

Present: Tracey Marano, Chair, CCSC; CSC
Sharon Whitt, Vice Chair, CCSC
Alexa Anderson, Chair, CSC; CCSC
Carrie Rankin, Vice Chair, CSC; CCSC
Andrew Herchek, CSC; CCSC
Cynthia Rainey, CSC, CCSC
Domingos DaRosa, CCRSD METCO Rep
Ayesha Lawton, CPS METCO Rep

Absent: 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 CSC

Ms. Anderson called the CSC meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

II. Seating of the Concord School Committee

A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to recognize Alexa Anderson, Andrew Herchek, Tracey Marano, Cynthia Rainey and Carrie Rankin as members of the Concord School Committee. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Ms. Marano, seconded by Ms. Rankin, to delay the election of a Chair and Vice Chair until the Carlisle members are in place. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Public Comment

1. Michael Punzalan, High Pine Circle, Concord MA. Mr. Punzalan commented about a recent email he sent to the SC regarding declining pass rates in AP English, asking how the district could ensure that a mitigation plan is on track and asked how to detect trends more quickly.
2. Akia Obas (on behalf of Janet Walker), Boston MA. Ms. Obas stated that Ms. Anderson misrepresented METCO PTG during the April 30th Concord Town Meeting regarding the METCO PTG and METCO SC reps not reaching consensus on the naming of the middle school. Ms. Obas stated that no feedback was given to the SC regarding their thoughts on the naming, noting that the SC did not reach out to the METCO PTG for an official statement regarding their stance on the naming of the middle school.
3. Connie Levine, Stowe Street, Concord MA. Ms. Levine urged the SC to redo the numbers on the naming and noted that the SC has been given a tremendous opportunity in naming the middle school.
4. Wilson Kerr, 20 Damon Street, Concord MA. Mr. Kerr stated that both sides are very polarized on the naming of the middle school. He asked the SC and DEI Commission to open their hearts to a compromise and move past the situation to heal.
5. Joe Lauren, 134 Southfield Road, Concord MA. Mr. Lauren noted that he respected the Garrison family and the SC. He stated that he was concerned about losing recognition of Sanborn and Peabody. He suggested retaining the

name of Concord Middle School and use important parts of the school to recognize the Garrison family, as well as Sanborn and Peabody.

6. Marianne Maurer, 45 Bruce Road, Concord MA. Ms. Maurer stated that she supported the SC's decision and right to keep the Concord Middle School name. She stated that there were so many people in Concord that have volunteered their entire lives to be educators, noting that she felt they couldn't select just one. She noted her support of placing plaques, etc., for people within the school to celebrate them.

7. Jeff Suarez, 45 Oxbow Road, Concord MA. Mr. Suarez welcomed Mr. Herchek to the SC and expressed his support of the SC. He urged the SC to do the right thing to recognize Ellen Garrison and to do the right thing for the school.

8. Don Kupka, Devens Street, Concord MA. Mr. Kupka stated that he appreciated the difficult job of the SC and that they were all volunteers. He stated that he watched the February 8th, 2024 SC meeting after attending Town Meeting to better understand the thought process of the SC. He urged the SC to reconsider the thought that naming the building after one person would take something away, noting that he feels it would add something.

9. Chesley Chen, 196 Williams Road, Concord MA. Mr. Chesley stated that he thought the public comment period was going to go from 6:00 – 7:00 PM and noted that he was the first one who signed in on the sign in sheet but did not get a chance to make a public comment.

IV. Discussion

A. Town Meeting Recap. Ms. Anderson stated that the CPS capital budget and operating budget articles both passed at Town Meeting, thanking the community for their support. Regarding Article 22, she stated that the topic was of extraordinary interest to all Concordians. Ms. Anderson spoke about Ezra Ripley, for whom the Ripley Administration was named after, noting her concern for a building being named after a religious figure. Ms. Anderson recommended renaming the Ripley building and adjacent fields after Ellen Garrison. Ms. Lawton stated that she supported the CSC with naming the middle school the Concord Middle School and noted that Ellen Garrison should be celebrated on a larger community scale. Mr. Herchek asked if renaming the Ripley building would kick off a separate process and Ms. Anderson stated that she would ask the community to allow the process that just concluded in which the CSC received 21 names, along with the Town Meeting Feedback, to stand in as a proxy process. Ms. Rainey stated that the CSC needs to follow the process in the policy. Ms. Marano stated that the CSC would need to run a new process, but could incorporate all of the public comment taken from the beginning of the middle school process. Ms. Rainey stated that the CSC cannot just assume that the people who supported naming the middle school after Ellen Garrison would be happy with the compromise. Ms. Anderson stated that the SC could take a vote on the 21st to on opening up a process of renaming the Ripley building after Ellen Garrison, noting that the Ripley building is the point of entry for many to the Concord Public Schools and also the exit for some in the postgraduate program.

