

Present: Tracey Marano, Chair, CCSC; CSC
Sharon Whitt, Vice Chair, CCSC
Alexa Anderson, Chair, CSC; CCSC
Carrie Rankin, Vice Chair, CSC; CCSC
Courtland Booth, CSC; CCSC
Cynthia Rainey, CSC, CCSC

Absent: Domingos DaRosa, CCRSD METCO Rep
Ayesha Lawton, CPS METCO Rep
Carrie Patel, CCSC

Present from Administration: Dr. Laurie Hunter, Superintendent of Schools, CPS & CCRSD
Robert Conry, Asst. Supt of Finance & Operations, CPS & CCRSD
Kristen Anderson, Asst. Supt. of Teaching & Learning, CPS & CCRSD

I. Call to Order

Ms. Marano called the CCSC meeting to order at 5:00 PM and Ms. Rankin then called the CSC meeting to order.

A motion was made by Mr. Booth, for CCSC, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to enter into Executive Session under Purpose 3 of the Open Meeting Law: To conduct strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Concord Carlisle Teachers Association and Purpose 7 to comply with or act under authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements, specifically M.G.L. c.30A, §22(a) and (f) with regard to the review and approval of executive session minutes from June 13, 2023, September 26, 2023, November 7, 2023, December 19, 2023, January 9, 2024, January 23, 2024, February 27, 2024 minutes and under Purpose 2, under which the June 13, 2023, September 26, 2023 executive sessions were held, and under Purpose 3, under which the June 13, 2023, January 23, 2024, February 27, 2024 executive sessions were held. The motion passed by roll call: Booth, aye; Marano, aye; Rainey, aye; Rankin, aye; Whitt, aye.

A motion was made by Mr. Booth, for CSC, seconded by Ms. Rankin, to enter into Executive Session under Purpose 3 of the Open Meeting Law: To conduct strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Concord Carlisle Teachers Association and Purpose 7 to comply with or act under authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements, specifically M.G.L. c.30A, §22(a) and (f) with regard to the review and approval of executive session minutes from June 13, 2023, June 20, 2023, July 20, 2023, September 26, 2023, November 7, 2023, December 19, 2023, January 9, 2024, January 23, 2024, February 27, 2024 and March 15, 2024 minutes and under Purpose 2, under which the June 13, 2023, June 20, 2023, July 20, 2023, September 26, 2023 executive sessions were held, and under Purpose 3, under which the June 13, 2023, November 7, 2023, January 23, 2024, February 27, 2024 and March 15, 2024 executive sessions were held. The motion passed by roll call: Booth, aye; Marano, aye; Rainey, aye. Rankin, aye.

The CSC and CCSC returned from Executive Session at 6:24 PM. Ms. Anderson stated that Ms. Marano was recently reelected and noted that Andrew Herchek, the new SC member, would be joining the meetings in a few weeks.

II. Recognitions

A. CCHS Girls Swim Team State Champions. CCHS Girls Swim Team coaches recognized members of the team who recently won in several state events. Swim team members commented on how hard they worked and what an amazing experience it was competing. The coaches noted that 5 school records were broken. Ms. Marano noted how valued the program is. State Representative Simon Cataldo presented the team with a legislative citation from the House of Representatives, noting the collaboration, persistence and determination of the team.

B. CMS Project 351/Playbook Initiative. CMS Principal Cameron spoke about the growth of the playbook initiative over the last few years in which it went school-wide, sharing a WBZ News 4 video highlighting the Playbook Initiative and several pictures and videos on the initiative. Students spoke about their positive experiences with the Playbook Initiative and how they felt it was spreading awareness and making an impact. Dr. Hunter thanked Mr. Cameron for his vision and leadership.

Ms. Anderson recognized Mr. Booth, as it was his last meeting. Ms. Rainey stated that Mr. Booth began his tenure in Concord forty years ago in Adult & Community Education, noting the many contributions he has made over the years. She stated that he's been on the SC for six years, serving as both Chair and Vice Chair. Mr. Booth thanked his colleagues, students, teachers, and leadership. He also recognized his wife and his mentor, Mr. Grom.

