

JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Concord School Committee
Concord-Carlisle School Committee
Ripley Building
Concord, MA
July 24, 2007
6:30 p.m.

Minutes

PRESENT:

Mr. Peter Fischelis
Mr. Michael Fitzgerald
Ms. Jan McGinn
Ms. Rebecca Shannon
Mr. Jerry Wedge

PRESENT FROM ADMINISTRATION:

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

ABSENT:

Mr. Chad Koski
Mr. Fabian Fondriest

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 6:36 p.m.

II. READING OF THE MINUTES

A. Open Session

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. McGinn for CSC to approve the minutes from the Joint School Committee meeting held May 8, 2007.

The MOTION was voted:

Aye: Fischelis, Fitzgerald, McGinn, Wedge

Nay:

Abstain: Shannon

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. Shannon for CCSC and a MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. McGinn for CSC to approve the minutes from the Joint School Committee meeting held June 12, 2007.

The MOTION was unanimously approved.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. Shannon for CCSC and a MOTION was made by Ms. McGinn and seconded by Ms. Shannon for CSC to

approve the minutes from the Joint School Committee meeting held June 26, 2007. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

B. Executive Session

It was decided to table the minutes from the Executive Session held June 20, 2007.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. McGinn for CCSC and a MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. McGinn for CSC to approve the minutes from the Executive Session held June 26, 2007. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

C. Policy Subcommittee

A MOTION was made by Ms. McGinn and seconded by Mr. Fischelis for CCSC and a MOTION was made by Ms. Shannon and seconded by Ms. McGinn for CSC to approve the minutes from the Policy Subcommittee meeting held April 2, 2007. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

A MOTION was made by Ms. Shannon and seconded by Ms. McGinn for CCSC and a MOTION was made by Ms. McGinn and seconded by Ms. Shannon for CSC to approve the minutes from the Policy Subcommittee meeting held June 20, 2007. Mr. Fitzgerald asked if the minutes were an accurate reflection of what transpired. Ms. Shannon stated it was. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

III. CORRESPONDENCE

Dr. Finn received correspondence from MEPA. The response was included in packets.

Dr. Finn received correspondence from NEAS&C. This is attached and Mr. Badalament will give an update on the progress with facilities at a later date.

Dr. Finn received correspondence from MSBA. She stated we will submit the required Statement of Interest.

A MOTION was made by Ms. McGinn and seconded by Ms. Shannon for CSC to direct the Superintendent to be in contact with MSBA to indicate priority be given to the Willard School Statement of Interest. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

Dr. Finn received notification late last week that the tour by MSBA officials of facilities would begin Monday and Tuesday. She thanked Mr. Flaherty and Mr. Anderson who did a lot of work in a short period of time. Willard and Alcott were toured on Monday, Thoreau, Peabody and Sanborn were toured on Tuesday. Mr. Flaherty thanked Mr. Anderson, the business office and Tony Logalbo for pulling together information. Dr. Finn stated the visits went well.

IV. RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Finn recognized Madeline Haff who won the Robert Bird Scholarship. She will be attending Williams in the fall.

V. REPORTS AND ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION

A. Willard Design Update

Mr. Wedge stated the committee just had their workshop and there was a presentation from the architect. The building committee is in the process of establishing values and goals. It is a terrific building and a nice site plan. The building committee is meeting weekly to look at interior issues, next week they will sign off on the design and then tie up loose ends the following week. There is a lot of work happening. The Willard community has been involved and people are extremely happy. Mr. Wedge stated the building committee are presenting to the Board of Selectmen and are emphasizing the “green” design and efficiencies.

B. MEPA Response re Playing Fields

Mr. Fischelis updated the School Committee of the status of the fields situation. Construction began after getting a successful response from MEPA. A temporary restraining order was issued by the group opposing the field development, this was a 24 hour stoppage of work. Currently the fields are under construction.

Ms. Shannon asked what the cost incurred is at this point. Mr. Flaherty stated \$49,000 is related to legal issues, MEPA review, this latest issue and review of the agreement. Mr. Fitzgerald stated Peter Ebb is sensitive to the budget and aware of this as well as needing to have representation at the hearing. Ms. Shannon stated this is unfortunate that at the high school, where there is increased enrollment, \$50K is a lot for a district to spend.

Mr. Wedge asked the schedule. Mr. Fischelis stated the clearing will take 10 days. The earth moving will take place over the summer. The site will be prepped by the fall and construction of the fields will be in the fall.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Final Reading and Approval: Advisory Committee to the School Committee

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. McGinn for CCSC and a MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. McGinn for CSC to approve the School Committee policy on Advisory Committees to the School Committee File: BDF. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

B. Gift Acceptance – Bequest of Cyrus Stow

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Mr. Fischelis for CCSC to accept a donation of \$1,285.55 from the Trustees of Town Donations of the Town of Concord. The MOTION was unanimously approved and Mr. James Stoessel, Chair, Trustees of Town Donations was thanked.

C. Gift Acceptance – Special Concord Education Fund Grant for CMS

A MOTION was made by Ms. Shannon and seconded by Ms. McGinn for CSC to accept the Concord Education Fund Grant for digital microscopes for grade 7 science at the Concord Middle School in the amount of \$20,465.

Dr. Finn stated this is in addition to the grants already funded for this year. Mr. Unobskey thanked the Concord Ed. Fund for helping to identify technology which would add to the middle school core values of developing independence.

The MOTION was unanimously approved.

D. Gift Acceptance – Minuteman Youth Triathlon

Jim Terry stated the youth triathlon consisted of 170 students from 41 towns, most of whom are from Concord and Acton. The triathlon raised \$5,000 which is being given to the towns of Concord and Acton.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. McGinn for CSC to accept the generous gift of \$2,500 from the Minuteman Youth Triathlon. The MOTION was unanimously approved.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Dr. Finn stated in the policy handbook the drugfree workplace has been updated but the new page was not put into the handbook. The correct page has since been added to the handbook.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated the School Committee's next meeting is the August 9 workshop. There will be action items we will need to take care of. He asked School Committee members to get evaluations in as soon as possible.

VIII. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. 2007-08 School Calendars (Concord Public and CCHS)

Revised school calendars

B. August 9, 2007: SC Summer Workshop

Workshop

C. Concord Finance Committee Dates

September 20, 2007: Joint meeting

October 11, 2007: Guidelines Subcommittee regard school budget needs

November 1, 2007: Response to tentative FY09 Guidelines

This is an FYI.

D. Senior Project 2007

FYI – list of students involved in Senior Project.

IX. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Aden Perkins, of the audience, asked about the Maynard request to regionalize. Dr. Finn stated we have received a request from the Maynard superintendent to look at regionalization. MSBA has asked towns to seek partners and discuss regionalization.

Brooke Delench, of the audience, distributed medical journal articles regarding health risks of playgrounds near highways. She described the parcel of land as being close to Route 2, railroad tracks, bus depot. She asked the School Committee to wait a year and to do air quality tests.

X. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. McGinn for CCSC to adjourn the Joint School Committee meeting. The MOTION was unanimously approved. A MOTION was made by Mr. Wedge and seconded by Ms. McGinn for CSC to adjourn and enter into Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. The MOTION was approved by roll call.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura O'Sullivan
APPROVED: 9/11/07