

Town of Canton
Canton School Committee Minutes of the Meeting of February 3, 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 5:08 pm. Motion to go into Executive Session made by Nichola Gallagher 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 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 3-0.

Kristian Merenda	yea
Nichola Gallagher	yea
Maureen Moran	yea (arrived at 5:09 pm)
Kendall O'Halloran	yea
Laura Arboleda	yea (arrived at 5:09 pm)

- B. Open Session: Chair Merenda called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

Present are:

Kristian Merenda
Nichola Gallagher
Maureen Moran
Kendall O'Halloran
Laura Arboleda

Also Present:

Derek Folan, Interim Superintendent
Stephen Marshall, Director of Finance and Operations
Colleen Hutchinson, Recording Secretary
Public
Press
Staff

- C. Student Member Report and Student Advisory Committee Introductions: Madeline Pushard discussed her visit at the Luce School. Madeline shared recent Luce activities and initiatives including, Black History Month, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) committee work, the recent play, upcoming Boosterthon, cultural awareness and more.

- D. Interim Superintendent's Report:

Interim Superintendent Highlights

Interim Superintendent Folan thanked custodial and maintenance staff for working around the clock to clear nearly 2 feet of snow, and ensuring that we were able to open school on Monday.

Hansen Kindness Week took place from January 24 - January 28. Activities were shared.

PreK Lottery Open House: welcomed approximately thirty prospective families to their open house last week. These families were interested in community peer slots for the 2022-2023 school year. Open houses were offered in-person and virtually to meet the needs of all families. The preschool will hold a lottery the week of February 7 for available spots for the next school year. Parents and guardians will be notified of lottery results by mail the week of February 14.

Bank of Canton Donation: Thank you to the Bank of Canton for their generous donation of \$2,460 for the renovation of the Arts Courtyard. The renovated courtyard will be utilized as an outdoor learning space and classroom, connecting the Art and Performing Arts building hallways.

Events/Acknowledgements This Month

School Counselor Appreciation Week is February 7-11. Thank you to all Counselors.

Black History Month is celebrated in February. It is a time to celebrate the accomplishments and history of African Americans. The theme for this year is Black Health and Wellness. Our schools will be engaging in many in-class learning and school-based activities to celebrate Black History Month.

Lunar New Year was celebrated on February 1, 2022.

Updates

Star Reports: STAR Assessment reports were sent home to parents last Friday. The STAR Assessment is one source of data that staff use to monitor student progress in math and reading.

Champions of Excellence

Kiara Cerutti Scores her 1,000th point: Congratulations to Senior Kiara Cerutti on scoring her 1,000 point as a member of the girls basketball player in Canton High School.

JFK Big Brother/Big Sister Program: The CHS Leadership Class students started their community leadership action plan last week. The high school students are piloting a Big Brother/Big Sister program in collaboration with a JFK 4th grade classroom. Members would like to hear feedback on what the long term plan is for this piloted program.

C How We Read: The CHS English Department is again sponsoring the *C How We Read* initiative.

Performing Arts and Visual Arts Recognitions and Updates:

Emerging Young Artists (EYA) Juried Exhibition 2022: Two CHS senior Advanced Placement Art & Design students had their work accepted into this very competitive juried exhibition.

All State Music Festival: Two students were accepted into the Massachusetts All-State Music Festival. They will perform at Symphony Hall this spring.

Southeast Junior Districts Festival: Five students auditioned for and were accepted into the Southeast Junior Districts Festival.

Luce Musical: We Are Monsters was performed on Friday, January 28. Due to the impending blizzard over the weekend, only one performance was held.

Band step-up day was held on Monday, January 31, and the Chorus step-up day at CHS was held on Wednesday, February 2, 2022.

