

Carlisle School Committee

Minutes

January 9, 2019

Carlisle School Community Room, Carlisle Schools, 83 School Street, Carlisle, MA 01741
7:00 PM

Present – School Committee: David Model - Chair, Josh Kablotsky, Christine Lear, Melynda Gambino.

Present – School Administration: James O’Shea, Superintendent; Matt Mehler, Principal; Will Verbits, Director of Student Support Services; Susan Pray, Business Manager; Nancy Anderson, Assistant to the Superintendent.

Meeting Documents:

Minutes of 12/12/18	Proposed 2019-2020 School Calendar	Buildings and Grounds Safety and Security Policy
MASC Buildings and Grounds Management Policy	Emergency Closings Policy	MASC Emergency Closings Policy
Facility Naming Policy	MASC Naming New Facilities Policy	Carlisle Education Foundation Grants
Bullying Prevention Policy	School Attendance Policy	Non-Discrimination to a Qualified Individual with a Disability Policy

I. Call to Order

Chairman David Model called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

II. Public Comment Period

Mr. Model welcomed everyone to the meeting, and asked if any members of the public had comments. Camelia Rosca, Brook Street, had six questions for the school committee, including “What is the impact of the teachers’ request on the budget as a dollar figure and as a percentage of the budget?” Mr. Model did not answer the questions at the time but directed Ms. Rosca to the DESE website to gather some information. Mr. Model clarified that any information that is required to be public has been made public by the Carlisle Schools. Ms. Gambino asked Ms. Rosca to contact Mr. O’Shea with specific questions and he would answer them.

III. Review/Approve Minutes

Mr. Kablotsky made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of December 12, 2018; Ms. Lear seconded the motion. The minutes will be amended with a minor edit on page 3. All members present voted in favor of approving the amended minutes.

IV. Information/Discussion Items

A. Tribute to David Flannery

Mr. Flannery was not in attendance. Mr. Model read Mr. Flannery's thank you note to the Committee. Mr. Model read his tribute about Mr. Flannery citing how dedicated and professional Mr. Flannery was during his many years of service to the Town. Mr. Model is confident that Mr. Flannery's legacy will be continued. Everyone should respect the efforts Mr. Flannery made to keep the school clean, comfortable and safe. Ms. Lear added that Mr. Flannery knew so much about the school and the Town and said that he will be missed.

B. Community Center Proposal on Spalding Field

This discussion was tabled for a few minutes until representatives of the associated committees arrived.

C. Update on Solar Project

Ms. Gambino reported that the Solar Committee met today, and she had asked the Project Manager from Ameresco, the proposed contractor for the parking lot solar project, to come to this meeting. Ms. Gambino reminded everyone of the original proposal, and noted that changes have been made. One change is that the bus canopy will be bigger. There was a canopy over the Spalding circle included. There was an additional proposal for a roof-mounted structure. Ameresco is making use of incentives for the SMART program with a goal for construction over the summer. There would need to be a by-law change before construction. They are looking for CSC approval by town meeting in late April. To do that, the Committee would need to have all information by March. Mr. Kablotsky asked if we lease the land to a private entity, are they obligated to maintain the structures? Jonathan DeKock of the Solar Energy Task Force was recognized and said Ameresco had to maintain it throughout its life. Mr. DeKock also said the structures over the parking areas could include mechanisms for water run-off. In the bus area, they are looking to see the kids don't get dripped on excessively. Due to the structure, snow and ice would run toward the center so it wouldn't land on people going to their cars. Ms. Gambino said that when the original task force investigated this idea, they concluded solar panels were not structurally sound for the flat roofs of the older school buildings. Mr. Kablotsky pointed out that for the town vote, the Solar Committee would need to go through reviews from the Board of Selectmen, the Conservation Commission, and possible other committees; the School is only one component. Peter Gambino of the Planning Board was recognized and said the project would come before the Planning Board for site plan review. He also stated that a by-law change would go to Town Meeting and require 2/3 majority vote at town meeting. Rob Jackson from Ameresco and Eric Zimmerman from the Solar Energy Task Force arrived and were introduced. Mr. Jackson was asked how many parking spaces would be gained or lost with the proposal; he has not yet evaluated the parking space impact. Mr. Model asked for a reference from an early customer to understand how the system held up over the years. Mr. Jackson shared that has been involved in solar work for 10 years, and Ameresco has been doing solar since 2001. Mr. Jackson will provide names of customers to the CSC. Ameresco would maintain the structure, and they have long term ownership. Mr. Jackson said that in