Ms. Rankin noted the agreement amongst the community that big investments need to be made in time, money, energy and training into DEIB. She stated that she was interested in the idea of looking beyond just the name of the school, such as an Ellen Garrison award for a teacher, or other ways to honor Ellen within the school building walls. Mr. DaRosa stated that there were mixed feelings within the Town of Concord, noting that the issue was groundbreaking. He suggested dedicating a meeting specifically for public comment for the naming of the building.

V. Executive Session. A motion was made by Ms. Marano, seconded by Ms. Rainey, for the Concord School Committee to enter into Executive Session under Purpose 3 of the Open Meeting Law: To conduct strategy with respect to collective bargaining with the Concord Teachers Association and return to Open Session. The motion was approved by roll call: Anderson, aye; Herchek, aye; Marano, aye; Rainey, aye; Rankin, aye.

I. Call to Order CCSC

Ms. Marano called the CCSC meeting to order at 7:16 PM.

II. CCHS Student Update

Ms. Marano stated that the students could not make the meeting due to conflicts, encouraging people to attend the play "Prom".

III. Consent Agenda

A. Warrants

1. CCRSD A/P

1260 4/26/24 \$134,920.34
1246 4/19/24 \$273,820.93
1245 4/19/24 \$208.77
1206 2/20/24 \$83,852.90
1204 2/26/24 \$136,000.00
1176 12/15/23 \$298,875.00
1175 12/12/23 \$106,355.47
1159 9/11/23 \$325,812.50
1158 12/30/23 \$3,256.75
1157 10/30/23 \$1,123.00
1156 9/30/23 \$10,000.00
1155 8/30/23 \$2,000.00
1154 7/28/23 \$68,703.20
1130 11/22/23 \$9,200.00
1129 11/20/23 \$8,000.00

2. CCRSD Payroll

Pay date 4/25/24 \$56,345.22
Pay date 4/25/24 \$4,281.05
Pay date 4/25/24 \$18,665.77
Pay date 4/25/24 \$240.65
Pay date 4/25/24 \$14,146.86
Pay date 4/25/24 \$614,260.60
Pay date 4/25/24 \$73,161.23
Pay date 4/25/24 \$176,341.68
Pay date 4/25/24 \$44,801.48

3. CPS A/P

1084 4/25/24 \$303,412.63
1083 4/25/24 \$74.66

4. CPS Payroll

Pay date 4/25/24 \$216,555.22
Pay date 4/25/24 \$343,198.35

B. Minutes

1. Joint Minutes 3/12/24
2. Joint Minutes 3/26/24
3. Joint Minutes 2/6/24

C. Donations

1. \$1,000 for Memorial Field Padding from Friends of CCHS Lacrosse
2. \$500 for Memorial Field Padding from Friends of CCHS Girls Soccer
3. \$2,000 for Memorial Field Padding from Friends of Football

Ms. Rankin asked that the donations be acknowledged. Ms. Marano thanks the Friends of CCHS Lacrosse, Girls Soccer, and Football, for their donations for the Memorial Field padding. A motion was made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Rankin, to approve the consent agenda. The motion was unanimously approved.

IX. Correspondence

Ms. Marano stated that CCSC received one piece of correspondence regarding AP English. Ms. Anderson stated that the CSC received an email on how SC governance was done, one offering help with cyber security attack, and 158 emails on the name of the middle school.

