

JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Concord School Committee  
Concord-Carlisle School Committee  
Carlisle School Library  
Carlisle, MA  
May 22, 2007  
6:30 p.m.

---

**Minutes**

PRESENT:

Mr. Peter Fischelis  
Mr. Fabian Fondriest  
Mr. Michael Fitzgerald  
Mr. Chad Koski  
Ms. Rebecca Shannon  
Mr. Jerry Wedge

PRESENT FROM ADMINISTRATION:

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

ABSENT:

Ms. Jan McGinn

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Joint School Committee and Concord School Committee was called to order by Mr. Fitzgerald for CCSC and Mr. Fischelis for CSC at 6:30 p.m.

**A. Student Advisory Council**

Mr. Fitzgerald asked the students for updates from the high school. He asked the seniors what their highest point of their career was. Ms. Anderson stated she feels very well prepared in math and science classes. Ms. Davis stated she has been home sick since early spring and the teachers, guidance department and tutors have been great for allowing her to get her work and stay caught up.

Mr. Fondriest asked students if the 40 hours of community service was enough, too much or not enough. Ms. Davis stated the number of hours could easily be increased. Mr. Beaulieu also stated 40 hours was not enough for four years.

Dr. Finn thanked the students and stated she appreciated their commitment to the School Committee.

**II. READING OF THE MINUTES**

**III. CORRESPONDENCE**

**A. Bond Counsel Transition**

Dr. Finn stated this was included FYI.

**B. Adult and Community Education Semester Report**

Dr. Finn stated this report was submitted by Court Booth

**C. 2007 Special Town Meeting Schedule**

Dr. Finn stated this is the details regarding the special Town Meeting schedule

Mr. Fischelis just received correspondence from R. Sawyer and Brewster regarding the Mass. Environmental Protection Agency's review of the field's project. There is a claim that a large portion of the land for the fields cuts into the campus buildout. He doesn't believe this claim has merit but it could impact the high school and the field project.

**IV. RECOGNITIONS**

Mr. Unobskey recognized 44 Spanish and 35 French class students in taking the National French and Spanish exams. He congratulated students and teachers.

Mr. Dulong recognized Ken Kopelman, campus monitor for the high school. He does a great deal at the high school other than direct students and buses in the morning and afternoon.

Mr. Dulong recognized Tom Keene. He received his Doctorate from BU.

Mr. Dulong recognized George Kendall. His drama club request was accepted to attend the festival in Scotland next year.

Mr. Dulong recognized the Drama group for their production of Twelfth Night. It was an extraordinary effort with venues indoors and outdoors.

**V. REPORTS AND ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION**

**A. Adult and Community Education Task Force Charge**

Ms. Shannon stated this is the second draft of the charge. We will take this to the September town forum, listen to comments and get community input.

Mr. Fitzgerald asked if Carlisle's needs were being met. It may be reasonable to have representation from Carlisle there. He asked the wording be changed to "invite a representative from Carlisle Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen."

Mr. Wedge asked what the schedule was. Ms. Shannon stated in order to meet the request of the Concord Town Meeting we need to get this committee kicked off as quickly as possible to report at fall Town Hearing.

**VI. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Review Charge for Adult and Community Education Task Force**

A MOTION was made by Mr. Fischelis and seconded by Mr. Wedge for CCSC to approve the Adult and Community Education Task Force charge as amended. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

Mr. Fischelis thanked Ms. Shannon for her hard work on this.

## **V. REPORTS AND ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION**

### **B. Review of Inter-municipal Agreement between the Region and the Town re: construction, use and maintenance of playing fields**

Mr. Fischelis stated the fields group is in the process of working out the Inter-municipal agreement. They are working with Chris Whalen and attorneys from both groups. He hopes to have this done in short order. We will vote at the next meeting on this.

### **C. Proposal to relocate road from northeast corner of water dept. land to Sanborn Building property**

Mr. Meagher stated the town has been approached by a cell tower developer to put up a tower on a site located on the map provided. In the RFP, the town will require the provider to relocate the roadway in order to be far enough from the well head. An agreement tonight would allow the group to go forward and issue RFP. If a proposal were accepted, they could then go through the permitting process.

Mr. Fischelis stated if we agree, we are then out of the loop because this is town land. We need to review this before we make any decision.

Mr. Wedge stated the road access is one issue, the cell tower is another issue. He sees many objections to having a cell tower location directly adjacent to the field and well under the 1,000 feet it needs to be from a school.

Dr. Finn asked what the timeline was. Mr. Meagher stated he would like to issue the RFP within the next few weeks.

Mr. Wedge stated he is not comfortable voting on this tonight. Mr. Fischelis stated he recommended taking no action at this time. We will meet behind the scenes, and bring it back to the committee for the June 12 meeting.

