

CCC Newsletter

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The mission of Concord Children's Center is to cultivate an intimate, welcoming community where children develop respectful relationships and inquisitive minds, build confidence in their individual gifts, and are engaged, prepared and inspired to learn



October/November 2018

CCC Board Priorities 2018-19

Building for CCC's Future

For our continuing families it is not news that CCC has been considering alternatives to house our Ripley and Emerson programs. We have occupied the Ripley classrooms since 1981 and the Emerson classrooms since 1986. These sites are leased from the Town and Emerson Hospital respectively. We love our Emerson and Ripley homes, with all of their benefits and challenges, not the least of which is the insecurity of leases that can vary from one year to the next. This year's **Board Priorities** lead with addressing this insecurity over the next several years. In September the Board adopted five areas of priority: *Financial and Facility Planning, Community, Communication, Staff, and Technology*. The key focus for the year is to develop a long term plan to ensure that CCC can continue to fulfill its mission and most effectively serve our families through site sustainability. The full text of the Board's priorities for 2018-2019 can be found at the end of the newsletter.

Over the years the CCC Board has consistently worked to replenish our reserves, which were instrumental in financing the construction of 1300 Main Street, completed in 2002. Robust enrollment, a strong economy, and prudent financial stewardship have resulted in healthy reserves that could support a future building project.

The Board welcomes participation from all families and staff. Please join us at a Board meeting or consider joining a committee. Our November 14 Board meeting at 1300 Main Street will include a discussion of our long range planning process.



What are we doing now to prepare for the future of CCC?

While we continue negotiations for extended leases with our current landlords, we are exploring alternative locations for Ripley and Emerson. Our Current leases will not expire until 2020 and 2021. This is an exciting time of exploration and visioning, one which also provides us with the opportunity to consider moving CCC to a two-site model by combining our Emerson and Ripley sites. Having our own buildings offer wonderful opportunities for designing our environment to best support children and learning.

The Board, its committees, and CCC Administration are planning now so that we are prepared. Having a plan is something we discuss with the children at CCC every day. For some it is about building a bridge with Magna Tiles, asking a child to play, or getting the snow pants on without too much trouble. For us, it is preparing for the future.

We will invite the entire community to participate in this process. Our Long Range Planning Committee is continuing last year's discussions of the best programmatic and facility models for sustaining CCC. The Finance Committee will be looking at the financial capacity of CCC to embark on a capital project, and the Development Committee will begin to look at how we raise the funds for a variety of scenarios. Staff will discuss ideal environments for delivering the best experiences for children, families, and teachers.

We are in the early days of this process and welcome participation from our community. Let us know if you would like to join a committee, come to a board meeting, or just send your thoughts to Pat at executive@concordchildrenscenter.org.



Up coming Committee Meetings (everyone is welcome contact Pat for details

executive@concordchildrenscenter.org.

Personnel Mon. Oct 29 @ 7:30 PM
Auction Wed. Nov 7 @ 7:00 PM
Technology Mon. Oct. 22 @7:15 PM
Long Range Planning, Development, Finance, Communication TBD

Community Events at CCC

- **Classroom Events:** Information about classroom events can be found in your parent mailbox that is located in your child's classroom. CCC teachers also email notices of up-coming events. Classroom events include morning coffees, afternoon pizza parties, plays, and art shows.
- **Concord Book Shop Fundraiser:** The Concord Book Shop donates a % of the day's profit to our Annual Fund. Families may purchase Gift Certificates on the date of the fundraiser to be used anytime. A great way to take care of Holiday Shopping.
- **Special Friends Day:** On this morning in May your child will "host" a special friend in his or her classroom and share the experience of being at CCC.
- **The Auction: Our biggest fundraiser and a very good time for CCC adults**



Bookshop Fundraiser October 27th.

Kickoff your holiday shopping at The Concord Bookshop, 65

Main Street Concord Center and support Concord Children's Center at the same time! The Bookshop will donate a % of all purchases all day long to CCC. We especially love the Concord Bookshop Gift Certificates! Throughout the day CCC teachers will be reading to children and CCC volunteers will be on hand to help you select a favorite children's book.



