

Town of Canton
Canton School Committee Minutes of the Meeting of March 10, 2022
Canton High School Distance Learning Lab

Members of the public were also able to view a live stream of the meeting via <http://cantoncommunitytv.org/>

A. Call to Order:

The meeting of the School Committee is called to order at 5:04 pm. Motion to go into Executive Session made by Kendall O'Halloran to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with Unit A and Unit E and AFSCME Units and to discuss strategy with respect to contract negotiations with nonunion personnel, Interim Assistant Superintendent. Seconded by Maureen Moran. Chair Merenda declared that an Open Meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the public body. It was voted by roll call 4-0.

Present are:

Kristian Merenda, School Committee Chair
Nichola Gallagher, School Committee Vice Chair (left at 5:57 pm)
Maureen Moran, School Committee Clerk
Kendall O'Halloran, School Committee Member
Laura Arboleda, School Committee Member (Absent)

B. The Committee convened the Open Session meeting at 6:04 pm.

Also Present:

Derek Folan, Superintendent (left at 5:57 pm)
Stephen Marshall, Director of Finance and Operations
Sarah Shannon, Assistant Superintendent
Colleen Hutchinson, Recording Secretary
Public
Press
Staff

Chair Merenda held a moment of silence for the citizens of Ukraine

C. Student Member Report and Student Advisory Committee Introductions: Joshua Ribisi Chan shared events taking place at CHS including, Jazz band, CHS sports playoffs, World Language Week, beginning of course selection, upcoming MCAS and musical.

D. Superintendent's Report: Ms. Shannon presented the Superintendent's report.

Interim Superintendent Highlights

CDEI Black History Month Event: Congratulations to members of CDEI who hosted a memorable Black History Month event on February 28.

Civics Week: Senator Timilty and Representative Galvin visited the Luce School fourth-graders on Monday to speak with students civics. Additionally, Representative Galvin toured CHS and GMS and visited classrooms on Tuesday.

World Language Week: Thank you to Ms. Heidi Olson and all CPS World Language staff for coordinating this week's District events in celebration of World Language Week.

"I'm five now Mrs.Kilday!": One of our preschoolers, who recently turned five, drew a picture of her COVID vaccine experience at one of the Town run clinics.

Events/Acknowledgements This Month

Staff Acknowledgements

Maintenance Worker Appreciation Day

School Social Worker Week

International Women's Day

Other events

National Nutrition Month is celebrated in March. This month's celebration encourages individuals to learn about making informed food choices and developing healthy eating.

Updates

Kindergarten Registration: This week Kindergarten registration took place Tuesday morning, Wednesday afternoon, and Thursday evening.

Indicators of Excellence

GMS Musical: Congratulations to the staff, cast and crew of Mary Poppins.

Fay Gallery joins the CHS Girls Basketball 1000 Point Club: Congratulations to CHS Senior Fay Gallery for earning her spot in the CHS Girls Basketball 1000 point club.

All-State Chorus: Congratulations to Antoine Aoun and Atlas Curran Barker for their Symphony Hall performance last weekend.

Robotics: Canton Robodogs competed at the MA State Championship on Saturday, March 5th. They placed 19 out of a field of 32 teams attending the MA State Championship and out of 98 teams that competed in Massachusetts throughout the season. While the Canton GearHounds did not advance to the State Championship, they ended their season at the Qualifier advancing to the robot semi-finals and winning the Schneider Electric Life is On Award.

Important Dates and Events

March 11	No School, Staff PD -- GMS ½ Day PD
March 17-20	CHS Drama, Grease, CHS Auditorium, Ticket information
March 24	School Committee Meeting, CHS DLL, 6:00 pm

- E. Teaching and Learning Report: Ms. Catherine Eckersley provided an overview of the Performing Arts programs in the District. Ms. Eckersley reviewed the vision and mission of the Performing Arts Department. All-state recipients were unable to attend. Ms. Eckersley shared photos from varying festivals and awards nights. For additional information and a full report, see the School Committee webpage, Meetings/Agendas/Minutes.

F. New Business:

1. GMS CAPT Spotlight: Ms. Catherine Hoberg, GMS CAPT President, shared highlights of CAPT's work during the past school year. She discussed current and anticipated openings for volunteer posts. She explained that attendance is very low and strongly encouraged parents to attend.
2. GMS School Spotlight and GMS CAPT Spotlight/Honors: GMS Administration shared school highlights. Enrollment numbers, school schedules, academic and community points of pride, after school clubs, sports and diversity equity and inclusion initiatives were shared. Two students, Nissy Kahuha and Riley Swearingen, shared their experiences. The work of school support groups was recognized and honored.
3. Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Update: Mr. Marshall and Ms. Shannon shared an update on the GMS application with the MSBA. GMS has been selected to work with MSBA to receive a renovated or new school building. Process timelines were shared.

The Eligibility Period commences on May 2. Following this, the next stage is the Feasibility Stage in which a designer will be chosen. There will be a Committee established for parental and staff input, more information forthcoming. Could be a minimum of 5-6 years for the project to be completed. Funding does not become available until June 2024. Timelines will be further teased out during the Feasibility phase.

4. COVID-19 Updates, EBCFA Update (VOTE) and Protocol Review: Ms. Pushard reviewed the highlights and updates to protocols. The full protocols can be found on the website under the School Committee tab, meetings/agendas/minutes. The COVID dashboard can be found on the CPS website where positive cases are tracked and monitored. The face coverings policy, EBCFA, was also updated removing the requirement of masks on buses.

