

JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE Concord School Committee
Concord-Carlisle School Committee
Ripley Building
Concord, MA 01742
September 23, 2008

Present: Jerry Wedge, CSC; CCSC, Chair
Peter Fischelis, CSC, Chair; CCSC
Fabian Fondriest, CSC, Vice-Chair; CCSC
Jan McGinn, CSC; CCSC, Vice-Chair
Pamela Gannon, CSC; CCSC
Dale Ryder, CCSC
Louis Salemy, CCSC

Present From Administration: Diana Rigby, Superintendent of Schools, CPS and CCRSD
John Flaherty, Deputy Superintendent of Schools, CPS and CCRSD

Student Representatives: Marree Budris
Blair Robinson

I. CALL TO ORDER

The session was called to order by Mr. Wedge for CCSC and Mr. Fischelis for CSC at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Wedge acknowledged the sadness over the loss of the Verrill Farm Stand over the weekend.

A. Student Advisory Council - Marree Budris spoke about the new student initiative program, which helps new students adjust and learn about the high school, learn about the new Guidance Program and learn about extra curricular activities and attendance policies. Blair Robinson said the first school dance was held on Friday, September 19 and it was very successful. There were no issues with substance abuse or inappropriate dress. Back to school night was a great success. The senior class fundraised over \$5,000. The class of 2011 will be selling environmentally friendly bags within the next month.

B. Citizens' Comments – Ms. Shawna Reid, Executive Director of The League of Women Voters of Massachusetts, gave a presentation to the Committee on Question 1 "A Proposed Law To Eliminate The State Income Tax". This would result in \$12.7 billion being removed from the state's tax base, more than a third of the state's \$27 billion budget. State aid to local government (the majority of which is for K-12 education) would suffer a 40 percent cut in funding.

Ms. Johanna Glazer, President of the CCRSD Teachers' Association and Ms. Caitlyn Smith, Chair, Vote No On 1 Committee spoke next. They spoke about the impact Question 1 would have on the State of Massachusetts and Concord. This is a binding referendum and if passes would become law. If this were to pass it would put Massachusetts at risk and education would suffer. Materials, technology, support services, extra curricular activities, elective classes and faculty and support staff would be cut in the schools.

II. READING OF THE MINUTES

A. Open Session

A motion was made to approve three meetings. Ms. Gannon, seconded by Ms. McGinn for the June 10 joint meeting. Ms. McGinn, seconded by Mr. Fondriest for the June 24 meeting. Ms. Gannon, seconded by Ms. Ryder for the September 9, meeting. All three motions were approved.

II. CORRESPONDENCE

None

IV. RECOGNITIONS

A. Ms. Rigby introduced Mr. Peter Badalament, Principal, CCHS. Mr. Badalament introduced three of the seven National Merit Scholar Semi-Finalists. They are in the top 1% of all the students who took the PSATs. This is a great honor as they must meet high academic standards. The following students are National Merit Scholar Semi-Finalists. The asterisk indicates the students who were present at the meeting.

- * Shivani Bhatia
- * Carolyn Tobin
- * Rebecca Zaunbrecher

Samuel Corrao Clanon
Lydia Slocum
Polly Karr
Jennie Williams

B. Mr. Badalament was invited to participate in the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) "Emerging Leaders" Program in Washington, DC. Mr. Badalament traveled to Washington, DC to meet with several senior policy advisors and Congresswoman Tsongas to discuss public education issues.

C. Mr. Fischelis recognized Ms. Rigby and Mr. Badalament for welcoming a group of students and teachers from Romania. They toured the school and attended classes. They discussed future exchange programs for both teachers and students.

V. REPORTS & ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

A. Presentation of CCHS Library Five-Year Plan - Ms. Robin Cicchetti, Library Media Specialist. Ms. Rigby thanked Ms. Cicchetti for revitalizing the Library Media Center at CCHS. The services to faculty and students have improved. The library looks great with the addition of new lighting, new plants and technology.

Ms. Cicchetti along with Hanna Donahue, a student member of the committee, stated that their goal was to have the plan accepted and signed by the School Committee so it could be submitted to the State. Ms. Cicchetti thanked the Concord Garden Club for a \$500.00 grant for new plants. Ms. Cicchetti also thanked the IT Department for their support. Two ActivBoards were added along with 40 new iMacs. The Five-Year Plan gives the library access to a pool of grants, large and small. Programs such as On The Same Page, One Book - One School, will be applied for through the grants program. The Committee was made up of Mr. Badalament, Principal CCRSD, Mr. Warfel, Director of IT, teaching staff, a parent representative, Ms. Gladstone from the Concord Free Public Library and student representatives. There were five meetings over the course of the year.

A motion was made to approve the CCHS Library Five-Year Plan by Mr. Fondriest, seconded by Ms. McGinn. The motion was approved.