III. Public Comment

1. Jim Bozak, President CPS Building Service Workers. Mr. Bozak stated that he started around the same time as Mr. Booth, noting the friendship that developed. He thanked Mr. Booth for all he has done for the district.
2. Bob Grom, former SC member. Mr. Grom noted the volume of work Mr. Booth has done over the years, noting how impressive it was. He also noted Mr. Booth's level of engagement on all of the committees he has been part of. Mr. Grom noted Mr. Booth's honesty and character.
3. Andrew Herchek, incoming SC member. Mr. Herchek thanked all of those people who supported his campaign, noting that he looked forward to serving on the SC.

IV. CCHS Student Update

Student Rep, Harry Crowley, provided updates from CCHS: Performing Arts earned gold at MICCA, several field trips have been taking place, Senate is working on a pop-up thrift store, ticket sales have begun for prom, tickets for the spring musical "Prom" will be on sale soon, students are preparing for AP exams, and exchange students will be arriving from Ecuador soon.

V. Consent Agenda

A. Warrants

1. CCRSD A/P
1243 4/10/24 \$328,166.15
1237 3/29/24 \$15,663.91
1236 3/28/24 \$5,640.00
1235 3/28/24 \$450.00
1234 3/28/24 \$137,628.45
1224 3/22/24 \$115,954.87
1244 12/14/23 \$673,935.41

2. CCRSD Payroll

- Pay date 4/11/24 \$46,188.59
- Pay date 4/11/24 \$181,065.36
- Pay date 4/11/24 \$75,580.78
- Pay date 4/11/24 \$627,043.57
- Pay date 3/28/24 \$4,145.86
- Pay date 3/28/24 \$14,040.76
- Pay date 3/28/24 \$274,358.00
- Pay date 3/28/24 \$14,267.08
- Pay date 3/28/24 \$622,019.00
- Pay date 3/28/24 \$74,657.40
- Pay date 3/28/24 \$178,581.80
- Pay date 3/28/24 \$45,203.24

3. CPS A/P

- 1080 4/11/24 \$454,709.97

1077 3/28/24 \$96,012.20

4. CPS Payroll

Pay date 4/11/24 \$359,994.29

Pay date 4/11/24 \$222,171.67

Pay date 3/28/24 \$228,394.14

Pay date 3/28/24 \$379,210.44

- B. Joint Minutes January 23, 2024
- C. Joint Minutes February 27, 2024
- D. CSC Minutes March 15, 2024
- E. Joint Policy Minutes March 26, 2024
- F. Surplus Willard Chairs
- G. Thoreau Weeded Books
- H. CCHS Staff Enrollment Request for 2 Children to attend CPS

A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to approve the consent agenda, as outlined. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Correspondence

Ms. Anderson stated that CSC received an email on phone free policies, three emails on Article 22, an email seeking clarity about anti-Semitic policies, and an email from a DJ offering services to the schools. Ms. Marano stated that CCSC received an email about pursuing T-Mobile on the CCHS campus.

VII. Discussion

A. Policy Second Reading. Ms. Marano stated that feedback was received on the Fundraising policy (JJE), so it would be pulled out and discussed at the next policy meeting.

B. Amenities Building Next Step. Mr. Conry stated that the CCHS access road project came in under budget by approximately \$352,000, noting that the district has to return funds to the sources they came from. He recommended returning \$200,000 to the Capital Stabilization Fund. He also recommended designating \$175,000 out of the Capital Stabilization Fund to cover the costs of a feasibility study and design for an amenities building. He noted that the remaining funds (approximately \$150,000) would flow to E&D.

C. CPS & CCRSD FY24 Budget Update and Quarterly Transfers. CPS - Dr. Hunter noted that the normal processes of approvals have been suspended and the only things being funded are those absolutely needed between now and June 13th. Mr. Conry stated that the CPS budget has a balance of \$55,000, reflective of encumbrances. He noted that the out of district programs don't reflect special education funds that will be applied as the money is spend and the fixed assets category of \$174,000 are for school buses that the district has yet to purchase or lease. Mr. Conry stated that, after factoring all adjustments in, he estimates that CPS has approximately \$100,000 accessible through the end of the fiscal year. He noted that CPS has partnered with the town to obtain funding for homeless transportation reimbursement of \$76,000 in the 24-25 operating budget.

CCRSD - Mr. Conry stated that there is a \$2.4 million balance, \$2.2 million was encumbered for benefits and debt payments. He stated that there are offsets to the programs with other districts of about \$400,000, noting that there is a little bit over \$200,000 left for the rest of the school year.

