

**CONCORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Committee**

Concord School

**Ripley Building
Concord, MA 01742
February 14, 2006
6:35 pm**

Minutes

PRESENT:

Mr. Jerry Wedge, Chair
Ms. Jan McGinn, V. Chair
Ms. Betsy Bilodeau,
Ms. Rebecca Shannon
Mr. Patrick Sinnott

PRESENT FROM ADMINISTRATION: Ms. Brenda Finn, Superintendent
Ms. Diana Rigby, Asst. Superintendent
Mr. John Flaherty, Finance

I. CALL TO ORDER AND GREETING

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Wedge at 6:35pm.

II. READING OF THE MINUTES

There were none

III. CORRESPONDENCE

Dr. Finn received a letter from Dept. of Planning & Management to the Concord Board of Appeals regarding the special permit and site plan approval for the Alcott School.

IV. RECOGNITIONS

Pat Fernandes thanked the organizers of the Willard Spelling Bee – Kate Reid, Janice Shear, Sue Guest, Chris Sheehan, Kim Rivers and Kate Fitzgerald.

Sharon Young thanked gym teacher, Tim Gaudreau, for the 5th grade Gymnastics and Dance Performance and the work he has been doing in gymnastics and dance in the other grades. The performance received a great deal of praise from parents and CCTV recorded the event for future airing.

V. ACTION ITEMS

Vote to appoint the Leadership for School Building Initiatives (LSBI) to make the presentation for Article 42, Design Funds for New Willard School at both Town Meeting and the Public Hearing.

The MOTION was voted and unanimously approved.

VI. REPORTS & ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

A. Presentation: Alcott Motto

Sharon Young introduced Justine Herbert and Sherree Lenkarski who assisted with the process development of the Alcott Motto. The idea of a motto came about during a school discussion and goal setting session at a School Improvement Team meeting. The motto reflects what is important to the school community – kindness, respect and caring. Rob Evans was chosen as the facilitator. The children became involved in the process through discussion on what was meant by a motto, and on what it meant and looked like to be kind, respectful and caring. The children's thoughts were compiled and they made an I Movie expressing their new motto –“The Alcott School is a Caring, Cooperative, Respectful Community of Learners.” They chose an Owl as their mascot. The school is having a poster contest and other activities to promote their belief statement and to introduce their new mascot.

B. Renovated space at Ripley – New multi-purpose room

Mr. Flaherty took the School Committee to see the room across the hall that had been previously used for storage and was recently cleaned out and now had the potential to become a new multi-purpose room for meetings and performances. Mr. Wedge suggested that perhaps since the room was under renovation this would be an opportune time to install the wire and cable for CCTV's cameras. Mr. Sinnott suggested that before the School Committee decided on using the room for Sch. Com. Meetings, the Committee conduct a meeting in the space to see if the room had a better feel to it than the current room.

In a discussion about bringing CCTV to Sch. Comm. Meetings, Ms. Bilodeau suggested that perhaps there was a better way to get information to the public than to have the entire meeting aired. Mr. Sinnott said the Committee should embrace the idea of having CCTV tape the School Committee. Mr. Wedge was directed to meet with Court Booth to discuss Sch. Committee coverage on CCTV.

C. Progress on Instructional Time

Ms. Mcginn stated that there had been no agreements made for increasing instructional time for grades 1-5. The CTA is now being assisted by a rep from the Mass. Teachers Assoc.

D. Feedback on the Feb. 2, 2006 joint meeting with the Selectmen and FinCom

Mr. Wedge stated that he had heard from members of the Selectmen and FinCom that the meeting had been productive and useful and that there should be more such meetings about the big issues during the course of a year.

Mr. Sinnott stated that the LSBI was attempting to put together financial information for CCHS as requested by a member of the Selectmen. Ms.

Bilodeau stated that she thought the request impractical since there were too many unknowns concerning the high school at this time.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Dr. Finn stated that the MSBA Statement of Intent was ready to submit. She also stated that the new MSBA rules would be published in sections and not coming out all at once.

B. Dr. Finn asked the Committee if there was a need to password protect the new Policy Manual. Ms. McGinn stated she felt it important that it not be so the community would have easy access to school policy. Ms. Shannon stated that it was also useful for other districts to have access to policies from other schools. The Committee unanimously agreed that it was not necessary.

C. Mr. Wedge assigned Town Meeting Presenters of Motions.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Shannon

APPROVED: 5/9/06