

Minutes

PRESENT:

Ms. Betsy Bilodeau
Peter Fischelis
Mr. Michael Fitzgerald
Mr. Chad Koski
Ms. Jan McGinn
Ms. Rebecca Shannon
Mr. Jerry Wedge

PRESENT FROM ADMINISTRATION:

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

I CALL TO ORDER AND GREETING

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Fitzgerald and Ms. McGinn at 6:35 p.m.

Mr. Fitzgerald welcomed Mr. Fischelis as the new Concord representative and Mr. Koski as the new Carlisle representative of the Regional School Committee.

Mr. Fitzgerald thanked the members of the Student Advisory Council and their participation during the past year.

Ms. McGinn stated there were members from the Willard Community present to discuss the possible development of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail. Beth Holmes and Susan Gentile stated the rail trail is proposed to run from Framingham to Lowell and there is a designated access point proposed behind the Sanborn School. This will be a parking and possible bathroom facility at this site. They wanted the School Committee to be aware of this possible situation.

Mr. Fischelis asked if there was a vote for this at Town Meeting. There was a vote to approve an amount of money necessary to demonstrate approval and was approved by the town. Mr. Fischelis asked if there was a town representative on the committee. Dinny McIntyre is on the committee.

Ms. Shannon stated we need to make her aware of our concerns.

Mr. Fitzgerald asked the Student Advisory Committee if they had any final comments on the school year. The students reported the junior prom went well. In sports, 5 teams are in the playoffs. Mr. Schnitzer stated his senior project is coming along well. Ms. Davis stated the school year started out roughly but it has smoothed out.

Ms. Davis stated there is a big difference in the amount of students riding buses from Carlisle than from Concord. The Carlisle buses are full and Concord buses are often only ½ full. Mr. Flaherty will look into it.

II READING OF THE MINUTES

Open Session

A MOTION was made by Mr. Fischelis and seconded by Ms. Shannon for CCSC and a MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. McGinn for CSC to accept the minutes from the Joint School Committee meeting held May 9, 2006. The MOTION was voted:

Aye: Bilodeau, Fischelis, Fitzgerald, McGinn, Shannon, Wedge

Nay:

Abstain: Koski

Executive Session

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. Bilodeau for CCSC and a MOTION was made by Ms. Bilodeau and seconded by Mr. Wedge for CSC to approve the Executive Session minutes from the meeting held May 9, 2006.

The MOTION was voted:

Aye: Bilodeau, Fischelis, Fitzgerald, McGinn, Shannon, Wedge

Nay:

Abstain: Koski

Ms. Shannon stated the start and end times had changed.

III CORRESPONDENCE

Dr. Finn received correspondence from NEASC. The letter states what has been addressed and progress to be made.

Mr. Wedge received correspondence regarding the Memorial Day parade. He asked who will be available to march.

Ms. Shannon received correspondence regarding the MASC fall convention. Do we have any resolutions we would like to propose. Ms. Shannon considered something related to adult education.

Ms. Shannon had videos and DVDs on the Walker Elementary School in Texas. She distributed them to members

Ms. Bilodeau received an email from a soccer group that would like to develop soccer fields if we acquire the Burke Land.

IV RECOGNITION

Mr. Dulong recognized the students who participated in the Senior Project. The fair was last week, there was a wide range of projects.

Mr. Dulong recognized the Moot Court Competition which ended the past week. The students presented very polished presentations and sophisticated dialogues. The court is going to be renamed the Denis Cleary Competition.

Mr. Dulong stated the Art Association Exhibit is still going on. The Association granted 6 scholarships.

Mr. Dulong recognized Louisa Coleman, secretary at the high school. She managed the Awards Night, where hundreds of awards were given. She does a remarkable job keeping track of it all.

Mr. Dulong recognized the jazz band, they recently made a recording at a studio in Carlisle.

Mr. Dulong stated the National Honor Society had it's induction ceremony.

Mr. Dulong introduced Laura Tremain, a foreign exchange student from Argentina. She has been at CCHS for 3 months and has had a great year.

Mr. Dulong read letters from two other foreign exchange students, Gabriel and Petra.

Ms. Shannon asked how many CCHS students will be going abroad. Mr. Dulong stated there are 2 and possibly 2 more.

V ACTION ITEMS

Accept 4th Student as Exchange Student

Mr. Dulong stated Doreen Guntall is a student from Germany who would like to be an exchange student for the school year 2006-07. She will be a junior, her grades and recommendations are excellent. She is a musician and participates in fencing. She is a very well-rounded student. She will be here for a full year.

