

Town of Canton
Canton School Committee Minutes of the Meeting of October 24, 2019
Canton High School Distance Learning Lab

- A. Call to Order: The meeting of the School Committee is called to order at 6:35 pm. Motion to go into Executive Session or the purpose of discussing contractual matters made by Maureen Moran. Seconded by Nichola Gallagher. It was voted by roll call 5-0.

Kristin Mirliani	yea
Reuki Schutt	yea
Nichola Gallagher	yea
Kristian Merenda	yea
Maureen Moran	yea

- B. Open Session: Chair Mirliani called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Present are:

Kristin Mirliani
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

Chair Mirliani noted that we would be going slightly out of order on tonight's agenda to accommodate scheduled visitors.

- C. New Business Agenda Item #1 MIAA Wellness Coordinator of the Year: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller and Mr. Derek Folan welcomed Mr. Ryan Gordy to the podium and offered congratulations for his MIAA Wellness Coordinator of the Year Award. Mr. Folan spoke about Ryan's accomplishments and how he has developed the Wellness Program for the traditional physical education model to a whole student wellness model.
- D. Public Comments/Questions: Chair Mirliani shared general terms of the public comment policy (BEDH). Chair Mirliani informed the public that the School Committee consulted with legal counsel regarding the advertisement of a JFK CAPT fundraiser, Mother/Someone Special and Son Cornhole event. Chair Mirliani noted that legal counsel advised the Committee that civil rights law states that a public organization must have a governmental and/or legally valid reason to exclude one gender from participation in a club or event. Public comments were as follows:

Ms. Kendall O'Halloran spoke in support of keeping the event and the name of the event as written above. She said that anyone can participate in this event and it is inclusive to all.

Ms. Ellen Donovan spoke in support of keeping the name of the event as written above, not changing the name.

Ms. Jen Amber spoke in support of the event and not making any changes to how it is advertised. Ms. Amber also questioned why the Girls on the Run program at the JFK only has girls participants. The board informed Ms. Amber that the Girls on the Run is a national program and its curriculum is specific to girls and supporting their self-esteem and leadership skills, therefore, has a legally valid reason to only include girls in the program.

Ms. Priscilla Lourenco inquired as to who is responsible for monitoring the legality of school events/advertising.

Ms. Ellen Donovan also asked for clarification on in-school and out-of-school suspensions. Chair Mirliani informed her that as stated in the CPS handbook, the decision is at the discretion of the Principal. Many factors play into the decision such as what the infraction was and supervision at home vs. school.

- E. Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller reported on the following events::

Superintendent Activities Highlights

STEAM Week: There are many exciting activities taking place in our schools this week during STEAM week. On Wednesday, October 23, Commissioner Riley toured GMS to see first hand the exciting projects in process. Tomorrow, October 25, Lt. Governor Polito is coming to GMS for a similar visit. The response from students, staff and parents/guardians is overwhelmingly positive.

Rodman Foundation Donation: Thanks to the generosity of the Rodman Foundation, fifty CHS students and staff were afforded the opportunity to attend the Lion King production at the Citizen Bank Opera House on October 15. This particular production was special as it was dedicated in memory of Don Rodman. After the production, CHS students sent a thank you video to the Rodman Foundation showing their appreciation.

Visit to the State House: Students of the Bulldog Bistro and the Canton Cafe received a special invitation to the State House by Senator Walter Timilty. We are very appreciative of Senator Timilty's generosity and his willingness to highlight the work of the CHS students and staff.

CHS Athletics: Four of our fall sports teams, Golf, Football, Volleyball, and Field Hockey are Hockomock League Davenport Division Champions. Girls Soccer is on the road to the state tournament. They and the Boys Soccer team played at Gillette Stadium on Tuesday, October 22, in a series of games with Sharon High School.

Cross Country teams are having a great season and competing in the Hock Championships this weekend. The Cheer team begins their competition season this upcoming week.

Updates

Parent-Teacher Conferences and Elementary Report Cards: After feedback from teachers and parents/guardians, adjustments have been made to the elementary parent/guardian conferences and report cards. Specifically relating to the calendar, adjustments to the fall schedule for elementary report cards and CHS fall conferences are as follows.

Fall conferences will take place on the following dates:

November 20 Early Release: GMS and all Elementary Schools

November 20 Evening: GMS

November 21 Evening: Elementary Schools

November 25 After School and Evening: CHS

Based on feedback from both families and educators, the October report card that included only 21st-century skills was eliminated. In addition, because the first conferences are in November (instead of October), educators will have sufficient time to come to know their children more deeply as learners. For that reason, the November conferences and December report cards will include information about academic growth and achievement as well as 21st-century skills.