X. Superintendent, Chairs and Liaisons Update

Regarding the cyber security breach ransomware, Dr. Hunter stated that there was no wireless accessibility the previous Monday, but IT built work around networks so the schools were up and functioning on Tuesday. She stated that the district contacted an insurance provider and has been connected with a forensic cyber team who has been working with IT to identify and contain the malware. She stated that they are beginning the recovery period now and noted that the attack did not affect Macintosh computers. Dr. Hunter stated that the Ripley building's server was attacked and many could not be accessed and that the fiscal system had to be rebuilt on the cloud, noting that payroll was completed over the weekend at the Concord Town House. She stated that the firewall would need to be repaired during a 12-hour shutdown of the internet over the weekend. She stated that the district would be providing credit monitoring and offering information on freezing and checking credit accounts. Ms. Marano expressed her gratitude to the IT Department and Business Office, noting the incredible amount of effort and commitment of the staff.

Ms. Anderson commended Ms. Lawton for speaking at METCO Advocacy Day, noting how valuable she was to the discussion. She stated that there was a gap between what METCO Inc. was asking for and what they have been allocated through the House, suggesting that the SC write a letter advocating for full funding. The SC agreed to have Ms. Anderson work on a letter on behalf of the entire SC. Ms. Lawton stated that listening to the other communities made her realize there is a lot to be proud of at CPS and CCRSD.

Ms. Rankin stated that she would be attending the SEPAC annual awards on May 9th.

XI. Discussion

A. Concord Town Meeting Recap. Ms. Marano stated that the regional budget passed at Town Meeting, but the amendment did not. She stated that she's looking forward to collaborating with the Finance Committee and Select Board on the budget process and Ms. Rainey stated that the SC needs to revise the facilities policy for the new middle school.

B. LAUNCH Retail RFP. Dr. Hunter stated that the LAUNCH program would have retail space in the Crosby's plaza. Mr. Conry stated that the SC would need to accept the bid for the space \$32.00/square foot for a total annual lease of \$62,176, noting that the district would also be responsible for a share of the operating costs of the property, for an estimated annual cost of \$9,657.00. He noted that the combined total lease cost in year one would be \$72,000 and would increase \$1.00 per year per square foot. To put the cost into context, Mr. Conry stating that the cost of placing a student out of district is about equal to the rent. He noted that the district would also be responsible for transportation costs. He stated that there would be an upfront financial commitment including items like architect design, light fixtures, bathroom upgrades, and fire protection that are estimated at \$300,000. He proposed to use circuit breaker reserves for the \$300,000. Student Services Director, Angel Charles, spoke about possible items that could be sold in the store: sweatshirts with the name of Concord in sign language, mugs with school and town logo, and candy. She noted that there would be a high level of student voice in the products sold. Dr. Hunter stated that the tuitions from Pathways could alone offset most of the cost. Mr. Conry noted that the district needs to respond to the RFP this evening.

C/D. Wellness Policy First Reading ADF and Meal Charge Policy First Reading EFD. Dr. Hunter asked for a first reading of policy ADF because it was cited as outdated by the state during a Food Service review, she suggested the district move to the MASC version. Regarding the Meal Charge Policy, she stated that there were references to restricting graduation due to delinquent meal charge balances in the District's policy, noting that MASC's version is much more generic and broad. She stated that she would bring the recommended policies to the next meeting as a second read.

XII. Action Items

A. Vote to Approve CCHS Early Release Dates 2024-2025. Ms. Marano stated that there would be 10 early release at CCHS days with a 1:15 PM dismissal time. A motion was made by Ms. Anderson, seconded by Ms. Rainey, to approve the CCHS Early Release dates for 2024-2025 as written. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. RFP for LAUNCH. A motion was made by Ms. Rankin, seconded by Ms. Anderson, to accept the proposal submitted for the CCRSD Retail Space RFP from the sole bidder, and to authorize district administration to work with district counsel to negotiate and execute a lease with the awarded bidder. The motion passed unanimously.

XIII. Executive Session. A motion was by Ms. Rainey, seconded by Ms. Rankin, that the Concord-Carlisle School Committee would 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 not return to Open Session. The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, abstain; Herchek, aye; Marano, aye; Rainey, aye; Rankin, aye; Whitt, aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 6.11.24

Abbreviations:

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| 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 |