

Town of Canton
Canton School Committee Minutes of the Meeting of October 10, 2019
Canton High School Distance Learning Lab

- A. Call to Order: The meeting of the School Committee is called to order at 7:00 pm by Vice Chair Reuki Schutt.

Present are:

Kristin Mirliani - Absent

Reuki Schutt

Nichola Gallagher

Maureen Moran

Kristian Merenda

Also Present:

Dr. Jennifer Fischer-Mueller, Superintendent

Barry Nectow, School Business Administrator

Colleen Hutchinson, Recording Secretary

Public

Press

Staff

- B. Public Comments/Questions: None
- C. Student Member: Michael Dorcelus spoke about his visit to the Rodman Preschool. Students/classrooms read the book called Only One You by Linda Kranz and did an art project to support what they learned. He also informed the Committee that CHS students in the Child Development class are visiting the Preschool periodically to learn more about developmental milestones.
- D. Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller reported on the following events: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller announced that Executive Session was canceled this evening.

Superintendent Activities Highlights

Dedication for Brook Stephens: On October 25 the Dean S. Luce School Community will be dedicating a Friendship Communication Board in remembrance of Brooke Stephens. This dedication will take place at 3:30 pm on the upper playground at the Luce School.

STEAM Week: The second annual Massachusetts STEM Week is October 21-25 and the theme is "See Yourself in STEM". As a STEAM district, our PreK-12 students will be participating in hands-on, interdisciplinary learning experiences that focus on the topics of science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics.

German Exchange State House Visit: Tuesday, October 8, the German Exchange Students participated in a guided tour of the State House and had the opportunity to meet and take pictures with Representative William Galvin and Senator Walter Timilty.

Updates

MCAS Student Reports: On Friday, October 4, reports were mailed home to all students who took the 2019 Spring MCAS in Canton.

Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS): With last spring's YRBS being administered online, the results have been analyzed in a timely fashion. Constructive conversations and deep inquiry have ensued with CPS administrators regarding the GMS and CHS results. Results will be presented to the School Committee when the state results are released around January 2020.

Massachusetts Mandated Screenings: A document was shared with information on the health screenings administered by our Health Office Staff.

Indicators of Excellence

Preschool CAPT Event: Saturday, October 5, Rodman families joined together at Pequitside Farm playground for a fun play date. This event, sponsored by the Preschool CAPT was well attended and accessible for all families.

Best Buddies Walk: On Saturday, October 5, Canton High School's Best Buddies Chapter participated in the Best Buddies Friendship Walk at the Schrafft's Center in Charlestown, MA. This was Canton High's first time participating in this event and CHS was honored with an award for the largest team. Twenty-nine members of the CHS community participated in the event and raised \$1,052 making CHS one of the Top 10 fundraising teams.

Making Strides Walk: For the 17th year, teams and clubs from Canton High School, including girls soccer, field hockey, volleyball, cheerleading, drama club, robotics club, and girls and boys cross-country participated in the annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk. Every year, Canton High teacher Mr. Amico leads students in fundraising, supporting, and then walking six miles with the goal in mind of finding a cure to breast cancer. This year, students fundraised over \$14,000, bringing its total to over \$120,000!

Important Dates and Events

Oct. 4-24	German Exchange Students Visit
Oct. 14	No School, Columbus Day
Oct. 17	Cultural Heritage Night, 6:00-8:00 pm, GMS
Oct. 18	CHS One Acts Plays, 7:00-9:00 pm, CHS
Oct. 19	Hansen Fall Festival, 10:00-3:00, Hansen

Oct. 21-25	STEAM Week, All Schools
Oct. 24	School Committee, 7:00 pm, CHS DLL

E. New Business

1. German Exchange Students and Staff Visit: Ms. Elsa Nicolovius introduced this year's German Exchange students and staff. Ms. Nicolovius shared that this year is the 41st group to participate in this program. Itinerary and stories were shared.
2. Out of State Travel Requests for GMS Montreal Trip AND Washington DC & NYC Trip: Ms. Sarah Shannon requested approval to travel to Montreal, Quebec from April 19-21, 2020.

Move to approve out of state travel request to Montreal, Quebec with GMS seventh grade french students: Nichola Gallagher

Second: Kristian Merenda

Vote: 4-0

Ms. Shannon explained that she surveyed students and parents/guardians in an effort to increase attendance at this year's DC/NYC trip to ensure that the trip is a good experience and more inclusive for all. She noted some obstacles stated in the survey included the cost, family commitments, and students not being comfortable with overnight trips. A fundraising committee is being established. Students have the option this year of joining the group for the one day in NYC if they choose not to attend the overnight portion of the trip. Ms. Shannon requested approval to travel to Washington, DC & NYC from May 26-29, 2020 with eighth grade students.

