

**CHELMSFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
September 5, 2023
Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Ms. Donna Newcomb (Chair), Mr. Dennis King (Vice Chair). Ms. Susan Mackinnon (Secretary), Ms. Maria Santos and Mr. John Moses

Also present: Dr. Jay Lang (Superintendent) and Dr. Linda Hirsch (Assistant Superintendent). Ms. Joanna Johnson is not present tonight.

Call to Order

Ms. Newcomb called the meeting to order at 6:00

Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Opening Statement

“This meeting is being live-streamed by Chelmsford Telemedia and posted to the CPS website for interested community members to access and watch. In-person public participation will be taking place tonight in accordance with the Chelmsford School Committee Public Participation Guidelines. Anyone speaking tonight during the public input portion of this meeting has notified the superintendent’s office of their desire to speak and has been provided with these guidelines. Upon request written comments received no later than 12:00 p.m. on the day of this meeting will also be read and made part of the record of the meeting during the second public comment session.”

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the minutes of the regular school committee meeting of August 15, 2023.

This will be added to the agenda of the next regular meeting on September 19, 2023.

Good News

Dr. Hirsch shared that school has begun and everything so far has been good!

Public Comments

None

New Business

1. **Report on the Opening of Schools for the 2023/24 School Year**

Dr. Lang welcomed everyone back to school. This year 3,479 students will be riding the bus. Many of these (347) registered after August 15th including the first few days of school. This year’s opening of schools was “one of the best openings” and Dr. Lang thanked all those who worked during the summer to get the buildings ready. Middle school teachers were allowed in the buildings two weeks before the start of school to ready their classrooms due to the reconfiguration. Other school buildings were opened a week in advance of school. School administrators have already begun communicating with their families. They will also alert families when a school bus is running late. The McCarthy kitchen renovations are due to be completed after the Columbus Day weekend.

2. 2023/24 Superintendent & School Committee Goals Review and Discussion

Dr. Hirsch has put together a draft of goals which are tied to the Strategic Plan and has given paper copies to The Committee tonight. This draft will be sent out electronically tomorrow so that School Committee members can send back thoughts, feedback or point out areas that should receive extra emphasis in the upcoming school year. At the next regular meeting a decision can, be made on those goals. DM Group will continue to work with the district on the implementation of the Strategic Plan. Two major report outs will take place in January and again in July to assess how goals are being met. Presentations will be made at meetings by the sub group and coordinators of each of the five topic areas in the Strategic Plan and will provide status on each goal. This will take place in addition to the "Spotlight on the Schools" presentations. The Committee supports this plan.

Public Comments

none

Reports

1. Liaison Reports

Ms. Newcomb shared that the Chelmsford Friends of Music will meet this Thursday at 6:30 at the public library.

Action/ New Items

The plan to meet with the state representatives is being worked on. Hopefully this will take place in October or early November.

Adjournment (6:31 p.m.)

Mr. King motioned to adjourn. Mr. Moses seconded. Motion carries 5-0.

***Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Giglio,
Recording Secretary***