## **VI. ACTION ITEMS**

### **C. Vote to approve permission to plan a trip to Ecuador**

Eric Pohl and Marysela Badell-Watson presented the trip to Ecuador. Mr. Pohl stated exchange is the best way to experience the language. The trip has a reciprocal arrangement, the highlights of the trip are paid for by the host. We pay for Ecuadorean students' museum trips, buses, expenses when they are here, and Ecuador pays when our students are there. Mr. Fitzgerald asked if any regional money is used to fund the trip. Mr. Dulong stated no, it is covered by the trip itself. Dr. Finn stated it is a cost effective way to do an exchange.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Fondriest and seconded by Mr. Fischelis for CCSC to approve the request to plan an exchange trip to Ecuador. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

## **V. REPORTS AND ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION**

### **D. CCHS Safety Plans and Procedures**

Dr. Dulong described the proactive programs in the school such as the Stars program, fire drills, emergency response plan, staff handbook, school safety plan and the telephones in rooms. He stated the emergency response plan notebook covers many issues, and gives specific directions.

He stated the crisis team discusses what could come up, they do tabletop drills. They are very proactive in making students feel safe. He would advise in the design of a new school that a better entrance system be designed. Currently, there are 75 doors. New schools set up 1-3 primary doors that are easy to monitor.

Mr. Wedge stated he is glad to see systems in place but underlying so as not to take away from the education taking place. Mr. Dulong stated this was a high priority of Dr. Finn when she began in Concord/Carlisle.

### **E. CMS Climate Report**

Mr. Unobskey stated at the middle school they wanted to survey kids to see if they were feeling alienated from adults and why. The most important piece they wanted to measure was if students felt a connection toward at least one adult in the building. 90% of students answered positively. 7% disagreed. Other components of the survey looked at what students valued in these teachers or adults, and after-school programs or sports participation.

Mr. Fischelis asked why 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys are not participating in after-school programs as much as other grades. Mr. Unobskey stated there is more casual sports, students may not make teams, there are math or engineering clubs, and during the day it is challenging for boys to sit still.

## **VI. ACTION ITEMS**

### **B. Vote preliminary approval for 2007-08 CMS China Exchange**

Melissa Lang stated this is a continuation of the trip. She went over the detail of the trip. The trip will consist of a homestay and 2 nights in a hotel. There are 14 students allowed to attend. 60 apply and the choice is made by lottery.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Mr. Fischelis to approve the 2007-08 CMS China Exchange. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

Dr. Finn recognized Ms. Lang for her attention to detail in preparing for this exchange.

D. Vote appointment of Committee Representatives

1. EDCO Board of Directors

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Mr. Koski for CCSC and a MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Mr. Fondriest for CSC to appoint Jan McGinn as Concord-Carlisle School Committee representative to the EDCO Board of Directors. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

2. Education Collaborative of Greater Boston

3. Adult and Community Education Liaison

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Mr. Fondriest for CCSC to appoint Becky Shannon as Concord-Carlisle representative to Adult and Community Education

4. CASE Collaborative

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Mr. Fondriest to appoint Ms. McGinn as School Committee representative to the CASE Collaborative for both CSC and CCSC.

5. Suburban Coalition

It was also decided to have School Committee members rotate monthly the task of writing pieces for the school newsletters.

E. Vote to approve School Committee Meeting Dates 2007-08

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Mr. Koski for CCSC to approve the School Committee meeting dates for 2007-08.

F. Final Reading and Approval: Revision in Field Trip Policy

It was decided to table this item until a later meeting.

G. Vote to approve Gasoline & Diesel Fuel Contract Renewal

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Mr. Fondriest 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 Massachusetts fuel tax for the period of July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Mr. Fondriest 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 Massachusetts fuel tax for the period of July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

**H. Vote to approve bid award – Peabody Lab Renovations**

A MOTION was made by Mr. Fondriest and seconded by Mr. Wedge for CSC to award the contract for the Peabody Laboratory Renovations and Improvements project to J&R Construction Company, 19 Leach Lane, Natick, MA in the amount of \$71,980.000. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

**I. Vote to approve bid award – CCHS Lab Renovations**

A MOTION was made by Mr. Fischelis and seconded by Mr. Fondriest to award the contract for the CCHS Laboratory Renovations and Improvements project to J&R Construction Company, 19 Leach Lane, Natick, MA in the amount of \$188,980.00. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS**

**VIII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

A. June 1, 2007: Bid opening for site work for playing field proposal

B. June 6, 2007: Finance Committee Public Hearing at Alcott regarding playing fields proposal and upcoming Town Meeting vote

C. June 13, 2007: Special Town Meeting on playing fields proposal

**IX. CITIZENS’ COMMENTS**

Patty Hecht stated there were serious questions raised last Thursday. She hopes the committee suspends upcoming steps until the questions are answered from MEPA.

Phebe Ham asked for the third page of the Adult and Community Education charge. She expressed concern at the task force and charge not being what the Town Meeting voted for. Mr. Fitzgerald stated the task force is to provide the School Committee with information so they can respond to the vote. It is prudent to proceed with a task force and have them come back with recommendations. Ms. Ham stated she felt Court Booth should be an ex-officio member of the task force, he is the most knowledgeable.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Mr. Koski for CCSC to adjourn the Regional School Committee meeting and enter into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing contract negotiations at 9:20 p.m. The MOTION was approved by roll call. A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Mr. Fondriest for CSC to adjourn the Concord School Committee meeting and enter into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing contract negotiations at 9:20 p.m. The MOTION was approved by roll call.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura O’Sullivan, APPROVED: 6/12/07