

Concord School District
Special Board Meeting
August 24, 2020

Board President Jennifer Patterson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and read the following statement:

As President of the Concord School Board, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

The business we intend to conduct today is necessary due to the need to plan for the September 2020 monthly Board meeting and the calendar of meetings in September and October. This meeting takes the place of the regular Executive Committee meeting.

We encourage the submission of comments via e-mail at: concordinfo@sau8.org. Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, we are:

a) Providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access by other electronic means: we are utilizing *Microsoft Teams* for this meeting. All Board members have the ability to communicate contemporaneously through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone # (925) 391-1169, Conf ID: 462 174 0533# by clicking on the link provided on the sau8.org website. The meeting will be broadcast contemporaneously on ConcordTV's education channel, and a recording of the meeting will be posted on the ConcordTV website. The Board will not be taking public comment at this meeting.

b) Providing public notice of the necessary information for accessing the meeting: we previously gave notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting, including how to access the meeting using *Microsoft Teams* or telephonically. The meeting and pertinent instructions were posted on the District website, sau8.org, more than 24 hours prior to the meeting, and are highlighted at the top of the website.

c) Providing a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access: if anybody has a problem, please call 603-513-9008.

All members will be participating remotely. No votes are anticipated, but any taken during this meeting shall be done by roll call vote. When each member states their presence, please also state whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-to-Know law.

Board members present: Gina Cannon, Tom Croteau, Barb Higgins, Liza Poinier, Jim Richards, Jennifer Patterson

Board members absent: Chuck Crush, David Parker, Danielle Smith

Administrators present: *Interim Superintendent Kathleen Murphy, Assistant Superintendent Donna Palley, HR Director Larry Prince, Business Administrator Jack Dunn, Director of Facilities Matt Cashman*

Jennifer Patterson briefly described the meeting agenda, which was to review the draft agenda for the September 8, 2020 Board meeting and the calendar of meetings for September and October.

She noted that she received an email before this meeting about standing agenda items (this refers to the regular monthly Board meeting) which include an update on the status of remote learning and an update on anti-racism work; and the status of implementing Perkins report recommendations. As well, an update on the media consultant tasks was suggested. She noted the administration was planning to return to in-person meetings with both remote and in-person participation.

Barb Higgins joined the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Superintendent Murphy commented that the Christa McAuliffe Auditorium was being considered for in-person meetings. She noted that a handbook on return to school was being completed and would be distributed to District families and staff. Matt Cashman would provide an update on HVAC systems.

Mr. Croteau asked for an update on numbers of teaching staff opting out as of last Friday's deadline; specifically, information about supervision of those working remotely. Superintendent Murphy indicated staff data would be provided at the August 31 Instructional Committee meeting, and then reported out at the Board's monthly meeting.

Ms. Patterson recommended adding to the agenda updates regarding the communications consultant and Perkins recommendations.

Jim Richards suggested adding to the agenda action relative to a vacancy on the Board.

The Board discussed the calendars of committee meetings in September and October.

Superintendent Murphy noted a candidate information session on September 2 at 6 pm at the Christa McAuliffe Auditorium. The filing period is September 2 – 11. She noted that the regular September 8 meeting would be held both in-person and remotely. Another Instructional Committee meeting was added on September 9.

Jack Dunn described the October 7 Finance committee agenda as a budget update. He said the administration would not propose changes to the budget. He planned to review Trust funds and expenditures, and noted that the Finance Committee typically had this review meeting every year before the October Board meeting setting the tax rate.

Ms. Cannon suggested the possibility of labeling the October 12 holiday something other than Columbus Day in light of diversity training. There were questions whether the School Board had the power to rename the date. Liza Poinier offered to take up the question at a City & Community Relations meeting.

There were no other comments on meeting schedules from Board members.

Adjournment

The Board voted 8-0 to adjourn (motioned by Mr. Richards, seconded by Ms. Higgins).

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Higgins, *Secretary*
Linden Jackett, *Recorder*