the bus area, there are 4 supports and the canopy would provide some protection from rain. He also discussed the structure in the parking lot, saying there is a separation between panels with a Y configuration, which diverts water to the center. The widest column is about a foot. Ms. Gambino shared additional pictures of structures from the engineers. Mr. Model said that we need a commitment that paving is rolled into the contract. There was discussion about the Spalding canopy, and if the School would need to contact abutters. Mr. O'Shea recommended we stay with the main parking lot project and consider the Spalding canopy in the future. There will still be a canopy at the transfer station. Jonathan DeKock said they will hold public hearings with the negotiations team in February. Main issues are water management, landscaping, parking spots and paving.

D. Proposed Use of Spalding Field for Recreation Center

Peter Best attended representing RecCom. Peter Gambino attended representing Concord Carlisle Youth sports. Mr. Model summarized that the Committee reviewed the Gale study of 2016 about Spalding field. Mr. Kablotsky said that we need to preserve every inch of the playing fields. Ms. Gambino added that the fields are used so often that there is no room for other uses on Spalding field. Ms. Gambino feels that an intergenerational community center is a tremendous asset to Carlisle, but location-wise, not on Spalding field. We can't diminish the resources of our school. Mr. O'Shea shared that he spoke with the Physical Education teachers. They would love the fields repaired but don't want to lose an inch of them. Mr. Gambino shared that he went to RecCom and they agreed to fund a technical study to look into repairing Spalding field. He added that the field can't be expanded; there is a lot of unusable land (wetlands). There is also fill there. Ms. Gambino made a motion that Spalding field be retained for school and town athletics and not as a site for a potential community center; Ms. Lear seconded the motion. Holly Mansfield, RecCom, said that the Spalding conversation came about because of proximity to the school. Ms. Gambino said that there is a possibility that students could be bussed to a Community Center in a different location after school, just as they are bussed to Carlisle Kids House. Ms. Mansfield is grateful for any space open to recreation use. All members present voted in favor of retaining Spalding field for school and town athletics use, rejecting the proposal to build a Community Center on the site. The motion passed.

E. Banta Davis Trail Change

Warren Spence of the Trails Committee attended; he had physically marked the trail change on Banta. The school had contacted the abutters, who were offered to walk the area with the trail change as marked; they have no concerns. Ms. Gambino made a motion for the Trails Committee to move the trail 150 feet; Ms. Lear seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor; the motion passed.

F. Proposed Calendar for 2019-2020

Teachers have not yet voted on the proposed calendar. The CSC will look at it again in February. Mr. Kablotsky brought up that parents surveyed last year supported a post-Labor Day start. MS. Lear was glad the calendar was similar to Concord's with a pre-Labor Day

start. Mr. O'Shea spoke with feedback to the gradual start to school, where students become acclimated slowly, adding that an early start is more beneficial for instruction. He added that if we are successful with our Husky Home Day Learning program, we can consider an after Labor Day start to school. It was clarified that there are teachers on the calendar committee. Conferences are scheduled for days and evenings. The proposed 2019 – 2020 winter break is the longest, in terms of days off, that we could have. Mr. Model said the CSC will vote on the calendar at the February meeting.

G. Update on 19-20 School Budget

Mr. Model reported that the FinCom reduced the proposed school budget by \$75,000. He also shared that there is a new student to Carlisle with an Out of District placement. These factors put a strain on the budget with a \$175,000 overall impact. The CSC will present info to FinCom on Monday. Ms. Rosca was recognized and she noted there was no budget information in packet. If it's available ahead of the meeting, budget information is included in the packet.