B. Impact of Loss of State Aid – Mr. Flaherty explained if there were a loss at the state level how the resources that would be available across the State would be distributed. CPS and CCRSD wouldn't fare well if Question 1 were to pass. The assumption is that all Chapter 70 Aid that we currently receive would be eliminated. This would be \$2.31 million (at the Region) in Chapter 70 Aid plus Regional Transportation Aid. Manpower cuts would be significant. Junior teachers could be laid off as well as support staff.

C. Preliminary FY10 Budget Aid – Mr. Flaherty said FY10 will be just as challenging as last year for CCRSD due to Carlisle's fiscal situation. The Regional budget made significant cuts to its instructional supplies and materials and eliminated all of the contingency funding. Transportation costs will go up significantly. The good news is that we did not pass a debt exclusion at the high school last year, which will result in a reduction in debt services next year roughly about \$200,000. The district will face typical escalation in steps and scales and health insurance.

CPS - The ability to come in at the levy limit is in a good position, and depends how the Finance Committee allocates the resources that are available within the levy limit. Ms. Rigby and Mr. Flaherty will be presenting at the FinCom meeting on October 9. Carlisle will be invited to the meeting.

D. Facilities Update – Mr. David Anderson, Facilities Manager. Ms. Rigby thanked Mr. Anderson and his staff for a wonderful job over the summer. The buildings looked beautiful on opening day.

Mr. Anderson showed before and after pictures of the schools that had improvements.

Ripley Building – Main parking lot, changed grading and enhanced the front of the building. Safety issued and potholes taken care of.

Peabody – FACS kitchen project, playground area, new grass area. Project for new stairs has gone out to bid.

Sanborn – New thermal windows and screens at front entrance. The front entrance had new asphalt work and granite curbs have been added.

CCHS – Lighting projects in the library and lower gym. A 40% energy savings is expected.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Vote to approve permission to plan trip to England (CCHS) – Mr. Badalament and Mr. Sapp, English Teacher, outlined the purpose of the trip to England with a small group of students. A motion to approve permission to plan a trip to England by Ms. McGinn and seconded by Mr. Fischelis. The motion was approved.

B. Vote to increase funding – CPS Capital Needs Stabilization Fund – Mr. Flaherty recommended that \$130,000 be added to the CPS Capital Needs Stabilization Fund. These funds are unexpected FY08 funds primarily from the capital outlay accounts (\$100,000) and building maintenance accounts. A motion to vote to increase the CPS Capital Needs Stabilization Fund by \$130,000 and authorize the transfer of \$130,000 of encumbered funds in the capital outlay account to the CPS Capital Needs Stabilization Fund was made by Mr. Fondriest, seconded by Ms. Gannon. The motion was approved.

C. Vote to appoint Superintendent to CASE Collaborative Board of Directors - A motion was made to appoint Ms. Rigby to the CASE Collaborative Board of Directors by Ms. McGinn, seconded by Ms. Ryder. The motion was approved.

D. Vote to approve ACE Advisory Committee Members – Mr. Court Booth, Director of Adult/Community Education recommended Ms. Jennifer Albanese and Ms. Margaret Gaudet to the ACE Committee for a three-year term. A motion was made to approve Ms. Albanese and Ms. Gaudet by Ms. McGinn and seconded by Ms. Ryder. The motion was approved.

E. Vote to designate voting delegate to the MASC annual business meeting. No vote was taken on this.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

None.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. September 22, 2008: Romanian visitors to CCHS – Six students and 4 adults visited. Thanks to Mr. Fischelis and The Unitarian Church for sponsoring the visit.

B. September 30, 2008: Meeting with Ms. Craven (MSBA). Ms. Rigby suggested a workshop on facilities after the meeting for the high school project.

C. October 3, 2008: Superintendent's afternoon tea in Ripley Conference Room 1, 3:30 – 5:00 PM. Every month there will be a tea for the public, faculty and staff to discuss any topics related to the schools.

D. November 19-22, 2008: MASC/MASS Joint Conference at The Resort & Conference Center in Hyannis. Ms. Rigby, Ms. Gannon and Ms. McGinn will be attending Thursday and Friday, November 20 & 21.

IX. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

None

X. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made from Ms. McGinn and seconded by Ms. Ryder for CCSC and a motion was made by Ms. McGinn and seconded by Ms. Gannon for CSC to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally W. Ferguson
Approved: 10/28/08

CSC	Concord School Committee
CCSC	Concord-Carlisle Regional District School Committee
CPS	Concord Public Schools
CCRSD	Concord-Carlisle Regional School District
CCHS	Concord-Carlisle Regional High School
ASCD	Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
MSBA	Massachusetts School Building Authority
MASC	Massachusetts Association of School Committees
M.A.S.S.	Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents