

Town of Canton
Canton School Committee Minutes of the Meeting of July 23, 2020
Remote Meeting due to COVID-19 School Closure
Zoom Webinar

- A. Call to Order: The meeting of the School Committee is called to order at 7:02 pm by Chair Mirliani via a roll call vote.

Kristin Mirliani	yea
Nichola Gallagher	yea
Kristian Merenda	yea
Maureen Moran	yea
Charles Rae	Absent

Also Remotely Present:

Dr. Jennifer Fischer-Mueller, Superintendent
Derek Folan, Assistant Superintendent
Barry Nectow, School Business Administrator
Colleen Hutchinson, Recording Secretary
Julie Shore, Director of Technology and Digital Learning
Debbie Rooney, Director of Teaching and Learning
Debra Bromfield, Director of Student Services
Dianna Mullen, new Director of Student Services
Elizabeth Nightingale, Nurse Leader
Donna Kilday, PreK-2 Early Childhood Coordinator

- B. Public Comment: As a pediatrician, Dr. Moneesha Narula-Isaac monitors all new information regarding COVID19 guidelines and younger children and offered to send links to the Committee. Dr. Moneesha Narula-Isaac expressed her concern about the use of public bathrooms. Worried about the contamination of surfaces in the bathrooms and the lack of ventilation. Also expressed concern with the fact that students may use a bathroom break as a mask break. Suggested the use of paper towels and not the hand dryers to eliminate the droplets from spreading within public bathrooms.

- C. New Business:

1. School Reopening Update: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller, Assistant Superintendent Folan, Mr. Nectow, Ms. Shore, Ms. Rooney, and Ms. Mullen provided an update on the school reopening plans. The various models presented last week were reviewed and then the Family Survey results were shared. 2,885 families responded to the survey. Takeaways included an analysis that the Hybrid 50/50 had the highest percentage of “yes” answers regarding sending a child to school (65 percent). Hybrid 50/50 with an AA (W) BB schedule had the highest percentage of preference (44 percent). It was acknowledged that there are safety concerns and questions, work and child care issues, and teaching and learning issues. The survey showed a high percentage of “unsure” for each model. Many variables include, internet access requires intervention for families that need support, transportation is a major consideration, student experience within the models is a major consideration. Several safety practices and protocols were reviewed that included staff training, wearing masks, hand hygiene, and cohorts of assigned seating. Protocols for individual exposure or individual positive tests were shared as well as protocols for potential school closure (part or full) or district closure. The

district is currently in the process of drafting enhanced cleaning protocols, developing specs for HVAC/air quality consultant, and installing hand soap and paper towels dispensers in all rooms with sinks. Safety equipment being ordered. The district is submitting a CARES Act reopening grant by the end of the week for \$742,000. The Administration shared that the district may need off-site classroom space in some models, school start and end times may need to shift and there may be a need to hire new staff. There are many transportation considerations. A lengthy discussion continued about addressing the whole child, teaching and learning, preschool considerations, digital learning, and technology. Hybrid models would include direct instruction, synchronous learning, robust asynchronous learning, connectedness, and instructional materials for use at home. The full remote distance learning model, for those families who opt to have students at home all the time and not return to school, would offer a full online experience with direct instruction from either a vendor or Canton educators. The next steps include the 2nd survey, convening working groups with educators, revisiting the district calendar, impact bargaining, and the development of details. Next steps also include School Committee approval of a model to be brought forward. A comprehensive plan is due to DESE by August 10. The full overview of models is available on the CPS website under the School Committee tab/ Meetings/Agendas/Minutes/ July 23 Reports.

2. Policies: Chair Mirliani opened the floor for discussion regarding the second read of policies ACA, AC-R, AC, and ACAB. There were no additional questions or discussion. Members agreed to approve the policies with the changes suggested.

Motion to approve policies ACA, AC-R, AC and ACAB with the changes

indicated: Nichola Gallagher

Second: Kristian Merenda

Roll Call Vote: 4-0

- D. Business Manager's Report: Mr. Nectow reported that the Select Board approved the request for a transfer of \$400,000 from the Special Education Reserve Fund.

E. Routine Matters:

1. Approve Minutes dated June 16, 2020

Move: Nichola Gallager

Second: Kristian Merenda

Roll Call Vote: 4-0

2 Accounts Payable Warrants dated July 17, 2020 FY20 and July 10 FY21 signed and approved by Ms. Maureen Moran.

3. Food Service Warrant dated July 17, 2020, signed and approved by Ms. Maureen Moran.

F. Sub-Committee Reports

1. CPC - Kristin Mirliani - nothing new to report.
2. BRC - Chuck Rae nothing - Absent
3. Wellness- Chuck Rae - Absent
4. Finance - Maureen Moran/Nichola Gallagher - nothing new to report.
5. Policy - Kristian Merenda – nothing new to report.

6. PRHC – Nichola Gallagher - nothin new to report.
7. Ad Hoc Calendar Advisory - Maureen Moran - nothing new to report.

G. Future Business: Next School Committee Meeting will be held Thursday, June 30, 2020, at 7:00 pm.

H. Other Business: None

I. Adjournment: Nichola Gallagher motioned to close Open Session at 9:50 pm. Kristian Merenda seconded. It was voted by a roll call vote 4-0.

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

4 yeas 0 nays