

Town of Canton  
Canton School Committee Minutes of the Meeting of November 7, 2019  
Canton High School Distance Learning Lab

- A. Call to Order: The meeting of the School Committee is called to order at 7:01 pm by Chair Kristin Mirliani. Chair Mirliani announced that Executive Session was canceled.

Present are:

Kristin Mirliani  
Nichola Gallagher  
Reuki Schutt (left at 8:03 pm)  
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: Ms. Catherine Hoberg spoke about the need for education and responsible use at the elementary level before chromebooks are issued to students. She suggested that there is a need to educate children on how to use the tools we are providing them. Ms. Hoberg also talked about the need to teach kids about what a trusted adult is. She also asked when the JFK make up day will be, she asked that it not be the last day of school. Ms. Hoberg also asked about the status of the OOD Coordinator. Finally, she commented that the CAPT members and leadership need a thank you for the time they volunteer.
- C. Student Member: Corinne Stevens talked about her visits to the Hansen and JFK. STEAM brought a lot of hands on learning to both schools. She met with Mr. Martin, Technology Teacher at the Hansen, they spoke about the elementary Robotics programs. CHS students go to Hansen to work on projects with kids. JFK had a Pawsome bfast, and they had an assembly on self awareness. Kids excited with new literacy approach and they are increasing their reading stamina.
- D. Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller reported on the following events:

**Superintendent Activities Highlights**

CantonStock/MusicCounts!: Students in grades 2-12 performing groups were a part of the day, including chorus, band, orchestra, mallets, jazz band, and a cappella. This year's Cantonstock t-shirt and program featured a "DR" in tribute to Don Rodman who recently passed away and has been a long-time contributor to the performing arts department.

School to Careers Board Meeting: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller attended the School to Careers Board meeting on November 4. The School to Career Partnership offers our

students to experience not only a specific career for a day but also to learn transferable skills that will follow the student well beyond their years at Canton High School.

### **Updates**

**All-Day Professional Development:** CPS held a full-day PD day on Tuesday, November 5. Topics included Project Based Learning and content-specific professional development.

### **Indicators of Excellence**

**“C” How We Read:** Thanks to the efforts of Ms. Rebecca Ashley and other CHS staff, CHS celebrated the second official “C” How We Read day in C building of Canton High School. This event takes place one Friday per month and is geared toward celebrating the joy of reading and building a culture of reading, that also raises students' voices and sense of agency.

**Community Outreach:** Thank you to our Director of Food Service for her kind gesture and collaboration in working with the Canton Public Library to provide lunch to many of our students on early release days. CPS does not provide lunch on early release days, therefore Ms. Martha Lawless worked with the Canton Public Library to provide lunch for the many students that go there on early release afternoons.

### **Important Dates and Events**

Nov. 11	No School, Veterans Day
Nov. 13	Elementary Title 1 Information Night, 5:30-6:30 pm, Dean S. Luce
Nov. 14-17	CHS Fall Play, Thursday – Saturday 7:00-9:30 pm, Sunday 2:00-5:30 pm, CHS Auditorium
Nov. 18	CAASA Event, Kevin Stevens: The Road to Recovery, 6:30 pm, CHS Auditorium (flyer attached)
Nov. 19	CHS National Honor Society Induction, 7:00 pm, CHS Auditorium
Nov. 20	Early Release, Parent Conferences, PreK-8, Afternoon & Evening
Nov. 21	Parent Conferences, PreK-5, Evening
Nov. 21	School Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm, DLL
Nov. 25	Parent Conferences, CHS, Evening

### E. **New Business**

1. Peru/Amazon Rain Forest Travel Request: Mr. Derek Folan, Ms. Rebecca Stang, and Mr. Joel Chamberlain spoke about the details of the trip and requested a vote of approval for a CHS Scientific Expedition Volunteer Trip abroad from February 7-18, 2021. Ms. Moran would like to have further conversations with Committee members regarding future travel requests and the cost associated with them. She would like to see an explanation of fundraising associated with future trip approvals and how it will offset the cost for students.

**Move to approve the travel abroad trip to Peru in February, 2021:**

Nichola Gallagher

**Second:** Kristian Merenda

**Vote:** 5-0

2. Performing Arts NYC Travel Request: Mr. Derek Folan requested a vote of approval to visit NYC on April 4-5, 2020 with members of the Performing Arts program.

