

JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Concord-Carlisle School Committee
Concord School Committee
Ripley Building
Concord, MA
March 24, 2009

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

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

Student Representatives: Marree Budris
Blair Robinson

Absent: Pamela Gannon, CSC; CCSC
Dale Ryder, CCSC

I. CALL TO ORDER

The session was called to order by Mr. Wedge for CCSC and Mr. Fischelis for CSC at 6:35 PM.

A. Pubic Hearing on School Choice – Diana Rigby explained the School Choice under Massachusetts General Law. Chapter 76, Section 12B of the Massachusetts General Laws addresses Interdistrict School Choice. It is Ms. Rigby’s recommendation that the Concord and Concord-Carlisle School Committees vote not to participate in the School Choice provisions of the State Law for the school year 2009-2010.

B. Welcome to the Student Advisory Council – Ms. Marree Budris and Ms. Blair Robinson gave an update. The Black and White Dance was held last weekend and was a success. Spring Sports have started and demand for track team exceeded supply of slots, necessitating cuts. Ms. McGinn requested clarity on need to cut students from track team as it is identified as one of the three “no cut” teams at CCHS. The spring play this year will be Richard III. Student Senate is drafting a Conserving Paper Bill. The first combined Junior and Senior Prom will be in 2012.

C. Citizens’ Comments

None

II. READING OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made to approve two (2) meetings. Ms. McGinn, seconded by Mr. Fondriest for the February 24, 2009 Joint Committee Meeting. Ms. McGinn, seconded by Mr. Fondriest for the March 10, 2009 Concord School Committee Meeting. Both motions were approved.

III. CORRESPONDENCE

Ms. Rigby received a letter from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education confirming that both districts have met federal accountability requirements for Special Education and that we do not require direct technical assistance or intervention from the State at this time.

Ms. Rigby stated that she and Mr. Wedge sent a letter to Governor Patrick on behalf of the school committee asking to reinstate the FY10 METCO Budget. The FY10 METCO budget was cut \$35,000 at CPS and \$18,000 at CCHS. We are encouraging Governor Patrick to reconsider the cuts across the state for the METCO Program. Ms. Rigby will be meeting with Ms. Jean McGuire, Executive, Director of METCO Inc. on Friday, March 27, 2009 to further discuss how we can advocate with our legislators and the governor to reinstate those funds.

Ms. Rigby received a letter of gratitude from a family in which we educated three (3) daughters two of which had received special education services from CPS and CCHS, and were very grateful for the quality of education they received from the special educators.

Mr. Fischelis received a letter from Mr. Tom Valle, Board President of Heritage Pool & Racquet Club discussing the concerns they have over the proposed new baseball field at Ripley School.

Mr. Wedge received a letter from the Town Division of Natural Resources announcing there is a final version of the final wetlands bylaw that can be seen on the Town Web Site.

IV. RECOGNITIONS

A. CCHS: Academic Bowl A Team: Mr. Badalament recognized Tony Buonomo (Captain), Sam Correo-Clanon, John Reterrer-Moore and Paul O'Neil who participated in the Academic Bowl A Team. The team qualified for the national tournament by finishing third in a MIT Competition in a field of twenty four students from up and down the East Coast. Peter Atlas, Math Teacher is the coach.

B. CCHS: George Kendall, Ned Roos, Al Dentino, and students for Miss Saigon – Mr. Badalament recognized George Kendall, Music Teacher, Ned Roos, WIQH Station Manager, Al Dentino, Music Teacher and over 100 students who participated in Miss Saigon. A special thanks to Ned Roos for all his help behind the scenes.

V. REPORTS & ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

A. Environmental Consortium Presentation – Mr. Matt Goldberg, Biology Teacher and Lawrence Ma (Class of 2012) gave a presentation on the Environmental Consortium. This year's theme was Bio Diversity and Climate Changes.

