

CONCORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Ripley Building
Concord School Committee
Concord, MA 01742
November 09, 2010

Present: Pam Gannon, Chair, CSC; CCSC
Maureen Spada, Vice Chair, CSC, CCSC
Peter Fischelis, CSC, CCSC
Fabian Fondriest, CSC; CCSC

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

Absent: Jerry Wedge, CSC, CCSC

CALL TO ORDER

The session was called to order by Ms. Gannon for CSC at 6:45 PM. Ms. Gannon noted that recording devices are being used to record the meeting.

A. Citizens' Comments

None

II. READING OF THE MINUTES

None

III. CHAIRS REPORT

A. Ms. Gannon postponed this part of the meeting until the Old Business Section on the agenda.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

None

V. RECOGNITIONS

A. Alcott: Ms. Young, Principal, recognized Becky Bristol, Jen Martin, Jean Del Vecchio and Jill Connelly, 2nd grade teachers for their innovative PIP Project (Personal Interest Project). The students have personal project time each week where they investigate and research the projects that excite them the most.

B. Thoreau: Ms. Clough, Principal, recognized School Nurse Nicki Richards for all her hard work and dedication on behalf of all the students and staff members at Thoreau. Ms. Richards is especially kind and nurturing when assisting those in need and she is always informative and willing to go above and beyond her expected duties.

C. Willard: Ms. Fernandes, Principal, recognized Genoveva Matheus, Technology Specialist and Erica Chicco, Library Media Specialist for their work with the Willard Earth Care Club as they prepare students for the open house celebrating the implementation of the solar panels. The open house will be held on November 16, 2010 at Willard.

D. CMS: Ms. Beattie, Principal, recognized Gavin Sykes-McLaughlin, 6th Grade Social Studies Teacher, for his work with student teachers to design and execute a mock campaign including a debate and an election. Mr. Sykes-McLaughlin went over and above to make this event an authentic learning experience at both Peabody and Sanborn.

VI. REPORTS & ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

A. Technology used in Special Education Services. Noelle Johnson, Speech/Language Pathologist and Anne Egan, Special Education Teacher gave a presentation on the use of introducing technology to students who struggle with learning.

B. FY12 Budget Development. Mr. Flaherty gave a presentation on the FY2012 Preliminary Planning Budget that was presented to the Concord Finance Committee on November 4, 2010. A proposed and recommended budget increase of 3% was presented at the meeting.

VII. ACTION ITEMS

None

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Gannon stated that she met with Mr. Warfel, Director of Information Technology. Ms. Gannon stated that the information on the school committee webpage needs to be current and updated and make sure that every attachment is available on line for anyone who wants to look at it. Ms. Gannon also stated that an archive of documents should also be kept.

Ms. Spada will be doing school committee updates which will go to the PTGs. Ms. Spada will be forwarding the updates to Mr. Warfel who will have them posted on the school committee webpage.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Signs at K-8 Schools. Ms. Rigby stated that No Trespassing Signs have been recently posted at the K-8 Schools. There have been a number of incidents where unleashed dogs have threatened students and staff during school hours as well as dog waste that create unsanitary conditions. Citizens can use school property before and after school but not during school hours.

B. MassCUE Annual Conference. Ms. Rigby stated that she attended the MassCUE Annual Conference and would like to recognize Barbara Peskin, Technology Specialist, Sue Howard, Technology Specialist and Sue Erickson, Grade 4 Teacher for presenting at the conference.

X. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Ms. Carol Wilson, Concord Finance Committee. Ms. Wilson stated that she appreciate all the hard work of the school committee and the hard work that goes into the process. Ms. Wilson stated that the Finance Committee is looking at the big picture with multiple components and declining state and federal funds is one of those components, so the revenue is down. The need to control taxes is also part of the component. The schools are the significant driver of the budget. The Finance Committee is looking at a 2.7% budget increase instead of a 3% increase the school committee requested.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Fischelis and seconded by Mr. Fondriest to adjourn CSC. The motion was unanimously approved and the CSC meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally W. Ferguson
Approved: 11/23/2010

Abbreviations:

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| CSC | Concord School Committee |
| CCSC | Concord-Carlisle Regional District School Committee |
| CPS | Concord Public Schools |
| CCRS | Concord-Carlisle Regional School District |
| CCHS | Concord-Carlisle Regional High School |
| MassCUE | Massachusetts Computer Using Educators |

Addendum:

1. Concord School Committee Meeting Agenda – November 9, 2010
2. FY2012 Preliminary Planning Budget – November 4, 2010
3. CPS Budget Increase From Previous Years/Five Year K-8 Student Enrollment History