

# Correspondence received by the Concord Select Board

Week Ending – September 29, 2025

1. Linda Ferrari, 20 Damon St.
2. Tracey Marano Chair, Concord-Carlisle Regional School District, School Committee and Andrew Herchek Chair, Concord Public Schools, School Committee

Please Note: The Select Board Correspondence policy has been updated as of January 27, 2025. The letters posted here reflect the views and opinions of the author as recorded in the body of their email. Neither the Select Board nor Town staff have verified or reviewed the contents. The Select Board and the Town do not necessarily agree, condone, support or advocate the ideas expressed in these letters and have not verified any factual statements made in the letters.

9/24/25

Dear Members of the Concord Select Board:

I am a member of the West Concord Advisory Committee, but in this case I am writing to you as a parent of 2 Concord Public School children and an engaged citizen of this town, sharing my own thoughts.

I received the email below from the chairs of the School Committee. The type of behavior that is going on in our town regarding our school leadership is truly unacceptable, and I am so disappointed that people in our community are engaging this way. The lack of respectful behavior should not be tolerated, and is completely in opposition to the values of this town. This latest event with the scarecrow is reprehensible, and other recent communication trying to characterize our schools as unsafe seem to be aimed towards stirring up fear in our community with the goal of ousting our superintendent. I feel that this is not an isolated event, and that some of the behavior in past months towards Dr. Hunter feels attacking and misogynistic. No leader is perfect, and while Dr. Hunter has made some mistakes, she has accomplished a great deal and in my opinion, our schools are even stronger than when we moved here due to her leadership. These ongoing attacks negatively impact all of us, and drains energy and distracts our school administration who are trying to focus on their #1 job of serving our students and teachers. Our strong schools were a key reason we moved to Concord, and these attacks on our superintendent are not good for our students or our community, and this behavior in our town must be stopped.

My ask of the Select Board is to do all that you can do, with how you behave at your own meetings, in the statements you make verbally and in writing - to support a community that values and models respectful communication, and communication that aims to be collaborative and solution-oriented. I also ask that you ensure that our school administrators and teachers feel safe working in our community.

Thank you,  
Lynda Ferrari, 20 Damon St.

**CONCORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**CONCORD-CARLISLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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September 23, 2025

To the Community,

On Monday morning, a scarecrow was found in Concord center with a message containing demeaning language toward Superintendent Laurie Hunter. The Concord Police Department has been notified and is investigating.

This act crosses a line away from civility, to a much uglier and more dangerous place. As we have stated numerous times around a number of issues of late, there is no room for hate, harassment or intimidation in our community.

Public service depends on having a corps of people willing to lead and be held accountable through lawful and civil means. It does not require them to endure threats (implied, veiled or direct), targeted abuse, or attacks on their character.

We are writing as your elected School Committee Chairs to say two things plainly: First, the School Committees condemn this act in the strongest possible terms. Second, the Districts and we, the School Committee Chairs, stand with our dedicated Superintendent as she reports for work day-in and day-out as the head of one of the highest performing school districts, not merely in Massachusetts but indeed in the nation.

We welcome criticism and debate over policies, budgets and individual decisions. There should be a frank and open dialogue on the issues. There should not, however, be any room in Concord for attacks on people. We will take any steps necessary to protect staff and to ensure those responsible are held accountable.

We must shame this behavior, not normalize it. We will stand for community standards of decency, and we will not sit still when those standards are forgotten.

Concord and Concord-Carlisle are stronger when conversations about our schools are focused on facts, on policy, and on the best interests of our children. This has not been an easy year for our community, but if we are to heal the divide, we must recommit ourselves to that standard now.

With resolve,

Tracey Marano  
Chair, Concord-Carlisle Regional School District School Committee

Andrew Herchek  
Chair, Concord Public Schools School Committee