Committee for a feasibility study to consider the construction of a new middle school, which may be located at 835 Old Marlboro Road, Concord, Massachusetts (the present site of the Sanborn Middle School), or to take any other action relative thereto, contingent upon approval of wording by counsel. The motion was unanimously approved.

Dr. Hunter stated that the Annual Capital Article included the funds that the Town reserves in their capital plan for the CPS schools, noting that the recommendations include: \$200,000 for a phone system; \$45,000 for security upgrades; and the remainder for both middle school buildings to support the learning environment and reconfiguration.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Ms. Bout, to include in the warrant an article to determine whether the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, or authorize the Town Treasurer with the approval of the Select Board to borrow money by the issuance of bonds or notes under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws c. 44, the sum of \$900,000, or any other sum, to be expended under the direction of the School Committee for remodeling, construction, reconstructing or making extraordinary repairs, including original equipment and related work at various Concord Public School buildings, and further that any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by the vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws c. 44, § 20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount, or take any other action relative thereto, subject to approval of wording by the attorney. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Ms. Bout, to include an article in the warrant to determine whether the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$39,390,163 or any other sum, for the following necessary and expedient purposes of the public schools of the Town for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020; or take any other action relative thereto, subject to the approval of the wording by the attorney. The motion was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mr. Johnston, seconded by Ms. Bout, to include the following article in the warrant: I recommend the Town establish a fund to collect fees for incidental renting of school property. Fees collected for incidental renting of school property would be deposited to the Use of School Property Fund and be made available for the School Committee to expend, without further appropriation, on expenses incurred in making school property available for such use. The article would be for the Town to vote to adopt MGL Chapter 71, Section 71E, Use of School Property Fund, contingent upon approval of wording by the attorney. The motion was unanimously approved.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Ms. Bout, seconded by Mr. Johnston, to adjourn the CSC meeting. The motion was unanimously approved and the CSC meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 1/22/19

Abbreviations:

ACLU	American Civil Liberties Union
CASE	Cooperative Association for Special Education
CEF	Concord Education Fund
CSC	Concord School Committee
CCSC	Concord-Carlisle Regional District School Committee
CMLP	Concord Municipal Light Plant
CPA	Community Preservation Act
CPC	Community Preservation Committee
CPS	Concord Public Schools
CCRS	Concord-Carlisle Regional School District
CCACE	Concord-Carlisle Adult & Community Education

CCHS	Concord-Carlisle High School
CHPS	The Collaborative for High Performance Schools
CSEC	Comprehensive Sustainable Energy Committee
CPW	Concord Public Works
CTA	Concord Teachers Association
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DESE	Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
ELA	English Language Arts
EOYR	End of the Year
FAAC	Financial Audit Advisory Committee
FINCOM	Finance Committee
FCCPF	Friends of Concord Carlisle Playing Fields
GASB	Governmental Accounting Standards Firm
LLI	Leveled Literacy Intervention
MAAB	Massachusetts Architectural Access Board
MASC	Massachusetts Association of School Committees
MIAA	Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association
NEASC	New England Association of Schools and Colleges
NESDEC	The New England School Development Council
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association
OPEB	Other Post-Employment Benefits
PEG	Public Education Government
RTI	Response to Intervention
SEPAC	Special Education Parent Advisory Council
SOI	Statement of Interest
SPED	Special Education
SRO	School Resource Officer
SWOT	Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, Threats
YRBS	Youth Risk Behavior Survey