Mr. Conry stated that they are keeping a tight eye in both districts and are deferring discretionary spending.

D. CCRSD Budget FY25. Ms. Marano noted that the Concord Finance Committee is not planning on re-voting the budget number before town meeting, but to amend the article on the floor. Dr. Hunter reviewed the recommendations for reductions to get to guideline, including not replacing a Computer Science teacher due to retirement. She reviewed the steps already taken to reduce the budget number: multiple positions have already been reduced for a total of seven full time employees, the district is into circuit breaker, E&D, and has trimmed OPEB. Mr. Booth shared a list of items that represent significant increases over the prior year, recommending tighter management on some of the non-student

facing and non-academic areas. Ms. Anderson stated that the timing of Mr. Booth's recommendations was inappropriate, noting all of the opportunities he had to bring these items forward. Ms. Marano stated that she was not going to direct Dr. Hunter to reduce the budget any further.

Ms. Rainey suggested that, in the future, the SC discuss potentially having an activity fee and raising athletic fees. She also questioned the rental receipts and Mr. Conry stated that these are used to cover maintenance costs.

Ms. Rankin noted her support for the budget and Ms. Rainey noted that she did not support the cuts as outlined. Ms. Whitt stated that she appreciated Mr. Booth's effort to dive into the budget more. Ms. Rainey stated that some of Mr. Booth's items should be considered. Dr. Hunter and Mr. Conry responded to the items in Mr. Booth's list: DEI Contract Services are fully financing the Calculus Project, Unified teams have been added, maintenance contract services are below the run rates, and admin software support are now funded through the budget. Mr. Conry stated that tax payers already voted to approve the middle school, noting that he feels like this is being pushed back on the district as a tax impact. He also noted that they greatly reduced capital between last year and this year. He stated that they have not had any collaboration from FINCOM in terms of looking what the situation of the district is, noting enrollment shifts and upcoming housing developments. He also noted benefits not being counted in the town, but being counted in the region. Dr. Hunter noted her frustration with the fact that there are many other districts needing overrides and the town can't come up with \$150,000 to help the schools. She stated how hard they work to bring responsible budgets.

E. Electric Bus Issues and Updates. Dr. Hunter stated that there are three electric buses on the road without sufficient chargers and noted that a charger overheated causing a fire alarm to go off. She stated that the infrastructure is not adequate for what is currently running.

VIII. Action Items

A. Vote Changes to 2024-2025 Calendar CMS PD February 14, 2025. Dr. Hunter stated that they would like to move the PD day at CMS from January to February, so the students are home and the staff is in to move into the new building on the Friday before February vacation. A motion was made by Ms. Rainey, for CSC, seconded by Ms. Marano, for CSC, to change the 2024-25 calendar to allocate a PD day on February 14, 2025 for CMS in lieu of the originally scheduled January PD day. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Vote to Approve Transfers (regarding Amenities Building). A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, seconded by Mr. Booth, that the Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee return \$200,000 from the CCHS Access Road capital project to the Capital Stabilization Fund, as these funds are no longer needed for the Access Road project due to it coming in under budget. The motion passed unanimously.

C. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, seconded by Mr. Booth, that the Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee transfer \$175,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund to a new capital project to fund the Feasibility and Design costs for an Amenities Building adjacent to the CCHS lower athletic field. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Vote to Approve Policies. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, for both CSC and CCSC, seconded by Mr. Booth, for both CSC and CCSC, to approve the following policies as proposed in the agenda: JL, JBB, JFABE, JFABF, JFBB, JH, JHD, JICE, JICFA, JICFB, JICJ, JJ, KDC, and KDCB. The motion passed unanimously for CCSC and CSC.

E. Vote to Approve FY24 CPS & CCRSD Quarterly Transfers. A motion was made by Ms. Marano, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to approve the FY24 quarterly transfers for CPS. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rankin, to approve the FY24 CCRSD quarterly transfers as outlined in the memo dated January 8, 2024 included in tonight's packet. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 6.4.24

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
CMSBC	Concord Middle School Building Committee
CPS	Concord Public Schools
CSC	Concord School Committee
CTA	Concord Teachers Association
DEIB	Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging
FINCOM	Finance Committee
PD	Professional Development
SC	School Committee
SEPAC	Special Education Parent Advisory Council