

Town of Canton
Canton School Committee Minutes of the Meeting of March 24, 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 5:03 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, 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. Will return to Open Session. It was voted by roll call 4-0.

Present are:

Kristian Merenda, School Committee Chair
Nichola Gallagher, School Committee Vice Chair
Maureen Moran, School Committee Clerk (arrived at 5:10 pm)
Kendall O'Halloran, School Committee Member
Laura Arboleda, School Committee Member

B. The Committee reconvened in Open Session meeting at 6:09 pm.

Also Present:

Derek Folan, Superintendent
Stephen Marshall, Director of Finance and Operations
Public
Press
Staff

C. Student Member Report and Student Advisory Committee Introductions: Ms. Hannah Wang visited JFK. She spoke with students about a therapy dog that visited the school, the fundraiser Raise Craze, no masks in school and more.

D. Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent's Highlights

Mass Teachers Association (MTA) Educational Support Professional (ESP) Award:

Congratulations to Hansen Educational Assistant Naomi Akan for being awarded the 2022 MTA ESP of the year.

Congratulations to Kiara Cerutti and Fay Gallery for scoring 1,000 points for the girls basketball team. Senator Timilty presented and read a citation for both girls from both the House and Senate.

Hansen Ukraine Fundraiser: Ms. Lauren Mahan's 4th-grade class raised \$1,111.53 to donate to Ukraine.

CHS Girls and Boys Hockey Championship Games: Took place at the TD Garden on Sunday, March 20. Although the outcome was not what either team had hoped for, both teams showed an excellent display of sportsmanship, effort, and skill by both teams.

GMS Unified Basketball -- Last week, was the first-ever GMS Unified Basketball team.

Events/Acknowledgements This Month

National Down Syndrome Day: March 21 is World Down Syndrome Day (WDSO) as declared by the United Nations General Assembly in December 2011.

Updates

March 11 PD Day Overview: There was a lot happening across the District on Friday, March 11. Some of our staff were engaged in professional learning, some were doing curriculum work and others collaborated on creating a shared vision.

CAPT Fundraisers: So far, the *Luce Boosterthon* has raised about \$9,000 in its fundraising efforts. The event closes next week with a final shine sprint on Tuesday.

Additionally, the *JFK Raise Craze* fundraiser has collected \$37,801 in donations from 3/7-3/18.

Indicators of Excellence

CHS National Merit Scholarship: Congratulations to the following students on earning the distinction of being named National Merit Scholarship Finalists.

Warda Ahmed

Suraj Ramanathan

Hannah Wang

Alison Ye

Prism and Fresh Ink: Highlight of the CHS Literary Online Magazine *Prism* that shows the work of the many talented writers and artists featured in this Winter edition.

Fresh Ink is the GMS Literary Magazine and the editors and advisors are now encouraging students to submit their work.

Massachusetts Art Education Association (MAEA): Canton High School students' work is being showcased in this year's MAEA Youth Art Month Online Exhibition.

CHS Spring Musical, Grease: Congratulations to the cast, crew and staff who organized and participated in *Grease* this past weekend.

Important Dates and Events

March 29	CHS Spring Concert I, CHS Auditorium, 7:00 pm
April 1	CHS Spring Concert II, CHS Auditorium, 7:00 pm
April 6	School Committee Meeting, CHS DLL, Wednesday , 6:00 pm
April 8	Early Release, PreK-5, Parent Conferences
April 15	No School, Good Friday (Possible GMS ½ Day)
April 18-22	No School, April Vacation

- E. Teaching and Learning Report: Ms. Heidi Olson provided an overview of the World Language Department programs in the District. MA Frameworks were reviewed. The MA Seal of Biliteracy is an initiative that Canton is in the second year of doing. Students are recognized for being bi-literate. Ms. Olson applied for and received 2 grants this year. Language activities and offerings at each level were shared, including summer offerings. Ms. Arboleda and Ms. Moran expressed the importance of

languages being part of the curriculum at the Elementary level. The next step is suggested to be discussed at a summer strategic planning meeting. For additional information and a full report, see the School Committee webpage, Meetings/Agendas/Minutes.