H. Policy Review

- a. Buildings and Grounds, Safety and Security. Ms. Gambino liked the MASC policy and asked should we start from the MASC version and tailor it to Carlisle? Mr. Kablotsky asked if can review the Security Camera policy for February, because it relates to Buildings and Grounds. Ms. Gambino will modify the MASC policy and send drafted policy to Nancy Anderson.
- b. Emergency Closings. Ms. Gambino proposed adding personnel to this policy. Mr. O'Shea explained that he sometimes closes school, but year-round staff comes in. We follow internal procedures. It was felt these procedures should not be in the policy.
- c. Facility Naming. Ms. Lear likes the first paragraph of the MASC policy. Mr. Kablotsky likes our policy. Minor edits will be made to the last paragraph.

V. Communications/Correspondence

The Correspondence folder was circulated.

VI. Superintendent's Report

Highlights of Superintendent Jim O'Shea's report included:

3rd grade City-X 3-D showcase

Chorus concerts

Chorus performed at COA

2nd and 5th grade buddies collected a record number of PJs

Early act had a successful fundraiser

Science Bob is coming on January 16

SEPAC is up and running

Chinese New Year on 2/1 in school and 2/2 out of school

Digital Citizenship assembly for grades 5-8 from Middlesex Partnership for Youth – coming up

VII. Members’/Committee Reports as Needed

Regional School Committee: Ms. Lear reported that the RSC is looking to address the parking issue at the high school. Discussion of the CCHS budget will be part of the FinCom meeting on Monday. Concord FinCom is not pushing back on 5%+ increase in the CCHS school budget.

Long Term Capital Committee: Mr. Kablotsky reported that Long Term Caps hasn’t met since the last CSC meeting.

Municipal Facilities: Mr. Kablotsky reported that the MFC has asked the Board of Selectmen to appoint a person as its facilities manager. They have selected an architect for the police station renovation. Underground tanks removed from fire department lot had a lot of contamination. At the DPW, the solar project for the garage roof was abandoned because the building doesn’t meet code. The septic system doesn’t work and there are limited other places to site it. There will be a study to see if land somewhere else can be used for a solar array.

IX. Warrants

These warrants were provided after the Agenda was posted:

- A. Accounts Payable Warrant #4419; \$86,240.92
- B. Payroll Warrant #4219; \$386,067.25
- C. Accounts Payable Warrant #4719; \$89,227.51
- D. Payroll Warrant #4519; \$344,804.59

X. Action Items

A. Vote Carlisle Education Foundation (CEF) Grants. Mr. Kablotsky made a motion to accept, with gratitude, the CEF grants; Ms. Gambino seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor; the motion passed.

B. Vote Anti-Bullying Policy. Ms. Gambino made a motion to accept the policy; Ms. Lear seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Dr. Mehler was asked about the language, and he said it was in there for a reason. Mr. Kablotsky did not support the policy as it is worded. Ms. Gambino, Mr. Model and Ms. Lear voted in favor; Mr. Kablotsky abstained. The motion passed.

C. Vote School Attendance Policy. The District has a level of expectation for attendance. Professional appointments will be added to the list of excused reasons for absence. Mr. Kablotsky moved to accept policy as amended; Ms. Gambino seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor; the motion passed.

D. Non-Discrimination to a Qualified Individual with a Disability. Mr. Kablotsky made a motion to accept this policy; Ms. Lear seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor; the motion passed.

XI. Citizen's Comments

Cynthia Sorn, Rutland Street, asked a question about the CEF grants. She said that the CSC voted to accept the grants, including one for Wilson reading training. Is the school supporting supplies in conjunction with Wilson reading program? Mr. O'Shea answered yes.

XIV. Adjourn Meeting

Adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a) with no intent to return to open session for the following purposes:

Purpose 2, To conduct contract negotiations concerning Superintendent O'Shea

Purpose 3, To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and

Purpose 7, To comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law federal grant-in-aid requirements. Mass. Gen. Laws Ch. 39, 23B (1)-(7). G.L. c. 30A, sec. 22(g), consideration of release of executive session minutes from previous meetings.

Mr. Kablotsky made a motion to adjourn to Executive Sessions for the purposes listed above; Ms. Gambino seconded the motion. The following votes were taken by Roll Call: Gambino, aye; Model, aye; Kablotsky, aye; Lear, aye.

The public meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Nancy Anderson
Assistant to the Superintendent