B. Discussion on Ripley Baseball Field Project – Mr. Peter Castrichini, Friends of Concord Carlisle Fields (FCCF) and Concord Carlisle Youth Baseball & Softball (CCYB/S). Mr. Castrichini spoke about the Concord Playing Field Initiative at Ripley Field. It would support all youth sports groups. Field construction would be funded entirely with private donations estimated to be \$450,000. They are seeking approval in summer/fall of 2009.

Al Antonitis, President, Concord Carlisle Youth Soccer stated they don't use the full size Ripley field for games on Saturdays, they use the smaller fields. They use Ripley for the Soccer Clinics during the week. They also use Sanborn and the CCHS fields.

Tom Valle, Board President, Heritage Pool & Racquet Club, 612 Bedford Street, stated that there are concerns with fence hopping, parking and kids using the pool for after game swims.

Tanya Gailus, 62 Prescott Road stated that residents weren't notified about meetings regarding the field project in a timely manner.

Richard Mandel, 47 Old Bedford Road stated that he was not notified about any meetings in a formal manner and he had no input at the meetings.

C. Additional space at Ripley - Ms. Pat Nelson, Executive Director, Concord Children's Center – The Concord Children's Center would like to expand their tenant relationship with the Town on Concord. They have been at Ripley for 28 years. They would like to make some renovations and expand the space by a couple of classrooms. Ms. Nelson will come backing June with some drawings and ideas.

D. Special Education Update (CCHS) - Jessica Murphy – Ms. Murphy, Director of Special Education gave an update of Special Education for CCHS. There are currently 179 Special Education in-district students. There are 93 male students and 86 female students. Out of District students number 44, 24 male and 20 female. Services at CCHS include study skills/tutorial, math tutorial, Pathways Program, Alternative Program (ALT PRO) and specialized classes to include integrated English and math strategies.

E. March 31 Election for Debt Exclusion Request – There are town officials up for election and one question on the ballot. Question 1 asks: Shall the Town of Concord be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition Two and One-half, so called, the amounts required to pay for the Town's assessable share of the bonds to be issued by the Concord-Carlisle Regional School District for the purpose of repair and renovation to the school, improvements to safety systems, and to address and plan remediation of space constraints.

F. Educating a 21st Century Workforce - Massachusetts Business Alliance For Education (MBAE). Mr. Badalament reported on CCHS's participation in the summit on redesigning high schools to prepare students to succeed in a rapidly changing society and economy. Thanks to Kathy Codianne, Director of Teaching & Learning, CPS & CCRSD, Robin Cicchetti, Library Media Specialist CCHS and Johanna Glazer, Social Studies Teacher CCHS for attending.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Vote on School Choice for the 2009-2010 school year. A motion that the Concord and Concord-Carlisle School Committees vote not to participate in School Choice for the school year 2009-2010 was made by Ms. McGinn and seconded by Mr. Salemy for CCSC. A motion was made by Ms. McGinn and seconded by Mr. Fondriest for CSC. The motion was approved.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

None

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Ms. Rigby received information from Governor Patrick's office regarding the stimulus package funds under IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Act) Special Education Funds. CPS will be receiving \$281,607 and CCHS will receive \$230,401 for the first spring installment.

B. April 3, 2009 - Superintendent's afternoon tea @ Thoreau Library 3:30 – 5:00 PM.

C. April 14, 2009 – Suburban Coalition Annual Legislative Breakfast, 9:30 – 11:30 AM, The Great Hall - State House, Beacon Hill.

D. April 14, 2009 – Pre-Town Meeting Workshop, 3:30 PM, Town House.

IX. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

None

X. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made from Ms. McGinn and seconded by Mr. Salemy for CCSC and a motion was made by Ms. McGinn and seconded by Mr. Fondriest for CSC to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally W. Ferguson
Approved: 04/14/2009

Abbreviations:

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
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Act
MBAE	Massachusetts Business Alliance For Education
FCCF	Friends of Concord Carlisle Fields
CCYB/S	Concord Carlisle Youth Baseball & Softball