F. New Business Item:

1. JFK CAPT Spotlight: JFK CAPT President Noreen Rowland and Vice President Pricilla Lourenco shared highlights and fundraising efforts of this school year. The operational costs of fundraisers, i.e. police detail, building rentals, and custodial costs are being discussed with the District so a funding plan can be outlined for future events. They thanked individual members for their contributions and discussed current and anticipated openings for volunteer posts.
2. JFK School Spotlight and JFK CAPT Spotlight/Honors: Principal DiDonna and Team Chair Administrator, Kate Gallahue shared school highlights and honored the work of the school support groups. Discussion ensued about building-based collaboration teams, Instructional Models, and how data is used to adjust instruction. Other Professional Development and Collaboration efforts were discussed. Extracurricular and other fundraising activities were shared.

Action Items Requested:

- Incorporate technology into the curriculum elementary level
 - Rotation of students/teacher for subject areas in 5th grade
 - Leadership classes with CHS offered at all elementary schools
3. DECA Update and Preliminary Out of State Travel Request: Mr. Sperling shared a DECA update and requested approval for 2 student members who qualified to attend a competition out of state. Mr. Sperling will come back with additional information once fundraising efforts are complete. Ms. Moran would like to further discuss travel costs to families for field trips and the practice of travel taking place during the school day and the impact this practice has on students learning experience in the classroom while teachers are out of the classroom.

Motion to Approve the DECA Out of State Travel Request in Atlanta GA from

4/23/22-4/27/22: Kendall O'Halloran

Seconded: Maureen Moran

Vote: 5-0

4. CHS Scholarship Approval: Mr. Sperling presented the Alan B. Dewey Scholarship for review. This scholarship is intended to be offered each year.

Motion to Approve the Alan B. Dewey Scholarship: Nichola Gallagher

Seconded: Maureen Moran

Vote: 5-0

5. World Language Out-of-Country Travel Approvals: Ms. Heidi Olson requested a vote of approval for 4 2022-2023 school year out-of-country trips. Ms. Olson reviewed the cost and other trip details.

Montreal, Canada - April 16-18, 2023

Motion to Approve the GMS Montreal, Canada Out of Country Trip: Nichola Gallagher

Second: Maureen Moran

Vote: 5-0

Quebec, Canada - March 2-4, 2023

Motion to Approve the CHS Quebec, Canada Out of Country Trip: Nichola Gallagher

Second: Maureen Moran

Vote: 5-0

Costa Rica April 14-22, 2023 - Approximate Cost is \$3,000 - A more accurate number will be available 11 months in advance of the date

Motion to Approve the CHS Costa Rica Trip: Nichola Gallagher

Second: Maureen Moran

Vote: 5-0

German Exchange - Canton in Fall, Oct 1-22, 2022 and Germany in Spring, April 5-25, 2023

Motion to Approve the German Exchange Trip: Nichola Gallagher

Second: Laura Arboleda

Vote: 5-0

G. Public Hearing On School Choice SY 2022-2023:

Motion to open School Choice Public Hearing Pursuant to G.L. c.76, section 12B: Laura Arboleda

Second: Maureen Moran

Vote: 5-0

There was no public comment pertaining to School Choice for the year 2022-2023

Motion to close School Choice Public Hearing: Nichola Gallagher

Second: Laura Arboleda

Vote: 5-0

Motion to withdraw CPS from the School Choice Program: Nichola Gallagher

Second: Laura Arboleda

Vote: 5-0

H. FY23 Budget Public Hearing:

Motion to open FY23 Budget Public Hearing Consistent with the Provisions of Chapter 71, Section 38N of the Massachusetts General Laws : Nichola Gallagher

Second: Kendall O'Halloran

Vote: 5-0

There was no public comment pertaining to FY23 Budget.

The Committee discussed some budget items such as the GMS Electives Teacher, and the possibility of surveying parents to see what electives they'd prefer, the AP music teacher, which members would like to revisit next year and monitor, and the GMS Instructional Coach. (Ms. O'Halloran stepped out of the room briefly).

