

Chelmsford School Committee Notes
September 5, 2023

Recording found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oxNdcGQvN4g>

Packet found here:

<https://chelmsfordschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Agenda-9.5.23-Regular-Session.pdf>
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The Chelmsford School Committee (CSC) intends to conduct an in-person meeting on the date and time specified. The meeting will be live-streamed by Chelmsford Telemedia for interested community members to access and watch. Interested community members may e-mail Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Jay Lang, at langj@chelmsford.k12.ma.us prior to 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday September 5, 2023 to be scheduled to provide in-person input under the public participation portion(s) of the agenda.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CHAIR OPENING STATEMENT

CONSENT AGENDA - deferred to next meeting

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

CHS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE - next meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOOD NEWS

PUBLIC COMMENTS: The School Committee will hear from members of the public on items listed under New Business on the posted agenda. Speakers are asked to limit comments to 3 - 5 minutes to allow others an opportunity to speak. The School Committee will not respond directly to public comments, however will try to address comments when the item is reached on the agenda. **NONE**

NEW BUSINESS

1. Report on the Opening of Schools for the 2023/24 School Year
 - Transportation - work in progress.
 - Almost 3500 students are riding
 - Bus routes were set prior to almost 400 late registrations in late late August
 - Bus route is set for first 2 weeks and then new bus stops are added
 - EARLY REGISTRATION IS A MUST!!! If community wants to avoid bus delays in the first few weeks of school year
 - Building Prep - custodians and Brian Curly did excellent job preparing buildings

- Staff did excellent job in realignment in 2 weeks leading up to 1st day!!
- MS realignment
 - Bus routes taking time to develop but getting smoother
 - Staff had open houses for tours
- Newsletters have started
- Donna question: transportation dismissal and drop offs - what is being done to get kids home on time?
 - Dr Lang - arrival has staggered times so limited arrival issues
 - dismissal buildings do not have extra space for all the parent pickups... parents changing over to riding the bus or walking.
 - Non school related bus accidents were a factor.
 - At HS - biggest issue is students figuring out where their bus is typically located. This caused delay, which backed up MS and then Elementary school dismissal times.
 - The same 29 buses are used for all buildings so if there is a delay at HS or MS it rolls down to Ele.
- Donna asks for SMORE to include information on how parents/families will be notified of busing delays
- Donna - McCarthy Kitchen completion? Dr lang - expected after Columbus day weekend
- Dennis - Staffing? Dr Lang - 1 professional position unfilled. Math and science coordinators have been filling in awaiting the 2 hires onboarding in the last few days. Paraprofessionals left due to job opportunities - Para/ABA is needed at all levels. Advertising to families and are actively filling

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

- Moving forward with both SC and Superintendent goals... tying to the strategic plan. No action needed. Not included in packet - working copies now. Final document to be presented at the next meeting.
- DMGroup is being retained to manage work on implementation of strategic plan working with Admin group. Also DMGroup - to work with equity sub group.
- January and July report out on "how we are doing" Dr lang asks SC for feedback on when and how to present: Instead of all 5 at 1 time - since there is an admin on 1 of the 5 topics of goal groups. Like to school presentations have the Goal presentation done 1 goal at a time?
 - Susan - yes, focus on 1 goal
 - Spotlight on School would still be completed
 - Allows focus on each topic instead of being overwhelmed with all 5 goals

NOT ON AGENDA

- Donna is asking about heat and building staff and students? What is being done to prepare?
 - Dr Lang states it's going to be similar to a June day weather. While buildings are Muggy, plenty of water is available, fans being used and teachers take kids outside to escape heat

PUBLIC COMMENTS: The School Committee will hear from members of the public on general matters of education interest. Speakers are asked to limit comments to 3 - 5 minutes to allow others an opportunity to speak. The School Committee will not respond directly to public comments, however will try to address comments at future meetings. **NONE**

REPORTS

1. Liaison Reports

ACTION/NEW ITEMS

1. Request for Reports & Updates

- Donna - nail a State Rep meeting for the needs of the district (new school, updating facilities) MSCA (the state building agency) - funding is lacking. What/how can CPS SC influence representatives?
- Susan and Donna: DEI and athletics...

ADJOURNMENT

NOT PART OF SC MEETING PACKET - SCHOOL SPRING VACANT POSITIONS

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/171qLbzdER4nyVp6qiRvIbawlyxYqrII0uwAIPMzvq-g/edit?usp=sharing>