**Move to approve the Performing Arts NYC:** Reuki Schutt

**Second:** Nichola Gallagher

**Vote:** 5-0

3. Canton Alliance Against Substance Abuse (CAASA) Scholarship Vote of Approval: Mr. Derek Folan presented a new CHS scholarship for review and vote of approval.

**Move to approve the \$500 CAASA Scholarship:** Reuki Schutt

**Second:** Nichola Gallagher

**Vote:** 5-0

4. FY20 1st Quarter Financial Report: Mr. Barry Nectow presented the FY20 first-quarter report. Highlights of the report are: The FY20 voted budget is \$44,114,362. The FY20 operating budget is comprised of salaries totaling \$39,358,190 and expenses totaling \$7,618,457. Salary expense makes up 84% of the operating budget. The combined total of salaries, out-of-district tuitions, transportation and utilities, totaling \$45,057,922, makes up 96% of the operating budget. School Department total spending the total annual sum of funds projected to operate the school district for FY20 is \$48,691,296, an increase of \$3,006,296 (6.88%) over FY19. The major components of the total school department spending are: Operating Budget (Adjusted with Prior Year Encum.) \$46,976,647 Revolving Funds \$ 2,676,934 Special Education Reserve Account \$ 700,000 Grants (Projected) \$ 1,200,000 Total \$48,691,296. A complete copy of the report can be found on the website under the School Committee tab.

5. Revolving Accounts: Mr. Nectow reviewed the Revolving Accounts expenditures and balances. Practically speaking, revolving funds are used to support a wide variety educational and educational related programs such as food service, transportation and athletics. Fees such as lunch revenue and user fees are deposited in the applicable revolving account and the expenses for the program are paid from it. The Canton Public School uses revolving account revenue to supplement program expenses over and above the operating budget. The excess cost is covered by revenue collected and deposited into revolving accounts (The Canton Public Schools also annually applies for and receives federal and state grants totaling approximately \$1,000,000, which is also used to offset the operating budget.) The Canton Public Schools uses two methods of offsetting the operating

budget with revolving funds: 1) Directly charging the revolving account for expenses such as the expenses to operate the food service program and 2) Transferring expenses, through an accounting entry, out of the operating budget and into the applicable revolving account. Chair Mirliani suggested that given the large balance in the Gate Revolving Account, she would like to consider that we do not charge for students to attend games; free admission to all games for all students with their school ID. The Committee agreed to consider this option. A complete copy of the revolving account report can be found on the website under the School Committee tab.

6. CCPC Proposal: Mr. Nectow presented the full CCPC proposal for the Galvin Basketball Courts for a vote of approval. The work will consist of resurfacing, new posts, new backboards new ribbons and nets. Total cost is \$39,097. CPS will contribute \$3,900. The total CCPC request is \$35,097.

**Move to approve the CCPC proposal for the GMS basketball courts :**

**Move:** Nichola Gallagher

**Second:** Kristian Merenda

**Vote:** 4-0

F. Old Business: None

G. Business Manager's Report: No report

H. Routine Matters:

1. Approve Minutes dated October 24, 2019

**Move:** Nichola Gallagher

**Second:** Kristian Merenda

**Vote:** 4-0

2. Approve Executive Minutes dated October 24, 2019.

**Move:** Kristian Merenda

**Second:** Nichola Gallagher

**Vote:** 4-0

3. Mr. Nectow reported that the warrant dated November 15, 2019, will be reviewed and signed by Maureen Moran this evening.

I. Sub-Committee Reports

1. CPC - Nichola Gallagher.- Nothing to report
2. BRC - Kristian Merenda - Nothing to report
3. Wellness- Maureen Moran - Nothing to report
4. Finance - Reuki Schutt/Maureen Moran - Took a first look at Operating Budget. It will be presented to the full Committee at the next meeting.
5. Policy - Kristin Mirliani – Nothing to report.
6. PRHC – Nichola Gallagher - Nothing to report
7. Ad Hoc Calendar Advisory - Maureen Moran - Shared information with Committee members earlier. Continues to move forward with the planning.

J. Future Business: Next School Committee Meeting will be held Thursday, November 21, 2019 @ 7:00 in the Distance Learning Lab at CHS.

4                      yeas                      0                      nays