

Highlights from the School Committee Meeting – attended by Sharon Carroll

CPS and CCRSD Joint Meeting April 13, 2010

Correspondence - Update on Willard School

The Willard School has been labeled a CHPS verified school with a score of 42 points. This means that it has been deemed to be a healthy, green, high performance school.

Correspondence – NEASC Update

Peter Badalment, CCHS principal, received a report from the NEASC regarding CCHS's status. The NEASC reported they were pleased with the progress the district is showing in addressing the facilities concerns, despite the school remaining on "warning" status. It was noted that the 10 year report is due in 2 years.

Recognitions

The School Committee recognized Jan McGinn for her 6 years of service on the School Committee. She has agreed to stay on to complete the contract negotiations with the teachers' union.

French Exchange Trip approved

The School Committee voted to approve the 2010-2011 French Exchange trip. Approximately 16 students will travel to visit their French counterparts. The trip will allow students to live with their French student and attend French school as well as travel on some cultural excursions.

CCHS Master Plan Presentation

Michael Fitzgerald presented the CCHS Master Plan on behalf of the Master Plan Committee. Through the process the MSBA has indicated they would be open to working with CCRSD on a renovation project which could mean that part of the cost to renovate the high school facilities could be reimbursable through State funds.

The preferred approach, as presented, showed plans for a major renovation of some existing buildings and new construction of additional buildings. It shows the new campus to occupy the existing footprint, thereby preserving the sledding hill and not building closer to the Brister's Hill neighborhood.

The next step is to get the \$1.3 million Feasibility Study and Schematic Design article passed at Concord and Carlisle Town Meetings. In addition, there will need to be a town-wide vote in both towns to approve the money. This step is a required part of the process to apply for reimbursement from the MSBA. Part of the \$1.3 million is subject to reimbursement to the extent the MSBA decides to partner with the district on this project.

After the presentation, Louis Salemy, who is also on the Carlisle School Committee, indicated that the feasibility Study could be a "tough vote" in Carlisle. He plans to reach out to folks in Carlisle. If it passes both Town Meetings, he suggested creating an ad hoc committee that includes members of the Finance Committee, Selectmen, School Committee and Administration from both communities to make sure they have a united front and coordination as the process moves forward. Mr. Salemy stressed that any plans we move forward with need to balance affordability with the needs of the students.

Superintendent's Evaluation and Open Meeting Law

Diana Rigby reported to the School Committee on a legal ruling regarding the Open Meeting law and how it pertains to the Superintendent's evaluation. It has been determined that School Committee members can't submit an evaluation of the Superintendent to the chair via email, as has been done in the past, without first deliberating publicly (i.e. in a public meeting). The summary written by the Chair, can be presented in Executive Session. School Committee members will be prepared to discuss their individual evaluations at the June School Committee Meeting.