Move to approve out of state travel request to Washington, DC, and NYC with eighth grade students: Nichola Gallagher

Second: Kristian Merenda

Vote: 4-0

3. Technology Update: Ms. Julie Shore presented a multi-year proposal, beginning in FY21 for a 1:1 Chromebook Initiative at GMS that would then culminate in 1:1 Chromebook access for all students in grades 6-12. She outlined the pros to this initiative that include: access to resources, equity for all, no cell phones in the classroom, the ability to differentiate instruction and more. Ms. Shore gave examples of how this initiative is closely tied to the Strategic Framework. There are currently 225 Chromebooks at GMS and there are 775 students, therefore 525 Chromebooks would be purchased. An explanation was given as to why digital citizenship is important; to help students to learn, communicate and collaborate safely and responsibly. Ms. Shore is working on a comprehensive roll-out for September 2020. She acknowledged that the district would have to build policy and examine filtering software. She will also be building a replacement/ damage plan into the budget. A complete copy of the presentation may be found on the webpage under the School Committee reports tab.
4. MCAS Report: Ms. Deborah Rooney presented the 2019 MCAS district results and accountability. Mr. Derek Folan provided additional information regarding CHS MCAS results. Information sessions will be held at each school site council meeting and educators and administrators will continue to analyze the data. The

complete MCAS report can be found on the website under the school committee report tab.

5. Capital Budget Presentation: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller and Mr. Barry Nectow presented the Capital Budget. Mr. Nectow explained that all capital requests go into the plan, then with the help of the finance subcommittee and principal's input, the Superintendent's requests are identified. The current cash capital summary of requests is \$804,087. There is an allocation of \$750,000. Mr. Nectow encouraged the committee to review the information provided. This topic will be addressed again at the next meeting. A complete copy of the cash and debt capital summaries are available on the website under the School Committee tab.

6. Hansen Building Fee Waiver Request: The Hansen CAPT requested a building fee waiver for the Hansen Fall Festival on October 19, 2019.

Move to approve the building fee waiver for the Hansen Fall Fair on October 19, 2019: Nichola Gallagher

Second: Kristian Merenda

Vote: 4-0

7. Technology Disposal Approval: Mr. Barry Nectow requested a vote of approval to dispose of old technology equipment.

Move to approve the disposal of surplus technology equipment:

Nichola Gallagher

Second: Kristian Merenda

Vote: 4-0

F. Old Business: None

- G. Business Manager's Report: Mr. Nectow reported that the CCPC preliminary application was approved. An update on the Facilities Master Plan was provided: at this time, the SOI for the Galvin is in progress, the Rodman building renovation plan is tied to the Galvin; we are waiting to hear on the Galvin SOI to determine the next steps. The Kennedy modulars are complete. A tour with School Committee members will be planned. Mr. Nectow shared enrollment numbers, they are as follows: 3234 total students in K-12, 87 in the Prek. The district is +18 from this time last year.

H. Routine Matters:

1. Approve Minutes dated September 26, 2019

Move: Nichola Gallagher

Second: Kristian Merenda

Vote: 4-0

2. Mr. Nectow reported that the warrant dated October 18, 2019, was reviewed and signed by Maureen Moran.

I. Sub-Committee Reports

1. CPC - Nichola Gallagher reported that the preliminary application was approved. Mr. David McCarhty will be the liaison for this project.
2. BRC - Kristian Merenda - nothing to report.

3. Wellness- Maureen Moran - 1st meeting is October 16, 2019.
 4. Finance - Reuki Schutt/Maureen Moran - meeting next week.
 5. Policy - Kristin Mirliani – nothing to report.
 6. PRHC – Nichola Gallagher - nothing to report.
 7. Ad Hoc Calendar Advisory - Maureen Moran has begun outreach to schools in an effort to develop the members of this committee. The committee will be comprised of parents/guardians, union reps and staff members.
- J. Future Business: Next School Committee Meeting will be held Thursday, October 24, 2019 @ 7:00 in the Distance Learning Lab at CHS.
- K. Other Business: No report
- L. Adjournment: Nichola Gallagher motioned to close Open Session at 9:30 pm. Kristian Merenda seconded. It was voted 4-0.

4 yeas 0 nays