Motion to Close FY23 Budget Public Hearing: Nichola Gallagher

Second: Laura Arboleda

Vote: 4-0

Motion to Approve the FY23 Budget in the Amount of \$50,658,405: Maureen Moran

Second: Laura Arboleda

Vote: 4-0

I. New Business

1. GMS Make-Up Day Update: Superintendent Folan made a recommendation for the GMS to make up the final day on Good Friday, April 15, 2023. A survey was conducted and approximately 75% of staff, families, and students opted for this date.

Motion to Approve the GMS Makeup day on Friday, April 15, 2022, ½ day: Nichola Gallagher

Seconded: Kendall O'Halloran

Vote: 5-0

2. School Year Calendars: Superintendent Folan presented the 2022-2023 school calendar for a 1st read. The proposed first day of school for staff is August 29, 2022, and the 1st day of school for

grades 1-12 would be Wednesday, August 31, no school on Friday, Sept. 2 for a long weekend. Sept. 6 would be the Kindergarten start date and Sept. 7 would be the PreK start date. After reviewing the Early release survey results and data analysis, Friday is the preferred choice for early release day. An updated 2021-2022 school year calendar was shared noting Tuesday, June 21, 2022, as the last day of school.

3. COVID-19 Update: Superintendent Folan provided updated vaccination rates. CHS at 81%.
4. Assistant Superintendent Contract: Chair Merenda shared the terms of Assistant Superintendent Shannon's contract. Terms include 2 years, beginning July 1, 2022. \$163,343 for year 1 with a 2% increase in year 2, \$166,610. Tuition reimbursement for grad school, and total reimbursement not to exceed \$10,000, with the Superintendent's approval.

Motion to Approve the Assistant Superintendent Contract as Written :

Nichola Gallagher

Seconded: Kendall O'Halloran

Abstain: Mauren Moran

Vote: 4-0-1

J. Public Comment: none

K. Director of Finance and Operations Report: Transportation sign up for next year will be going out soon. Mr. Marshall gave an athletic transportation update. There is a shortage of bus drivers, therefore, the District is proposing the allow students/families to provide their own transportation to athletic events. A waiver will need to be signed. The draft waiver was shared. As part of a grant, the CPS Nursing Dept. proposes bringing the Forsyth Dental Program to the District. Any willing family/child can enroll with required consent from the parent/guardian.

L. Consent Agenda:

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda: Nichola Gallagher

Seconded: Laura Arboleda

The Consent Agenda passed unanimously: 3-0

The following items were included in the Consent Agenda:

Open Session Minutes: March 10, 2022

Executive Session Minutes: March 10, 2022

Warrant dated March 25, 2022

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

- CPA Survey is still open
- Communications ads in the paper this week and upcoming ads were shared
- The calendar task force will work with Superintendent Folan to share findings
- MPIC asked for Schools to present on 4/14/22
- CAPT/CAPE continue conversations regarding musical fees and other costs that these groups incur

N. Other Business: Student Advisory Rep. Emma Cummings caught up with other student reps on March 5, 2022. The group talked about the importance of student voice and the student member report. The group also talked about other ways to post things to get students involved across the state. Other topics involved what the Student Representative role is and how it can be evolved.

O. Future Business: Next School Committee meeting will be held Wednesday, April 6, 2022, @ 6:00 pm in the Distance Learning Lab at CHS.

P. Adjournment: Maureen Moran motioned to close the Open Session at 10:10 pm. Kendall O'Halloran seconded. It was voted 5-0.

5 yeas 0 nays

Documents Used During the Meeting:

1. Superintendent's Report dated March 24, 2022
2. Superintendent's Budget FY23
3. World Language ppt Presentation
4. World Language Teaching and Learning Report
5. Advisory on the Inter-District School Choice
6. JFK CAPT presentation
7. JFK Spotlight presentation
8. 3/23/22 Vaccination Rates
9. Athletic Transportation Memo
10. Forsyth Kids and Teen Dental Program Memo
11. Alan B. Dewey Scholarship Approval