A MOTION was made to accept an additional student to the student exchange program for the school year 2006-07. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

A. Appointments to School Committee Assignments

Policy Subcommittee: Betsy Bilodeau, Jan McGinn, Becky Shannon
Fincom Liaison: Michael Fitzgerald (CCSC), Becky Shannon (CSC)

Concord Education Fund Liaison: Jan McGinn
Facilities Subcommittee: Peter Fischelis, Jan McGinn, Jerry Wedge, Michael Fitzgerald
CCTV Representative: Becky Shannon

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Mr. Fischelis for CCSC and a MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. Bilodeau for CSC to approve the School Committee assignments as outlined in Attachment A. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

C. Gift Acceptance: Funds donated by Alcott PTG for playground structure
Ms. Rigby read a note from Sharon Young in which she thanked Valerie Kolligan Thayer and the PTG. Ms. Thayer showed a picture of the playground.

Mr. Wedge had hoped the building committee would fund this project with money from the contingency budget. Parents have come together to get this by September.

The play structure will be ordered next week and in the ground by early August. The town responsibilities are to dig the hole and to lay wood chips and the bumper.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. Shannon to approve the preliminary proposal from the Alcott PTG for a playground structure.

A school-wide meeting was held yesterday to vote for different pieces of equipment. The gym teacher held a jump-a-thon to raise money.

The MOTION was voted and unanimously approved. The PTG was thanked for their hard work.

VI REPORTS AND ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

A. Wellness Policy Development

Kathy Bowen explained the timeline and process. She stated we need to have a policy in place by July. It was looked at what is already in place and what needs to be added. Nutrition in schools is a big piece. The PE component is not changing much. There are NEASC regulations to go by. It was asked if there could be extra time for PE. There isn't any extra time to give.

Mr. Wedge asked if emotional issues or bullying were included. Ms. Bowen stated they do a lot of work with children holistically.

Ms. Shannon asked if the MASC policy had been reviewed. Ms. Bowen stated they have reviewed it and ours is very similar. Ours has been formatted more like MASC's.

Mr. Fitzgerald asked if the policy subcommittee would look at this. Yes, they will.

Ms. Bilodeau stated the lunch period was lengthened at the middle school. They don't have recess, was this discussed. Students can go outside after they finish their lunch, but it isn't much time at all.

V ACTION ITEMS

D. Vote to approve bid awards

Mr. Flaherty stated in May we have an opportunity to renew an existing fuel contract.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Mr. Fischelis for CSC to renew the contract with C.W. Lorden Fuels Corporation of Pepperell, Massachusetts for the supply of gasoline and diesel fuel at an increment price of .029 for fuel and .21 for Massachusetts sales tax for the period of July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007.

Ms. McGinn asked why the school pays Mass. Sales tax. Mr. Flaherty stated we are not tax exempt on fuel.

The MOTION was voted and unanimously approved.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Shannon and seconded by Mr. Wedge for CCSC to renew the contract with C.W. Lorden Fuels Corporation of Pepperell, Massachusetts for the supply of gasoline and diesel fuel at an increment price of .029 for fuel and .21 for Massachusetts sales tax for the period of July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

Sanborn Door

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. Bilodeau for CSC to award the contract for the Sanborn Exterior Door Replacement project to New England School Services, Inc. of Medford, Massachusetts in the amount of \$30,850.

The MOTION was unanimously approved.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. Bilodeau for CSC to award the contract for the Sanborn Smoke Door Replacement project to New England Construction Specialists, of Franklin, Massachusetts in the amount of \$31,512. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

Concord Carlisle Regional School District

Part I - 48 Passenger Front Engine, School Wheelchair Bus

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. Bilodeau for CCSC to award the contract for the purchase of one 48-passenger front engine school

wheelchair bus to the low bidder New England Transit Sales, Inc. at their bid of \$74,994, plus options (5 year extended transmission warranty, wheelchair restraint hardware pouch, air suspension seat).

Mr. Fitzgerald asked if this was a replacement bus or a new purchase. Mr. Flaherty stated the plan was to retrofit Bus #7 and make it a regular bus. It was supposed to be replaced after 10 years, it has been 12. The mileage is low and for the amount gained at trade-in, it is worth it to hold onto the bus.

The MOTION was voted and unanimously approved.

Part II – 75 Passenger Rear Engine, Type D, Transit Style School Bus

A MOTION was made by Ms. Bilodeau and seconded by Ms. Shannon to award the contract for the purchase of one 75 Passenger Rear Engine, Type D, Transit Style School Bus to the low bidder New England Transit Sales, Inc. at their bid of \$79,744, plus options (transmission warranty, luggage compartments, air suspension seat) totaling an additional \$2,700, for a total price of \$82,444. This award may be adjusted if it is determined that bus 25 should be traded in after assessment by district mechanics, such determination would reduce the award to \$71,694.

