

Concord School District
Board of Education
Legislative Breakfast
January 27, 2017

Board members and officers: Kass Ardinger, Treasurer; Clint Cogswell, President; Tom Croteau, Nathan Fennessy, Barb Higgins, Alana Kimball, Jennifer Patterson, Maureen Redmond-Scura, Jim Richards, Pam Wicks

City administrators and councilors: Tom Aspell, City Manager; Dan St. Hilaire, Linda Kenison, Steve Shurtleff, Byron Champlin

Legislative delegation: Dan Feltes, State Senator; Mary Stuart Gile, Christy Dolat-Bartlett, Mel Myler, Beth Richards, David Luneau, Paul Henle,

Administrators: Terri Forsten, superintendent; Donna Palley, Bob Belmont, Jack Dunn, Larry Prince, Matt Cashman

Board President Clint Cogswell welcomed the assembled guests and thanked CRTC Chef/Teacher Bob McIntosh and students Max Cross and Brian Hill for their expertly cooked and served breakfast.

Superintendent Terri Forsten introduced agenda topics, including Enrollment and Demographics; Teaching and Learning Highlights; News from Facilities; Financial Impacts; and Focus of the school district administration.

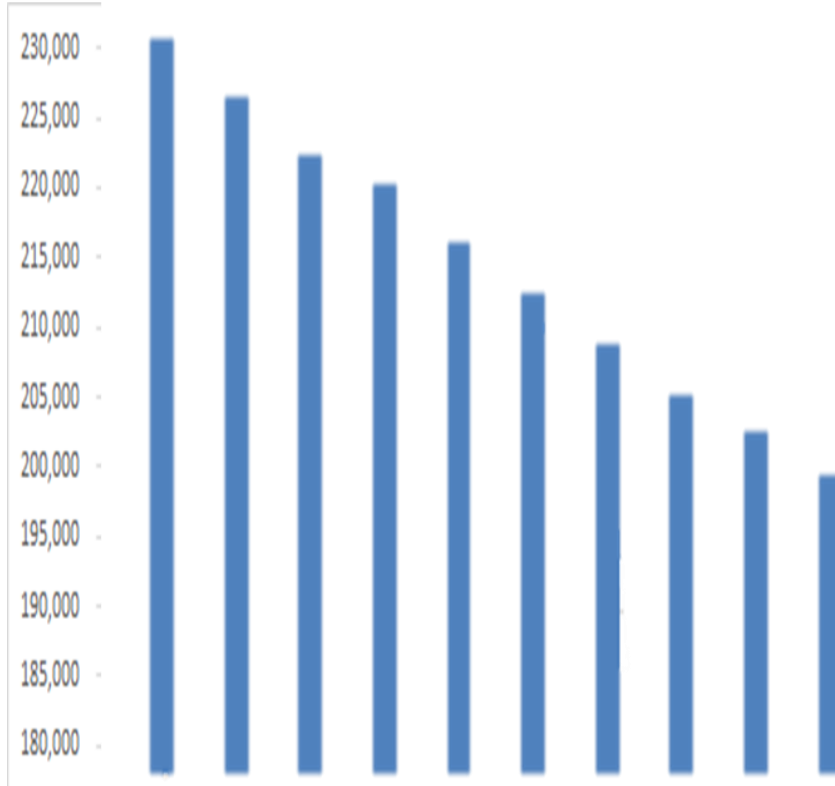
Introductions

Those present shared current education topics they were interested in learning more about in the upcoming days and which they thought were most important during this legislative session.

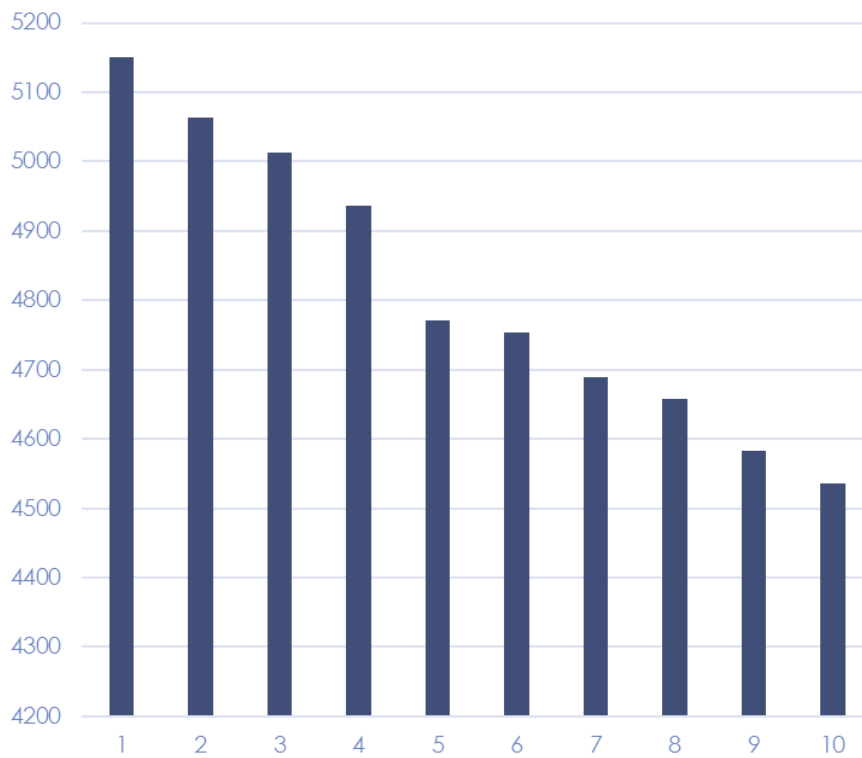
The group discussed each slide topic and asked questions pertinent to each.

