

UPDATE

TOWN MEETING ARTICLES
CONCORD AND CONCORD-
CARLISLE SCHOOL COMMITTEES

February 27, 2017

OVERVIEW OF SCHOOL COMMITTEES TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

- ARTICLE 13 – CPS Budget: FY18 CPS Budget is \$37,046,694. It provides 3.89% to the annual operating budget to include Elementary Spanish Instruction and CMS Latin elective.
- ARTICLE 14 – Concord Public School Supplemental Appropriation of \$400,000. All or some of this amount could be transferred to the current school year budget due to unusually high number of paid leaves for staff and higher than anticipated special education costs for the Concord Integrated pre-school program.
- ARTICLE 15 – Concord Public Schools Renovations and Repairs of \$850,000
- ARTICLE 16 – Concord-Carlisle Regional School District Budget: FY18 Budget is \$28,042,499. The Budget includes funding for the Later Start Time initiative within the Finance Committee Guideline.
- ARTICLE 17 – Concord-Carlisle Regional School District Landfill Remediation: Cost \$1.2 million – includes permanent engineered barrier with Flexible Fill option.

Article 13 – CPS Budget: Actions of School Committee

- ❑ December 21, 2016 – Concord School Committee voted to approve FY18 CPS Budget
- ❑ FY 18 CPS Budget: \$37,046,694
- ❑ Includes the adoption of Foreign Language in Elementary School: Spanish in K5 and Latin in 6-8
- ❑ Initial FY18 Budget approved was at the Finance Committee Guideline of 3.22%
- ❑ Unexpected number of faculty leaves and special education costs affected overall Budget by ~\$240,000
- ❑ Approved FY18 Budget is now \$236,584 above the Finance Committee Guideline – now at 3.89%
- ❑ Increased cost to tax payer: ~\$40/annually
- ❑ If passed, guarantees Spanish (K5) and Latin (6-8) will be offered next school year 2017-2018
- ❑ If Proposed Budget NOT APPROVED, Budget will be amended to Finance Committee Guidelines and Foreign Language will come out

Benefits to Foreign Language in Elementary School

Research has shown that starting a foreign language in elementary school results in:

- Wider opportunities in the future
- Increased potential for fluency
- Many cognitive benefits
- Improvement in academic performance in other areas
- Improved results on standardized testing
- Increased potential for human connections
- Builds cross-cultural understanding and empathy
- Enhances overall verbal development
- Increases critical thinking, skills, creativity, and flexibility of mind
- Better problem solving skills, enhanced spatial relations, and heightened creativity

Article 14 – Concord Public School Supplemental Appropriation of \$400,000. Actions of School Committee

- ❑ December 21, 2016 – Concord School Committee voted to approve a Supplemental Appropriation of \$400,000.
- ❑ Funding is being requested by the School Committee due to higher than expected/anticipated paid faculty leaves (maternity as well as year long medical) and special education costs at the integrated pre-school
- ❑ These expenses were identified after the development of the current fiscal year Budget.
- ❑ All or only some of this amount may be requested at Town Meeting – will still need to manage budget for several months to determine actual need.

Article 15 – Concord Public Schools Renovations and Repairs of \$850,000

- This Article authorizes the Treasurer to borrow \$850,000 for construction, renovations, repairs and related work at various Concord Public Schools
- *The funds will go towards:*
- Alcott Lighting, Flooring, ERU (return air) (\$135K)
- Thoreau Sidewalk repairs (\$140K)
- Willard Fields Irrigation and Reseeding(\$200K)
- Ripley STEAM Lab Infrastructure (\$300K)
- Integrated Pre-School Playground (\$75K)

Article 16 – CCRSD Budget: Actions of School Committee

- February 14, 2017 – Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee voted to approve REVISED FY18 CCRSD Budget
- FY 18 CCRSD Budget: \$28,042,499
- Approved Budget Includes the leasing of 5 new buses/bus drivers to accommodate Later Start Time initiative at CCHS
- Guarantees CCHS start time for next school year: 8:00am
- ADOPTED (revised) FY18 Budget is within the Finance Committee Guidelines

Benefits to Later Start Time Review



Research has shown that starting school later for adolescents results in:

- ❑ Less use of caffeine, alcohol and substance abuse
- ❑ Fewer signs of depression
- ❑ Increased attention in class
- ❑ Better test grades, better test scores
- ❑ Fewer automobile accidents
- ❑ Less tardiness
- ❑ Fewer discipline issues and suspensions
- ❑ Less risky behaviors – substance abuse, sexual
- ❑ Better cognitive function
- ❑ Better graduation rates

ARTICLE 17 – Concord-Carlisle Regional School District Landfill Remediation: Cost \$1.2 million

- September 27, 2016 – Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee voted to study the Landfill options at the high school and consequently hired Weston & Sampson from Peabody, MA to study the options for capping the Landfill at CCHS
- November 22, 2016 – Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee hosted Public Forum to discuss options for landfill
- December 21, 2016 - CCRSC voted to approve an Engineered Barrier that includes a Flexible Fill option.
- This newly engineered barrier with flexible fill allows for change to the use of the site at a later time at an overall cost savings.
- CCRSC will form a High School Campus Assessment Advisory Committee to look at land use on the high school campus in the Fall of 2017.

Town Meeting: April 24, 2017



PARTICIPATE AND VOTE:

CONCORD ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

April 24, 2017

CARLISLE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

May 8, 2017