Mr. Flaherty stated if we can repair bus 25 we will keep it. He stated we are preparing for an additional bus need and the cost is minimal.

Mr. Fischelis asked when was the last time we looked at leasing over buying buses. Mr. Flaherty stated when you lease from a for profit company, you pay a higher price. Mr. Fitzgerald stated we should look at the optimal option, leasing or buying.

Ms. Shannon asked how the new transportation director is doing. Mr. Flaherty stated morale is lifting, he is beginning to recruit drivers.

The MOTION was voted and unanimously approved.

Part V – 75 Passenger Rear Engine, Type D, Transit Style School Bus

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. Bilodeau to award the contract for the purchase of one 75 Passenger Rear Engine, Type D, Transit Style School Bus to the low bidder New England Transit Sales, Inc., at their bid of \$79,744, plus options (transmission warranty, luggage compartments, air suspension seat) totaling an additional \$2,700, for a total price of \$82,444.

Mr. Fitzgerald asked the trade-in value of the bus we are keeping. Mr. Flaherty stated \$10K is the trade in value.

Mr. Koski asked if we are keeping 2 buses, do we need to buy the third? Ms. Bilodeau stated she would not want to see us without enough buses. We have

talked about gearing up the fleet, if we purchase an extra bus, we don't have to purchase as many next year.

Dr. Finn stated when looking at what the potential loss of not trading buses in, we lose about 25% per year, equal to about \$6K.

The MOTION was voted and unanimously approved.

Concord Public Schools

Part III – 75 Passenger Rear Engine, Type D, Transit Style School Bus

A MOTION was made by Ms. Bilodeau and seconded by Ms. Shannon to award the contract for the purchase of one 75 Passenger Rear Engine, Type D, Transit Style School Bus to the low bidder of New England Transit Sales, Inc. at their bid of \$79,744, plus options (transmission warranty, luggage compartments, air suspension seat) totaling an additional \$2,700, for a total price of \$82,444.

Part IV – 75 Passenger Rear Engine, Type D, Transit Style School Bus

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Mr. Fischelis stated this is the same situation. Mr. Flaherty stated the trade in value on this bus was \$10K.

Mr. Wedge asked if we budgeted for 2 buses. Mr. Flaherty stated we budgeted 1, we are doing well on salary and sped.

The MOTIONS were voted and unanimously approved.

VI REPORTS AND ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

B. June 6: Budget and Override Votes in Concord

Ms. Bilodeau stated we have no YES committee. Ms. Shannon and Ms. Bilodeau will make calls. By getting 50-60 callers it can make a difference.

Mr. Wedge asked if something could go home in the backpack. Ms. Bilodeau stated that legally no money can be spent on pushing for the vote. All we could do is educate parents that it is voting day.

Ms. Shannon will write a letter in the Journal for Concord, Mr. Fitzgerald will do a letter for the high school. The letters must be in by Friday.

Ms. Bilodeau stated the most effective method is street by street calling.

C. Concord School Building Committee

Last night the Board of Selectmen debated the number of potential members to the School Building Committee. The consensus was that school employees would not be voting members. All the expertise articulated by the School Committee is regulated by MSBA.

Ms. Shannon stated the numbers are too limited. She hopes there will be further discussion.

Mr. Wedge sent the MSBA document to the Chair of the Board of Selectmen. He will follow up.

VII OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Shannon asked how we will deal with the news regarding the Bruce Freeman Trail. Ms. Bilodeau stated Jim Terry is the head of the committee, we will ask him to come brief the School Committee. We need to send a clear message that planning involving school land must involve the School Committee.

Ms. McGinn suggested writing a letter to the Selectmen's committee, not the "Friends" stating we are concerned where/how they are using school property.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated we should get the legal opinion about who has the authority over the land.

VIII SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Retiree Reception

This is a reminder

B. Planning and calendaring summer School Committee workshops

All School Committee members will email Dr. Finn with dates they are not available.

C. CCHS Graduation

FYI

Dr. Finn asked if we would like to post the June 13 meeting as a Joint meeting. Currently, it is slotted as a CSC meeting.

IX CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Tom Schnitzer, SAC, stated he is opposed to the capital teardown and rebuild of the high school. He stated the facilities mean next to nothing, the teachers affect learning more. There are problems with the technology which inhibit student learning. The condition of the building doesn't affect student learning. The building of the pool was a distraction. Ms. Shannon stated this sentiment needs to be addressed.

X ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Ms. Bilodeau and seconded by Mr. Wedge for CCSC and a MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Mr. Fischelis for CSC to adjourn the Joint School Committee meeting at 9:35 p.m. and enter into Executive Session. The MOTION was unanimously approved by roll call.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura O'Sullivan
APPROVED: 6/27/06