Important Dates and Events

Feb. 10	8th Grade Open House/Program of Studies Night, 6:00 pm, CHS Cafeteria
Feb. 10	Course Selection Night, Upper Classman, 7:00 pm, CHS Cafeteria

Feb. 11	PreK-12 Early Release, Professional Development
Feb. 11-12	JFK Musical- Moana Jr., CHS Auditorium, 7:00 pm
Feb. 17	School Committee Meeting, CHS DLL, 6:00 pm
Feb. 21	District Office Closed, President's Day
Feb. 21-25	No School -February Vacation

- E. Teaching and Learning Report: Dr. Meredith Chamberland shared details on how CPS Counselors work with students on the process of course selection and how CPS prepares students for graduation and beyond. Staff is continually looking for ways to break down barriers and broaden options to meet the interests of students. For additional information and a full report, see the School Committee webpage, Meetings/Agendas/Minutes.

F. Unfinished Business:

1. FY23 Budget Discussion: Mr. Marshall requested a vote of approval for the preliminary FY23 Budget. Fincom will set targets later in the month then the budget will be brought forward again with any new information at a future meeting. All budget documents can be found on the School Committee webpage under Meetings/Agendas/Minutes.

Motion to approve the preliminary FY23 Budget in the amount of \$50,424,778:

Nichola Gallagher

Seconded: Laura Arboleda

Vote: 5-0

G. New Business:

1. CHS and GMS Program of Studies: Dr. Chamberland, Mr. Sperling, Ms. Shannon, Dr. Green and Mr. Spillane presented the CHS and GMS Program of Studies. Dr. Chamberland and Principal Sperling highlighted changes. Some examples of CHS changes include the reorganization of the mathematics department scope and sequence, course names changes to more accurately reflect the learning that takes place in the courses, more detailed information about the level of language acquisition throughout French, German, and Spanish, change of the letter "E" to the letter "F" to align with middle school and common secondary school practice and others. Ms. Moran asked that the document be made available in a hard copy/pdf format for families and the Committee to be able to compare and monitor changes in courses offered from previous years. Members requested that the information be shared in different ways for families to be able to access and view the information within the Google Site and off of the site.

Motion to approve the CHS Program of Studies: Nichola Gallagher

Seconded: Laura Arboleda

Abstain: Maureen Moran

Vote: 4-0-1

Ms. Shannon reviewed the GMS changes which included the reorganization of the Mathematics Department scope and sequence, revised course names, World Language included more detailed information about the level of language acquisition for French and Spanish and added a newly developed course, an added Student Services section, updates to the resources used in English and Reading, updated Social Studies curriculum and standards based on the recent, frameworks changes the removed sections that were out of date and no longer applicable (study skills, appendices, etc) and the re-alignment of the Technology & Engineering courses. Like the CHS POS, there was a request for a pdf format for families and the school committee to view and track all changes. There was also a request to share/link the DESE frameworks summary page on the google site.

Motion to approve the GMS Program of Studies: Nichola Gallagher

Seconded: Kendall O'Halloran

Abstain: Maureen Moran

Vote: 4-0-1

Next week is Program of Studies night for both upperclassman and 8th graders.

2. CHS Scholarship Approval: After sharing background information, Mr. Sperling presented the Jeanette Winthrop Scholarship for review and a vote of approval. Scholarship requirements were shared. There was a request to highlight all scholarships and the scholarship application process at a future meeting.

Motion to approve the Jeanette Winthrop Scholarship in the amount of \$20,000 as an annual scholarship: Nichola Gallagher

Seconded: Maureen Moran

Vote: 5-0

3. COVID-19 Updates: Mr. Folan shared COVID-19 vaccination updates. CHS is currently at 78% vaccination rate for students and staff. At home antigen tests were handed out to students today. The next distribution is in two weeks. This is an opt-in program. DESE released new protocols, CPS Nursing is reviewing those minor changes and will be brought forward to the policy subcommittee meeting for initial review.
4. GMS Make-Up Days: Mr. Folan discussed options pertaining to plans to make up the two required GMS school days. The first suggestion is to make the March 11 full PD day a ½ day for GMS for students to make up on that day. The second day will require additional work. Staff and families will be asked for feedback via a survey regarding the 2nd makeup day.

