

CONCORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Ripley Building
Concord, MA 01742
March 10, 2009

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

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. The session was called to order by Mr. Fischelis for CSC at 6:40 PM.
- B. Citizens' Comments

Court Booth, Director Adult and Community Education Program. Mr. Booth gave an update on the Community Symposium: Changes and Choices – Our Economy, Our Environment to be held March 28 at CCHS. There will be workshops for adults and children and exhibitors.

II. READING OF THE MINUTES

None

III. CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Rigby shared a thank you letter from Wendy Morotta's second grade class. They sent the thank you letter in appreciation for their field trip to the New England Aquarium.

IV. RECOGNITIONS

- A. Middle School: Eighth graders Brian Demers and Forrest Dickinson. Mr. Unobskey, Principal, MS, recognized Brian Demers and Forrest Dickinson for presenting a power point presentation at the faculty meeting in early March requesting that students should be allowed to use their iPods before the start of the school day. Mr. Unobskey told them he would get back to them after the faculty finished discussing the issue.
- B. Willard: Genoveva Matheus selected to receive the Goldin Foundation for Excellence in Education Award.
- C. Deputy Superintendent John Flaherty for his excellent budget presentations at the Town Budget Hearing.

V. REPORTS & ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

- A. Vignette from Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat: Kevin Shancady, Music Teacher and Play Director, introduced student performer Mickey Valle-Hoag who sang the song Close Every Door in English and Hebrew.
- B. Special Education Update – Ms. Murphy, Director of Special Education, gave a presentation on Special Education PreK-Grade 8.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Vote Final Reading and Approval: File EEAEF – No Idling Policy. A motion was made by Ms. McGinn seconded by Ms. Gannon that the Concord School Committee vote to approve policy File EEAEF – No Idling Policy. The motion was unanimously approved.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

None

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. March 23, 2009: EDCO Legislative Forum, 9:30 – 11:30 AM @ State House. This year's forum is Surviving In Tight Financial Times: A School Perspective.

B. The Stimulus Act for education funding opportunities. On February 17, 2009 President Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Stimulus Act). There is approximately \$100 billion for education and there are three components; the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund, monies for Title I and monies for IDEA which is for Special Education. The funds will be distributed in stages, distributed to the states based on a formula for use in the next two (2) years. Some funds will be distributed all at once and some through a competitive grant process. Preliminary allocations for Concord are \$404,000 for Special Education for 2009 and approximately \$337,000 in 2010, these numbers are preliminary and these amounts could be lower.

C. History & Social Science MCAS Tests postponed. The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education voted 8-2 on February 24 to postpone until 2014 a requirement that students pass a History and Social Science MCAS test in order to graduate from high school. The Competency Determination (CD) requirement for the graduating classes of 2012 and 2013 has also been waived.

D. April 3, 2009 – Superintendent's afternoon tea at Thoreau Library, 3:30 p.m.

IX. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

None

X. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made from Ms. McGinn seconded by Ms. Gannon for CSC. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally W. Ferguson
Approved: 03/24/2009

Abbreviations:

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| CSC | Concord School Committee |
| CCSC | Concord-Carlisle Regional District School Committee |
| CPS | Concord Public Schools |
| CCRSD | Concord-Carlisle Regional School District |
| CD | Competency Determination |
| MCAS | Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System |