

School Committee Notes for June 7, 2010  
Recorded by Cheryl Kirkpatrick

Concord School Committee – 06.07.10

**Announcements:**

Pat Nelson at Concord Children's Center announced plans to make an outside play space at the Ripley building

Final grant from MSBA for building \$6,336,666

**Recognitions:**

Alcott - Sharon Young

- Green Monsters project – recognized Sean \_\_\_\_\_

Thoreau - Rob Coluntuono

- Global Education Committee – wrote grant funded by Concord Ed Fund which provided funds for high school students to become experts in cultures then presented them to elementary kids
  - Silvan, Najimie, Howard, Erickson, Henry – some of the teachers, and recognized a number of others.(names rattled off too fast for me to get them all)
- He thanked Diana Rigby and the Concord Community for their support, as this was his last school committee

Willard

- Kristen Saunders and Brian Willett
  - 5<sup>th</sup> graders made commemorative tiles last year and these were framed and are up in the Willard School now.
- Mike G. ran field day.
- Staff members who made litter free lunch possible

Middle School – on behalf of Lynn Beadie

- Brian Willett - Installing whiteboards, slant boards, chin up bars
- Terra Fernandez DeVilla (sp?) – stepping down as Chair
- Meg McCann – Math department chair for 16 years

Diana Rigby –

- Recognized administrative staff

## New Business

Kathy Codlane – to go over the K-5 handbooks

- Pretty much the same
- Biggest change on pg. 16 adds anti-bullying policy to the handbooks
  - Implications are that we will follow the tenets of the law to put together an intervention plan by December
  - Principals are attending a workshop together to get ideas for anti-bullying
    - Focus on mindfulness, kindness and compassion
    - Q: Is there anything in the legislation that misses the mark?
      - KC says there is a lot of responsibility put on the school, and not enough put on the parent when it comes to bullying legislation. Should articulate the role of the parent better
      - SC comment: Isn't the spirit of the law partly to enable to schools to influence behavior and policy of groups that meet in and around the school.
    - Q: Is there a thought to be more articulation of parents' roles in writing
      - Yes
    - Q: DOE develops a list of anti-bullying resources. They will give a list and they will choose from the list. K-5 will choose a core program
    - Q: Is there are particular target age for bullying? Is it more prevalent in one grade or another?
      - Happens in all grades
      - Behaviors like, "Well, I didn't see it so I can't do anything don't work."
- Revisions to bus safety expectations to make them the same for Concord students and METCO students
  - Discussion about the prohibition of cell phones on the bus for elementary students
- Increasing price of school lunch

Alcott School Improvement Plan:

- Celebrated Global Awareness with Bronson
- Follow-up survey to parents on bullying
  - Used it to make more recognitions for caring, cooperative , respectful
  - Made a giant owl and added feathers for every act of caring, cooperative and respectful
- World and US maps on playground – every student will participate on that
- Curriculum:

- Reading: Some students in 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> need double dose of reading. They have reshuffled schedule to accommodate that.
- Math: Group in grades 2-5. Anyone who does not reach 80% receives remediation.
  - Looked for standards that were not addressed in TERC
- Open Circle – had 12 participants at a workshop
- Professional Development –
  - Every teacher and specialist at Alcott has a web page
  - Q: Was it hard to pull off? , A: no
  - Q: what percentage of teachers use it?, A: not sure
- Moving forward:
  - Worked with RTI – and maximize support they can provide
  - Continue work in writing – need to move benchmark in writing for Kindergarteners who are moving beyond it
    - Seeing fewer kids going into 1<sup>st</sup> grade with IEPs
  - Work on math interview – will talk about strategies for this
  - Continue to work on being “upstanders”
  - Continue work with green monsters
  - Continue work with technology

#### Thoreau School Improvement Plan

- Provide training for staff members regarding data entry into X2 data collection system –
  - Went a long way towards accomplishing this
- Maintenance of cultures and traditions of the Thoreau Community
- Continue exploring RTI strategies
- Develop math assessments
  - Accomplished this
- Continue our work in Global Education
- Increase the level of student use of technology
  - Made many strides doing this.
- Help raise awareness of the need to be safe digital citizens
  - This will be ongoing

#### Willard School Improvement Plan (I found this presentation hard to follow and only got the headlines)

- Improve student achievement in English/Language Arts
- Improve student achievement in math
  - Work on Investigations curriculum – meet with math specialist a lot
- To provide Willard staff with the training and support to implement new initiatives
  - Job-embedded grade-level teams met during building-based meeting time
- To maintain a positive school climate for staff and students
- To develop global awareness & community outreach
  - Open Table
  - Litter free lunch

- To strengthen transition to new Willard School
  - So happy and grateful for new space

## 2 New hires

- Transportation manager
- Business office

## MSBA:

- Building design enrollment for 1225
- After vote they will hopefully start assembling a community building committee.
- Trying to get state to move us from repair category to renovation category
  - Hope to get them to do that by July 9<sup>th</sup>
  - State has been great to work with so far

Meeting adjourned

## **Concord-Carlisle School Committee Meeting – 06.07.10**

### **Recognitions**

Recognize the entire graduating class of 2010 – over 300 (every senior is graduating)

- All night graduation party

### **New Committee appointments**

Suburban coalition – Louis S. & Maureen Spada volunteer to be on it

Adult & Community Ed Liaison – Appointed Peter Fischelis

### **Superintendent's evaluation**

- They will do the evaluation in public and provide a summary document that Pam will provide
  - Anything in the evaluation must be stated publically tonight
  - Open comments – Louis
    - Major goals – she was very successful

- Long hours
  - 3 major accomplishments
    - CCHS building improvements
      - Involvement of MSBA
      - Feasibility studies
    - Parent survey
      - Request for 9<sup>th</sup> grade English curriculum
    - Budget planning and monitoring
    - Response to 3 crises
  - Peter F.
    - Assembled an incredible team
    - Manages well
    - Holds high standards
    - Budgets well
  - Six standards for evaluation
    - Educational Leadership (3 exceeds expectation, 1 commendable)
      - Working on supervision and evaluation
      - Reduce special ed outplacements
      - Work on 9<sup>th</sup> grade English, middle school math
    - Personnel relationship/management (4 exceeds standards)
      - Employee hiring –
      - Pursued grants for schools
    - Professional Development (3 exceeds standards, 1 commendable)
      - Provides more opportunities to
    - Equity (4 exceeds standards)
      - Promote diversity training
    - Communications (4 commendable)
      - Parent-student survey
        - Exploring possibility of adding foreign language
    - Relationship with school committee (1 exceeds standards, 3 commendable)
    - Summary:
      - Strong leader
      - Concord-Carlisle is very lucky to have her.
- Superintendents Report
  - Summer school has been organized
  - Summer professional development – 100 teachers involved