October/November Calendar

- October 17 Ripley Back to School
- **October 27 Bookshop Fundraiser**
- November 3 Enrollment Open House
- **November 12 CCC Closed for Professional Development**
- November 14 December. Optional Days Requests Due
- November 14 CCC Board Meeting @ West Concord @ 7:15PM
- **November 22-23 CCC Closed for Thanksgiving**

Staying on top of what's happening

Notifications of School Closings

- Announcements of Concord Public School closings on local media websites
- CCC Website
- School wide email announcement
- Facebook post
- Message on CCC Phone system
- Text Messages (coming fall 2018)

Notices of school wide events

- Newsletter (Monthly) email to families, posted on website and hard copies located at all sites.
- Email, Website, Facebook
- Posted in Classrooms
- Paper flyers in mail pockets
- Verbal reminders from teachers



Notices of Classroom events

- Paper Classroom Newsletters
- Kaymbu Communications
- Posted daily notes
- Verbal from teachers
- Classroom Email

Notices from Administration/Business Office, Invoices, Due dates

- Email
- Newsletter

Administrative and program policies

- CCC Parent Handbook
- Email copies sent to families and paper copies available at each site
- Website
- CCC Scheduling Options Booklet
- Paper copies available at all sites
- Email copies sent to families during each summer

CCC will close on Veterans Day, November 12, 2018 and March 8, 2019 for Professional Development. Use the On-line calendar to keep your CCC dates up to date! The “Add to iCal” link on the on-line calendar on the CCC website has been updated to allow you to subscribe to the calendar rather than just download a static calendar to your device. The link can be found on the calendar page on the CCC website: <http://concordchildrenscenter.org/calendar>.

November 12 Professional Development for CCC Staff

Diversity and Cultural Competence: Dr. Jody Figuerido

Culturally competent educators have knowledge about ethnic and cultural diversity that enables them to provide culturally responsive programming for the children and families they serve. According to developmentally appropriate practice (NAEYC, 2009), educators should be culturally and socially responsive as well as respectful of the social and cultural context of the children in the program. The goal of this session is for participants to gain a broader perspective of cultural diversity; consider how it impacts experiences, beliefs, values, and practices; and implement culturally responsive approaches to support all children and families. This will be facilitated through reflection, sharing, and consideration of innovative strategies designed to support and is responsive to families and children of all cultures and ethnic backgrounds

CCC Board of Directors 2018-2019 Priorities

CCC will focus on developing a long-term plan to ensure site sustainability including financial planning, external communication and continuing to foster a strong sense of community

Financial and Facility Planning and Sustainability

- Focus Long Range Planning on compiling and reviewing site strategy options in both the near and long term future
- Begin planning a capital campaign in order to ensure site stability options
- Continue to replenish reserves and revisit the appropriate reserve amounts for the next 1, 3 and 5 years
- Support Development efforts for the Annual Appeal

Community

- Continue to focus on building strong internal community through events that bring families and parents together
- Identify additional types of events that may help parents and families feel connected

Communication

- Shift focus to external communications with goal to keep in the top of mind in the community in order to maintain enrollment
- Continue to consider additional technology and modes of communication to our internal community

Support a professional, qualified and diverse staff of early childhood educators

- Maintain staff satisfaction around opportunities and benefits
- More frequent communication with staff (survey) that is more open ended and encourages new ideas

Technology

- Continue to advance technology used in our community including the use of online registration forms, online payments, text communications etc

Happening in Concord This Weekend



FOOD

10:00-3:00

MUSIC

October 20th



**MORE
FUN!**



**BEST
YET!!**

Nature Skills Festival



Spend the afternoon learning to start a fire by friction, whittle sticks, make crafts and tools with natural materials. Learn how to see the forest through an animal's eyes and move with stealth; listen to and identify birds; and learn about wild edibles.

Instructors: Ken Clarkson, Tim Swanson, Andrew Joslin
October 21, 1-4pm

Location: Concord Land Conservation Trust Chamberlin Woods

Cost: \$10/person, \$20/family

Emerson | 978-369-0492

Ripley | 978-369-5983

West Concord | 978-369-6790

www.concordchildrenscenter.org | executive@concordchildrenscenter.org