Motion to approve the CPS policy EBCFA as written: Kendall O'Halloran

Seconded: Maureen Moran

Vote: 3-0

Motion to approve the CPS policy Protocols for Responding to COVID 19 Scenarios as written updated 3/10/2022: Kendall O'Halloran

Seconded: Maureen Moran

Vote: 3-0

5. Superintendent Contract: Chair Merenda shared details of the Superintendent Folan's contract. On March 3, the Committee met and unanimously approved the 2-year contract beginning July 1, 2022. The first-year contract is \$194,555. Year 2 includes a 2% increase, with a salary of \$198,446. Other terms cited include \$5,000 for tuition reimbursement, \$10,000 for a doctorate program, 25 vacation days with no carryover, buyback option of up to 10 days, 15 sick days, 3 personal days per year.
6. Assistant Superintendent Contract: Chair Merenda provided an update on the Assistant Superintendent's appointment. The Committee approved 4-1, on March 3, 2022, Mr. Folan's appointment of Ms. Sarah Shannon as Assistant Superintendent.
7. CHS Scholarship Approval: Mr. Marshall presented the Jeremiah Sullivan Scholarship. Mr. Marshall shared background information on Mr. Sullivan and scholarship requirements. This is a 1 year, 1-time scholarship of \$600. Ms. Moran requested moving towards name-blind scholarships for CPS.

Motion to approve the Jeremiah Sullivan scholarship: Maureen Moran

Seconded: Kendall O'Halloran

Vote: 3-0

8. FY22 Q2 Report: Mr. Marshall presented the FY22 Q2 report for review. FY22 budget is \$51,312,612. Total operating expenditures thru 12/31/21 were \$22,910,047. Mr. Marshall shared information with the Committee on the total spending, special education updates, revolving fund updates, and grants. As of 12/31/21 (Q2 report ending date), the total year-to-date spending is 47% of the budget. Moving forward, Mr. Marshall is beginning to compare the budget back to non-COVID times. Budget projections were shared. The District is looking at a 6% increase in FY23. The full report can be found on the School Committee webpage under the meetings/agendas/minutes tab.

Motion to approve the FY22 Q2 Financial Report: Maureen Moran

Seconded: Kendall O'Halloran

Vote: 3-0

9. District Goals Updates: Ms. Rooney provided an update on the following District goal:
Design a Curriculum Program Review process with an annual cycle through the various disciplines -- math, science, literacy/ELA, social studies, wellness, world language, visual arts, performing arts, technology -- across PreK-12, in an effort to examine best practices, instruction, assessment and structures;

review curricular coherence across the grades; and identify high-quality student advancement opportunities (e.g. Seal of Biliteracy, dual enrollment, etc.)

- In the first year of the review, the design committee, with the support of smaller teams at each level, will develop a set of recommendations for program improvement. These recommendations will be the focus of the work in year two of the cycle.
- The formal curriculum review process for each department will take place across two years. The full chart outlining recommendations for the initial implementation of this plan can be found on the School Committee website under the meetings/agendas/minutes tab. The initial review process attempts to stagger implementation for the four core subjects to help ease the burden on our elementary teachers.

Members requested that ELA be moved up on the implementation timeline.

G. Public Comment: none

H. Director of Finance and Operations Report: none

I. Consent Agenda:

Motion to approve the consent agenda: Maureen Moran

Seconded: Kendall O'Halloran

The Consent Agenda passed unanimously: 3-0

The following items were included in the Consent Agenda:

Open Session Minutes: February 17, 2022, Workshop February 17, 2022, March 3, 2022

Executive Session Minutes: February 16, 2022, February 17, 2022, March 3, 2022

Warrant dated March 11, 2022

J. Sub-Committee, Task Force, and Liaison Post Updates:

- Policy subcommittee continues to work through Section A. Website has been updated for public to review policies in progress
- In active negotiations with CTA and AFSCME units
- MPIC is meeting on 3/17/21
- BRC working on a new zamboni and CHS bleachers
- CCPC survey is still open
- Galvin CAPT thank you in today's paper
- Finance met with Capital planning and Town finance Committee
- Finance subcommittee meeting is next week to make final tweaks to budget in preparation for budget hearing on 3/24/22
- CAPE and CAPT budget presentations in progress
- Norfolk County Sheriff's Task Force on Mental Health - information sharing and starting conversations about eating disorders and how it might be represented on the YRBS

K. Other Business: none

L. Future Business: Next School Committee meeting will be held Thursday, March 24, 2022, @ 6:00 pm in the Distance Learning Lab at CHS.

M. Adjournment: Maureen Moran motioned to close the Open Session at 8:43 pm. Kendall O'Halloran seconded. It was voted 3-0.

3 yeas 0 nays

Documents Used During the Meeting:

1. Superintendent's Report dated March 10, 2022
2. Performing Arts ppt Presentation
3. GMS Spotlight presentation
4. MSBA Letter from Select Board Chair
5. Protocols for Responding to COVID 19 Scenarios
6. Canton Face Coverings policy(EBCFA)
7. 3/8/22 Vaccination Rates
8. FY22 2nd Quarter Financial Report
9. Curriculum/Program Review Process Plan November 2021
10. Jeremiah Sullivan Scholarship Approval