

JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Concord School Committee  
Concord-Carlisle School

Committee

Ripley Building  
Concord, MA  
March 22, 2005  
7:00 PM

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### Minutes

PRESENT:

Ms. Betsy Bilodeau  
Mr. David Dockterman  
Mr. Michael Fitzgerald  
Ms. Jan McGinn  
Mr. Jerry Wedge

PRESENT FROM ADMINISTRATION:

Dr. Brenda Finn, Superintendent  
Mr. John Flaherty  
Ms. Diana Rigby

ABSENT:

Mr. Patrick Sinnott, Chair, CCSC  
Ms. Rebecca Shannon, Chair,

CSC

#### I CALL TO ORDER AND GREETING

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Fitzgerald for CCSC and by Mr. Wedge for CSC at 7:06 p.m.

#### A. PUBLIC HEARING ON SCHOOL CHOICE

Mr. Fitzgerald opened the public hearing on school choice. Dr. Finn stated materials related to school choice were available for the public. As no audience members commented on the subject of school choice, the public meeting was closed. Dr. Finn read the proposal and the recommendation and reasons for her recommendation.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Bilodeau and seconded by Mr. Dockterman for CCSC and a MOTION was made by Ms. McGinn and seconded by Ms. Bilodeau for CSC to not participate in the School Choice provisions of the State Law for the school year 2005-06 for the reasons articulated in the memorandum provided to the School Committee. The MOTION was voted and unanimously approved.

#### B. Welcome to Kelly McCausland, Human Resources Administrator

Dr. Finn welcomed Kelly McCausland, who began as Human Resources Administrator on February 21. She was an administrator from Lexington

Public Schools. Ms. McCausland stated she would like to focus on employee wellness, technology updates, recruitment and retirement.

C. Student Advisory Council

They will present at the next meeting.

II READING OF THE MINUTES

Open Session

A MOTION was made by Ms. Bilodeau and seconded by Mr. Wedge for CCSC and a MOTION was made by Ms. Bilodeau and seconded by Ms. McGinn for CSC to approve the minutes from the Joint School Committee meeting held February 8, 2005. A change was made to page 5. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

III CORRESPONDENCE

A. Concord-Carlisle Community Education Advisory Committee's recommendation about the FY2006 budget

Dr. Finn stated she had received correspondence from Court Booth requesting the School Committee include in the budget a line item for Community Education. Dr. Finn stated it is now in the budget.

B. Concord Public Works/Town of Concord's 2005 Roads Program

Dr. Finn stated she received a correspondence stating streets are scheduled to be resurfaced.

Mr. Wedge received email from a citizen regarding seatbelts on school buses. Mr. Wedge asked where we are with regard to this subject. Mr. Flaherty stated there has been no clear consensus on the advantage of seatbelts on school buses. He stated the new buses have been ordered seatbelt ready. To add seatbelts would also increase the number of buses needed, it would reduce the number of seats available on each bus. Dr. Finn stated MASC sent an email on the pros and cons of seatbelts on buses, the research does not indicate seatbelts are the way school buses should be used.

Ms. Bilodeau stated EDCO put together statistical data related to salary, status and classes.

IV RECOGNITIONS

A. CCHS

Mr. Dulong recognized Al Dentino, Chuck Brown, Erica Karban, Dora Golding, students and parents for the production of West Side Story, it was fabulous. It played to six sold out audiences.

Mr. Dulong recognized seniors for the St. Patrick's Day luncheon they hosted. All senior students showed up, about 100 senior citizens showed up.

Mr. Dulong recognized the National Honor Society for the phone-a-thon they conducted. Last year they raised an all-time high of \$34K, this year they raised \$40K.

Mr. Dulong recognized staff for their efforts in preparing for the mid-cycle review. The teachers and staff put together five binders for a one-day review. He recognized Jessica Murphy, Karen Bouche, Harriet Stevens, Neil Lynch, Kay Chambers and Steve Wall.

Mr. Dulong recognized the Science Olympiad Team who placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Massachusetts state meet.

Mr. Dulong recognized the swim/diving team on an extraordinary season. The diving coach, Tracy Bird, was named coach of the year. The swim coach, Jerry Moss, was also named a Boston Globe All-Scholastic Coach.

The wrestling team had their best season in a number of years. They won the Dual County Championship. Max Klinoff won individual all-state championship in his weight category and was named a Boston Globe All-Scholastic athlete.

Mr. Dulong recognized the ski team. Five skiers were also given all-scholastic awards. The spring sports season started today as well.

