

Town of Canton
Canton School Committee Minutes of the Meeting of April 28, 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 5:10 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. 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 3-0.

Present are:

Kristian Merenda, School Committee Chair
Kendall O'Halloran, School Committee Vice Chair
Maureen Moran, School Committee Clerk
Nichola Gallagher, School Committee Member - Absent
Laura Arboleda, School Committee Member - Absent

B. The Committee reconvened in Open Session meeting at 6:07 pm.

Also Present:

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

C. **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Highlights

CHS Externship: CHS Senior Laura Correal shared her externship experience with the Honorable Judge Thomas Kaplanes out of Dorchester Municipal Court.

Curry College Partnership: Thanks to the efforts of Assistant Superintendent Shannon and Director Of Curriculum and Instruction Ms. Rooney, CPS has partnered with Curry College to offer staff the opportunity to earn a Master's Degree in Education in two different disciplines.

Events/Acknowledgements This Month

Administrative Assistant's Day: April 27 was National Administrative Assistant's Day.

Teacher Appreciation Week: Next week, May 2-6 is Teacher Appreciation Week.

School Nurses Day: May 11 marks School Nurse's Day.

Updates

Principal Search Updates: Ms. Sandra Watson was selected as the new JFK Principal, beginning July 1, 2022.

GMS Principal Finalist Days were held on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. Site visits for both Finalists, Mr. Jonathan Mulhern and Mr. Jim Spillane, are being scheduled for next week. Feedback

from the forums will be reviewed and additional reference checks will be conducted. After these next steps, an announcement of the next principal of Galvin Middle School will be made.

Canton Academy: Registration and course information about this summer's Canton Academy was sent out to parents and guardians prior to vacation. There are already 230 registrations.

Indicators of Excellence

CHS Courtyard: Thank you to the Bank of Canton and the Senior Class of 2020 for providing the funding to make the CHS Arts Courtyard renovation possible. The result is a beautiful and usable, multi-purpose outdoor learning space.

Hockomock Senate: On April 12-13, Canton High School hosted the Hockomock Senate. In this long-standing tradition, dating back to 1968, students from area schools come together to conduct a detailed simulation of the legislative process. Canton students who participated in this came from Mr. Hiltz's Political Science class. Representative Galvin addressed the Hock Senate and Town Moderator Alan Hines conducted the debate sessions.

District Annual Art Show: The annual spring art show once again in the CHS gymnasium. The show will include artwork from every art student in the district, PreK-12. This year's show will also feature a silent auction of artwork with proceeds benefiting the work that Doctors without Borders are doing to help Ukrainian refugees.

Important Dates and Events

May 6	Early Release, PreK-12
May 6-7	Hansen Musical, CHS Auditorium, 7:00 pm
May 12	School Committee Meeting, CHS DLL, 6:00 pm
May 13	CHS Drama - Cabaret, CHS Auditorium, 7:00 pm
May 17	Scholastic Honors Night, CHS Auditorium, 6:30 pm - Nichola Gallagher attending
May 19	World Language Recognition Night, CHS Auditorium, 6:00 pm, Laura Arboleda attending
May 20	K-12 Transportation Pay and Ride Applications Due
May 20	CHS Pops Concert, CHS Auditorium, 7:00 pm
May 23-26	District Annual Art Show, CHS Gym, 6:00 - 8:00 pm
May 25	Scholarship Night, CHS Auditorium, 6:30 pm, Kendall O'Halloran attending
May 26	School Committee, CHS DLL, 6:00 pm
May 30	No School, Memorial Day
May 31	CHS Performing Art Gala, CHS Auditorium, 6:00 pm

D. Teaching and Learning

Ms. Rooney, Ms. Cummings, Ms. Donovan and Mr. Devoid provided an update on the math program curriculum resources. The curriculum/program review for math was a lengthy and thorough process that engaged teachers in a variety of ways since July 2021. Many of the findings/recommendations have already been addressed and others are in process, including:

- Development of a new accelerated learning pathway at CHS for grades 9-11
- Revision of courses at GMS in grades 7 and 8 and CHS Alg 1, Geometry, and Algebra II
- Implementation of benchmark assessments with STAR Math in grades 1-5 and IXL in grades 6-12
- Revision of intervention cycles in grades 1-5 to better support students who have not met benchmark

An important component of this process was the curriculum materials review. Groups met separately by level, the priorities identified as important components of a new curriculum resource were consistent across levels, including:

- Standards alignment
- Online resources available for teachers, students and parents
- Differentiated supports built in
- High quality assessments
- Flexible scope and sequence that also supports spiraling of topics
- Real world connections and opportunities for project based and problem based learning

The committee considered nine programs recommended by DESE, reviewed information provided by EdReports and CURATE, and identified six that warranted further review. Math department teachers had the opportunity to review options and implement components of the curriculum. The process across multiple grades and schools has identified the McGraw-Hill Reveal Math curriculum as a resource that we believe will help improve our math outcomes for students. Quotes are being gathered for updated resources for AP Statistics and AP Microeconomics. In March 2022, CPS applied for a DESE grant to support accelerating math instruction. Initial approval has been received and we are in the process of working with the vendor, McGraw-Hill, to secure quotes for student and teacher materials and for professional development. This grant will result in over \$100,000 in savings to the district; DESE will fund the year 1 materials across K-12. Implementation will begin in September 2022. Teachers will have initial training to learn how to access the online resources and prepare for implementation in May and June. Additional professional development will continue through the 2022-23 school and beyond.

E. Unfinished Business

1. Policy Section A: Chair Merenda presented Section A for a 2nd read. MASC is working with the policy subcommittee to work through all policies and to ensure best practices are met and that all policies are vetted through their organization and with legal consult. The wellness subcommittee is meeting next month to review policy ADF.