Motion to approve March 11 as one of the 2 make-up days for GMS:

Nichola Gallagher

Seconded: Kendall O'Halloran

Vote: 5-0

5. Interim Superintendent Formative Assessment: Mr. Folan reported on the progress made on District goals and Superintendent goals. School Committee members offered their feedback and discussed progress. Communication was acknowledged as a strong suit. Some feedback included the need to develop a plan to diversify staff, continued transparency around actions and discussions, continue to explore an equity audit and hold a workshop in the near future, the need for continued focus on attention to academic rigor and continuum in learning across all schools, a request to promote and build on climate change and sustainability options as a District. The formal summative assessment will take place in May.

H. Public Comment: None

I. Director of Finance and Operations Report: Nothing to report

J. Consent Agenda:

Motion to approve the consent agenda with the Open Session Minutes of 1/20/22 pulled and the Field Trip pulled for further consideration: Nichola Gallagher

Seconded: Kendall O'Halloran

The Consent Agenda passed unanimously: 5-0

The following items were included in the Consent Agenda:

Executive Session Minutes: January 20, 2022

Warrant: February 4, 2022

There was a request to look further into the cost of the CHS Overnight Travel Request: DECA Competition at Marriott Copley Place, March 10-12, 2022. Ms. Moran inquired about the cost per night and if there was an option for students to not stay overnight to save on cost. Mr. Marshall explained that

there was a requirement to stay overnight for this event as there are many night events. Mr. Folan explained that money would not get in the way of anyone attending the event. The discussion about fees and cost of field trips will be taken up again during a finance subcommittee meeting.

Motion to approve the CHS Overnight Travel Request: Nichola Gallagher

Seconded: Maureen Moran

Vote: 5-0

Regular Session Minutes of January 20, 2022 pulled from the Consent Agenda for further review.

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

- 2 CCPC applications were approved: GMS basketball court supplemental funding and Hansen playground. The Gibson field lighting was not approved this year
- Communications: Upcoming newspaper ad to highlight Elementary School CAPTs and GMS CAPTs
- TEC Legislative meeting tomorrow, Ms. Gallagher will attend
- MASC Legislative student orientation upcoming
- CPS staff member Heather Lazaro joined the DCTF. No one was turned away from the task force. The Task Force has a strong focus on inclusion
- As part of the District's Planning and Evaluation process design, the School Committee will determine the process of the summative assessment soon.
- Comprehensive Financial Review will be sharing a summary memo with the full Committee at the next meeting
- MPIC is still meeting 1x/month
- BRC is resuming
- Norfolk County Sheriffs task force met last week. They are bringing the Handle with Care initiative to the community
- Sustainability committee meetings taking place. Schools and the community are working on promoting and improving recycling practices. Community-wide clean-up events are upcoming centered around Earth Day in April

L. Other Business: None

M. Future Business: Next School Committee meeting will be held Thursday, February 17, 2022, @ 6:00 pm in the Distance Learning Lab at CHS.

N. Adjournment: Nichola Gallagher motioned to close the Open Session at 9:30 pm. Maureen Moran seconded. It was voted 5-0.

5 yeas

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nays

Documents Used During the Meeting:

1. Superintendent's Report dated February 3, 2022
2. FY23 Superintendent Budget Message
3. FY23 Superintendent's Budget Request Details
4. FY23 Superintendent Budget Message ppt
5. Course Selection Process for T & L Report
6. Jeannette Winthrop Scholarship
7. Highlighted Changes to GMS and CHS Program of Studies 2022
8. Program of Studies Google Site, GMS and CHS
9. CHS Overnight Travel Request
10. Memo GMS Make-Up Days
11. Interim Superintendent's Formative Assessment
12. Vaccination Update - 2/3/22