Student Enrollment

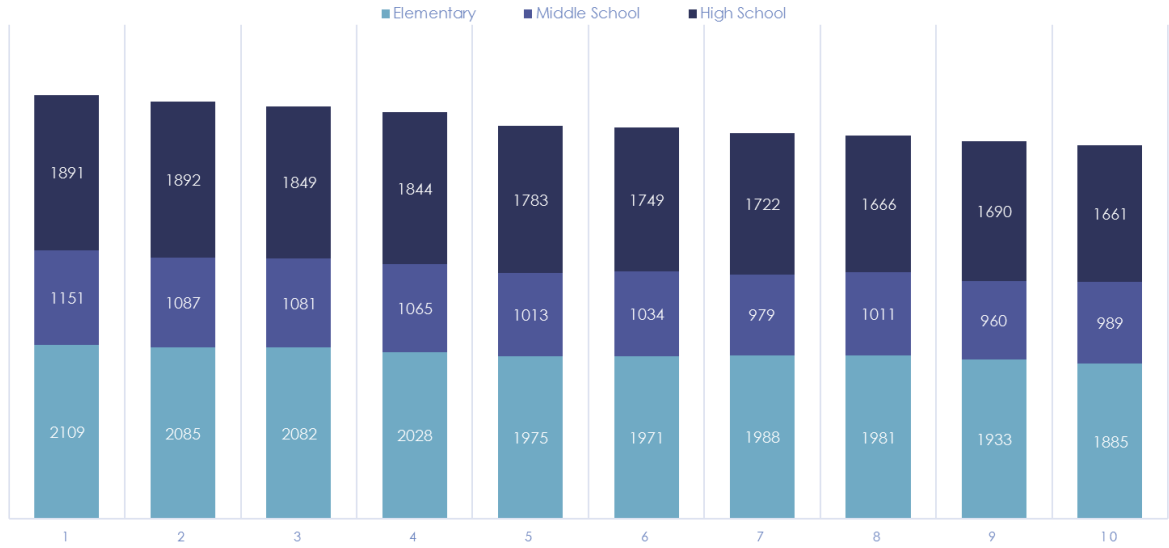
NH Enrollment



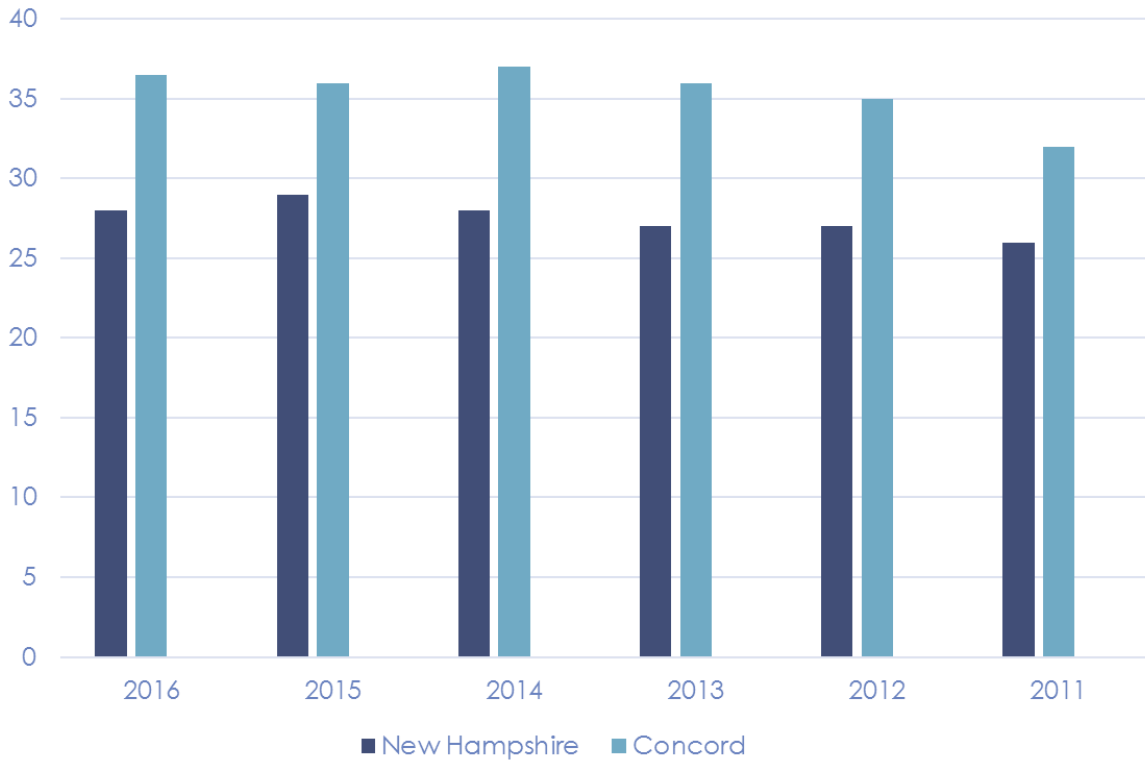
Concord Enrollment



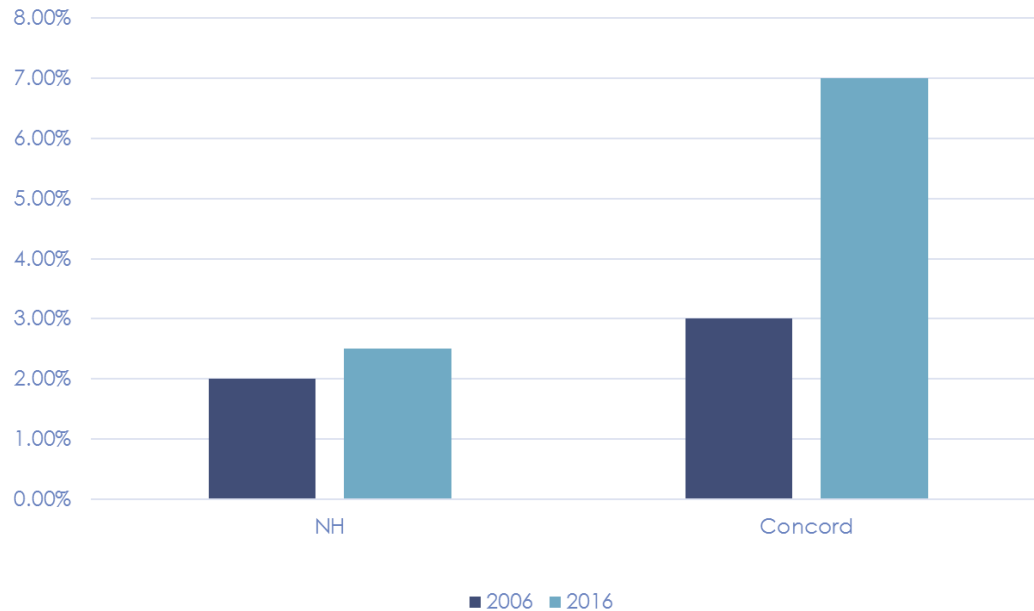
10 Year Enrollment History



Demographics – Free and Reduced Lunch



Demographics – English Language Learners



Assistant Superintendent Donna Palley presented highlights of the district's initiatives.

- PACE - Performance Assessment for Competency Education
- STEAM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics
- Technology – 1:1 Chromebooks for 9th & 10th Graders
- CHS Help Desk – students helping students
- Performing Arts – Theater, Chorus, Band
- Science Program Pilot

Early Childhood Study

Superintendent Forsten noted that the essential question that is being addressed by the administration and School Board is this: “What are the best practices in kindergarten programming and how do these practices connect with early childhood programs in our school community?”

Currently, the School Board is considering two options for 2017-2018: full day kindergarten for all students for an estimated \$1,211,565 cost for the first year; and half day kindergarten for 2/3 of eligible students and full day kindergarten for 1/3 of eligible students for an estimated \$386,475 cost for the first year.

Steam to Gas Conversion

The conversion to natural gas from steam heating due to the closure of Concord Steam affects four schools (Concord High School, Rundlett Middle School, Abbot-Downing School and Christa McAuliffe School). Due to the very short timeframe, this is an emergency process for the district, and has resulted in the necessity of bonding \$9 million to cover the immediate costs.

Rundlett Middle School Study

Superintendent Forsten and Director of Facilities Matt Cashman discussed the progress of the Rundlett Middle School Study, which includes educational specifications as well as architectural studies of the existing structure. This study was awarded to HMFH Associates, which served as the architectural firm for the construction of the three new elementary schools. The firm made a presentation to the School Board and the community the previous evening.

Financial Impacts on the Budget 2018

- Steam to gas conversion
- New Hampshire Retirement System (over \$700,000 increase)
- Special education contracted services
- Special education individual Educational Assistants
- Special education out-of-district tuition
- Special education transportation

Focus for Leadership

- Early childhood education – expanding kindergarten programs
- Facilities - maintenance, renovations, RMS Study
- Special education – administration and leadership
- Technology – completing access for high school students
- Behavioral and mental health program development

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Forsten, *Recorder*