Motion to Approve Section A of the CPS Policy Manual with the exception of policy ADF: Maureen Moran

Seconded: Kendall O'Halloran

Vote: 3-0

F. New Business

1. Luce CAPT Spotlight and Honors: The Luce CAPT members, Ms. Melanie Greitzer and Ms. Jenni Putnam presented highlights of their work during the past school year, thanked individual members, and discussed current and anticipated openings for volunteer posts.
2. Dean S. Luce School Spotlight: Principal Lamour shared Luce school highlights including grade-level activities, school-wide activities, after-school clubs, student-driven service projects, Tier 1 recognition program, SEL mini-series, and demographics.
3. 2022 Staff Conditions for Learning Survey Results: Superintendent Folan and Assistant Superintendent Shannon shared the results of the staff surveys, conditions for learning, and professional development survey. There were 278 total respondents. This staff survey, which was administered in February, was modeled after the community survey. Key takeaways were shared. Some trends include the need to rethink how we value staff culture, professional learning, support, etc, and social-emotional learning for all matters and needs to be prioritized, and sentiments that this year has been the hardest by far. Next steps include Administrators and CTA partnering to form a Professional Culture and Conditions Advisory Committee, resurvey staff before the end of the year and establish survey results for next year, feedback from staff will inform the development of short and long term planning and strategic processes and outcomes, Profession Learning Council (PLC)- survey, forums, and short and long term plans.

The PLC has already met and analyzed survey data and will use this to drive further professional learning. Key takeaways were shared including opportunities for staff to meet their professional responsibility for recertification and continuing education, finding meaningful professional learning opportunities, and others. The next steps include Unit A and E forums, planning for 2022-2023 PD days and developing a calendar, identifying PL needs.

Members shared their concerns with some staff comments from the survey, including student behaviors, class sizes, availability of materials and professional development, and talked about how to move forward. Members also discussed that the School Committee is the funding mechanism for the schools, and in that role, offered their assistance to address issues and concerns. They recommended that staff be surveyed again before the end of the school year.

4. 2022-2023 School Committee Meeting Calendar 1st Read: Chair Merenda presented the School Committee meeting calendar for the 2022-2023 academic year for a first read. The question was posed whether the Committee would meet 2x's/mo throughout the summer. The calendar will be presented for a 2nd read at the next meeting.
5. Master Planning Implementation Committee (MPIC) Update: Superintendent Folan and Mr. Marshall provided an update on the 2022 school report for the Town MPIC. Topics during these Town meetings include facilities topics, safety and security, sustainability, school fees, and others. It appears the schools are well suited and line up well with the Town master plan. The full report can be found on the website under the School Committee tab, meetings/agendas/minutes.
6. District Goals Updates: Superintendent Folan spoke about the following District goals:
 - Educator implementation strategies for increasing student voice by debriefing on learning experiences and reflecting on their growth and achievement.
 - The design of an action plan to address successes and issues identified in the District analysis around equity and budget accordingly for the possible Equity Audit.
 - Staff surveys around all professional development experiences, noting staff feedback/future interests and the PD's relevance, effectiveness and impact.
 - Curriculum alignment and unit development for the Massachusetts Framework for Social Studies standards, including civics, across the grade levels. Next week's T & L will address this topic.

- The administering and utilizing of the STAR assessment to address and develop student growth at the elementary level, and identify a benchmark assessment for the secondary levels. Ms. Rooney said that the 2nd year of STAR data is happening. Teachers are learning how to attach data in effort to analyze data and provide students with the support they need.

G. Public Comment: none

H. Director of Finance and Operations Report: Shared Annual Town Meeting is on May 9, @ 7:00 pm at CHS. Mr. Marshall shared the school articles. May 5 is the kickoff call for the MSBA.

I. Consent Agenda:

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda: Kendall O'Halloran
Seconded: Maureen Moran

The Consent Agenda passed unanimously: 3-0

The following items were included in the Consent Agenda:

Open Session Minutes: April 6, 2022
Executive Session Minutes: April 6, 2022
Warrant dated April 29, 2022

J. Sub-Committee, Task Force, and Liaison Post Updates: The reassignment of the Committees will take place at the next meeting as 2 members were not present this evening. There will not be a DCTF or Comprehensive Financial Review moving forward as work has been completed. Question if there is still a need for a liaison on PRHC.

- Emma Cummings, Student Advisory Member, shared her positive thoughts and experiences pertaining to CHS Cabaret. MASC officially recognized this student group. Directors have been identified. Emma is the Interim Director of Communications. She is attending a student representative conference next month, May 14. Would like to craft the student rep policy. Working on bi-laws, Billerica is an exemplar for reference.
- CAPT meeting this month focused on Elementary school plays and how they may be funded moving forward.
- Upcoming communications advertising timelines were shared.

K. Other Business:

L. Future Business: Next School Committee meeting will be held Thursday, May 12, 2022, @ 6:00 pm in the Distance Learning Lab at CHS.

M. Adjournment: Kendall O'Halloran motioned to close the Open Session at 9:18 pm. Maureen Moran seconded. It was voted 3-0.

3 yeas 0 nays

Documents Used During the Meeting:

1. Superintendent's Report dated April 28, 2022
2. Teaching and Learning Update: Math Program Review Report 2021-2022
3. 2022-2023 School Committee Meeting Calendar
4. Policy Section A
5. Luce CAPT presentation
6. Luce Spotlight presentation
7. Staff Survey Results
8. Canton Master Plan Action Plan 2022 Schools Report 4.14.22 v1