## V ACTION ITEMS

### A. Vote to Award CPS METCO Bus Lease/Purchase to NE Transit Sales, Inc.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Bilodeau and seconded by Ms. McGinn to award a contract to NE Transit Sales, Inc., for the lease/purchase of three (3) 2006, 75-passenger, type D, rear engine buses, for their low bid of \$183,312, with five (5) annual lease payments of \$40,083.06, reflecting an interest rate of 4.67% and a \$1 buyout. This award is contingent upon annual METCO funding.

The MOTION was unanimously approved.

### B. Vote to award CCRSD METCO Bus Lease/Purchase to School Lines, Inc.

A MOTION was made Ms. Bilodeau and seconded by Ms. McGinn for CCSC to award a contract to School Lines, Inc., for the lease/purchase of two (2) 2006, 75-passenger, type D, rear engine buses, for their low bid of \$136,298, with five (5) annual lease payments of \$29,710.58, reflecting an

interest rate of 4.5% and a \$1 buyout. This award is contingent upon annual METCO funding. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

C. First Reading: Human Resources Administrator Position Description  
Next meeting

D. Concord Area Special Education Collaborative Agreement Final Reading and Approval

The School Committee decided the revisions were fine.

A MOTION was made by Ms. McGinn and seconded by Mr. Dockterman for CCSC and a MOTION was made by Ms. McGinn and seconded by Ms. Bilodeau for CSC to approve the amendments made to the CASE Agreement. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

Dr. Finn stated the School Committee had asked to be updated on upcoming high school trips. Mr. Dulong stated the trip to Italy and Grand Canyon has been cancelled. Trips still on schedule are to China, Hawaii and France. Ms. Bilodeau asked how many students were going to Hawaii and the chorus trip. Mr. Dulong stated 12 students were going to Hawaii and 160 were attending the chorus trip.

VI REPORTS & ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

A. Progress report on CCHS Feasibility Study Committee

Mr. Wedge stated this is a terrific committee; the meetings have been well attended. A list of goals has been developed with the help of the architect. This will be used for configurations of space and the goals will be referred to throughout the process.

Other areas the committee will work on as well are to establish existing conditions of buildings with regard to education specifications and staff.

The committee will look at other facilities such as Acton/Boxborough, Lincoln/Sudbury and Hudson. Tours are scheduled.

The committee will report back to the School Committee in June.

B. NEASC Visiting Team Report

Mr. Dulong stated he did receive a preliminary copy of the report and has only just received the final report. He will review it, he has 60 day to release the report to School Committee, the Superintendent, staff, and the newspaper. He anticipates by the end of April a letter will be ready regarding the accreditation with accommodations and recommendations. Recommendations need to be addressed within two years.

Ms. Bilodeau asked if there were any real surprises. Mr. Dulong stated there were no real surprises, the recommendations center around processes to implement, procedures and assessment processes. There was a short piece related to facilities.

C. Town Meeting Presenters of Motions for School Warrant Articles

Dr. Finn shared this information with the town.

Dr. Finn updated the School Committee on the Thoreau Principal Search. A contract has been extended to Rob Collontuno from Pittsfield. He has accepted. Ms. Rigby thanked the selection committee; they selected the best candidate who would provide the best fit for Thoreau. Mr. Collontuno comes from a more diverse population with socio-economic differences and has changed his school climate.

Ms. Bilodeau asked how he would be announced to the community. Ms. Rigby stated a meeting is scheduled with the PTG when Mr. Collontuno is here. Parents may meet him. Ms. Bilodeau suggested something be sent home in the backpack.

## VIII SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

### A. March 24, Professional Development Day

School Committee members are free to join.

### B. April 1: EDCO Legislative Forum @ Weston Town Hall

FYI

### C. April 5: Suburban Coalition Annual Legislative Breakfast @ the Great Hall – The State House

FYI

### D. April 25, 26, 27: Town Meeting, Concord-Carlisle High School 7 p.m.

### E. TY2006 Guidelines Review and Re-vote

FYI

Ms. Bilodeau stated the YES committee is going back into action, although very low key. The purpose is to get people to Town Meeting and to the polls.

## IX CITIZENS' COMMENTS

## X ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Ms. Bilodeau and seconded by Mr. Dockterman for CCSC and a MOTION was made by Ms. McGinn and seconded by Ms. Bilodeau for CSC to adjourn the Joint School Committee meeting at 8:30. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura O'Sullivan  
APPROVED: 4/12/05