Indicators of Excellence

2019 Wellness Coordinator of the Year: Mr. Ryan Gordy was chosen as the MIAA Wellness Coordinator of the Year. Ryan will be presented with this award during the 2019 Wellness Summit tomorrow morning. With Mr. Folan, we are honoring Mr. Gordy at this evening's meeting.

International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE)-Certified Educator:

Congratulations to Ms. Sara Donovan, our new K-5 STEM Coordinator, on achieving the distinction of becoming an ISTE-Certified Educator. This recognition is awarded to educators who have successfully demonstrated competency in the ISTE Standards for Educators.

Important Dates and Events

Oct. 25	Dedication for Brooke Stephens, 3:30 pm, Dean S. Luce Upper Playground
Oct. 30	Early Release, PreK-5, Common Planning
Nov. 2	Canton Stock, 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm, CHS
Nov. 5	No School, Election Day, PD Day For All Staff
Nov. 7	School Committee, 7:00 pm, CHS DLL

F. Student Member: Fatima Alyaquob spoke about her visits to the Luce School and GMS during STEAM Week. At the Luce, Fatima observed students investigating a mystery connected to climate change as to why certain fish were dying. At GMS, in their first year of doing a full week of STEAM projects, she noted students were engaged and could be inspired by projects they worked on this week to strengthen their interest in the fields of science and math.

G. New Business:

1. JSA Fall Congress Travel Request: Mr. Derek Folan and 3 members of JSA requested a vote of approval to attend the Fall Congress event from November 23-24, 2019 at the Omni Providence Hotel in Providence, RI.

Move to approve JSA out of state travel request to Providence RI on November 23-24, 2019: Reuki Schutt

Second: Nichola Gallagher

Vote: 5-0

2. Rodman Scholarship Vote of Approval: Mr. Derek Folan presented a new CHS scholarship for review and vote of approval.

Move to approve Don and Marilyn Rodman Scholarship in the amount of \$5000: Reuki Schutt
Second: Nichola Gallagher
Vote: 5-0

3. MIAA Policy Update: Mr. Derek Folan requested a vote of approval to update the MIAA policy with the following language added “prior to any chemical health violation, a student’s request for and enrollment in a substance abuse treatment shall not in and of itself constitute a violation of the chemical health/alcohol/drugs/tobacco.” (Rule 62)

Move to approve the above language change to the MIAA policy:
Reuki Schutt
Second: Nichola Gallagher
Vote: 5-0

H. Old Business:

1. Capital Budget: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller and Mr. Barry Nectow highlighted and reviewed changes to the Capital Budget. After some discussion and clarifying questions, it was agreed that line item # 6, Fitness Center upgrades at GMS would be partially funded and the adjustment would come from line item #16, HVAC district maintenance which would be adjusted accordingly. Line item #50, CHS Auditorium Updates was also adjusted and spread out over a four year period. A complete copy of the Capital Summary is available online under the School Committee Reports tab. A vote to approve the Cash Capital Requests with the above changes was made.

Move to approve the FY21 Cash Capital Budget with changes stated:
Reuki Schutt
Second: Nichola Gallagher
Vote: 5-0

Mr. Nectow reviewed the final 5-year debt capital plan.

Move to approve the FY21 Debt Capital Budget: Nichola Gallagher
Second: Maureen Moran
Vote: 5-0

- I. Business Manager’s Report: Mr. Nectow reported on the Student Opportunities Act. It has passed the House and Senate. There are differences mainly with regard to accountability. It will now go back to the Committee.

H. Routine Matters:

1. Approve Minutes dated October 10, 2019

Move: Nichola Gallagher
Second: Kristian Merenda
Vote: 5-0
2. Mr. Nectow reported that the warrant dated November 1, 2019 was reviewed and signed by Maureen Moran.

I. Sub-Committee Reports:

1. CPC - Nichola Gallagher - nothing to report.
 2. BRC - Kristian Merenda - nothing to report.
 3. Wellness- Maureen Moran - Committee will continue to meet to establish policy and review the wellness policy every three years.
 4. Finance - Reuki Schutt/Maureen Moran - nothing new to report.
 5. Policy - Kristin Mirliani – nothing to report.
 6. PRHC – Nichola Gallagher - had a full committee meeting this week. Looking at volunteer opportunities for students and the idea of working with CHS Career Center.
 7. Ad Hoc Calendar Advisory - Maureen Moran will be submitting information to members in the upcoming weeks for review. She has reached out to unions for representation. She will continue to work on formulating the complete Committee composition.
- J. Future Business: Next School Committee Meeting will be held Thursday, November 7, 2019 @ 7:00 in the Distance Learning Lab at CHS.
- K. Other Business: No report
- L. Adjournment: Reuki Schutt motioned to close Open Session at 9:03 pm. Nichola Gallagher seconded. It was voted 5-0.

5 yeas 0 nays