

**Canton School Committee  
Canton, MA**

September 26, 2019	Canton High School Distance Learning Lab 900 Washington Street Canton, MA 02021	6:30 Executive Session 7:00 PM Open Session
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*The Canton Public Schools strives to develop students who are competent and creative thinkers,  
curious and confident learners, and compassionate citizens.*

**A. Call to Order**

**B. Executive Session** The School Committee will be in Executive Session to discuss issues related to contractual matters.

**C. Open Session**

**D. Public Comments/Questions**

**E. Student Member Report** Corinne Stevens will provide the student member report.

**F. Superintendent's Report** Superintendent Fischer-Mueller will provide an update on a variety of matters going on throughout the district.

**G. New Business**

1. Walsh Dugout Vote of Approval Request: Mr. Mike Loughran will request approval to install dugouts at Walsh Field.
2. K-5 Literacy Presentation: Ms. Debbie Rooney will present an overview of the K-5 Literacy plans.
3. Review Policies: Chair Kristin Mirliani will present the following policies for review and vote of approval.
  - ☐ BDF
  - ☐ BDFA
  - ☐ BDFA-E
  - ☐ BDFA-R
  - ☐ BEA
  - ☐ BEB
  - ☐ BEC
  - ☐ BEDA
  - ☐ BEDB
  - ☐ BEDB-E
  - ☐ BEDC
  - ☐ BEDD
4. CCPC Preliminary Application: Request for a vote of approval to submit a preliminary application to CCPC for the GMS Basketball Courts.

**H. Old Business**

**I. Business Manager's Report** Mr. Nectow will present the Business Manager's Report.

**J. Routine Matters**

1. Approve Minutes dated September 12, 2019
2. Approve Executive Minutes dated September 12, 2019
3. Report on Bill Schedule dated October 4, 2019

**K. Sub-Committee Reports**

1. CPC – Nichola Gallagher
2. BRC – Kristian Merenda
3. Wellness - Maureen Moran
4. Finance - Reuki Schutt/Maureen Moran
5. Policy - Kristin Mirliani
6. PRHC – Nichola Gallagher
7. Calendar Review - Maureen Moran

**L. Future Business** – Next School Committee Meeting will be held Thursday, October 10, 2019 @ 7:00.

**M. Other Business** Topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

**N. Adjournment**

# CANTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Dr. Jennifer Fischer-Mueller  
*Superintendent of Schools*



Patricia Kinsella  
*Assistant Superintendent*

Debra L. Bromfield  
*Director of Student Services*

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[www.cantonma.org](http://www.cantonma.org)

Barry S. Nectow  
*School Business Administrator*

**To develop students who are competent and creative thinkers, curious and confident learners, and compassionate citizens.**

## **Superintendent's Report School Committee Meeting of Thursday, September 26, 2019**

**Jennifer Fischer-Mueller, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools**

### **Superintendent Activities Highlights**

**Moms Club of Canton Donation:** Ms. Jennifer Pfister delivered supplies for our schools that were collected and donated on behalf of the Moms Club of Canton. The focus of The Moms Club of Canton is to give back to the community. We were pleased to accept the donation and thank our new community partner for their thoughtfulness.



**Canton Cafe:** Students in the CPS postgraduate program have opened a new spot in town. Canton Cafe is open to faculty and staff at the Rodman Building and CHS every Wednesday. Each week,



students practice their skills grocery shopping for the freshest produce and then cook delicious paninis in their classroom. The biggest hit since opening has been the Bulldog: a tomato, mozzarella panini with pesto and balsamic glaze. The Cafe allows students to practice their independence, budgeting, cooking and communication skills and so much more. I suggest you check them out!

## Updates

Grade 10 English 2019 MCAS: As you know, all students in grade 10 take MCAS in English as part of their Competency Determination from the state for graduation from high school. There was an essay question on last spring's test (March 2019 10th grade English and Language Arts MCAS) that was deemed inappropriate and insensitive.

As a result, in March, the Commissioner of Education for the Commonwealth, Jeffrey C. Riley, determined that the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) would not score this culturally insensitive and inappropriate essay question. This action step served as the first phase of the DESE response.

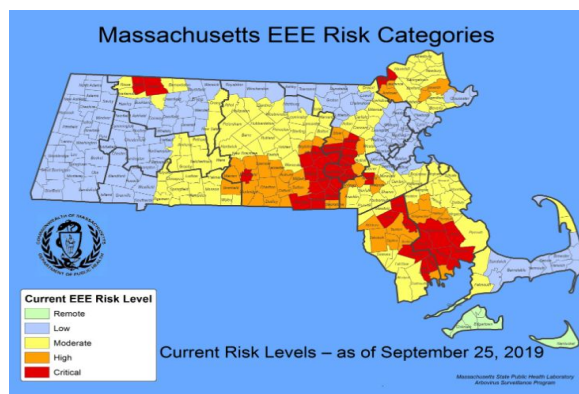
The second phase of the DESE response was a recognition that not scoring this question could have had an “adverse effect” on a student’s performance. After consulting Stanford researchers, DESE determined that students will be afforded the opportunity to retake the November Retest in an attempt to improve their score. The November 2019 MCAS ELA retest will be administered on November 6th, 7th, and 8th.

The primary consideration for improving a student’s score is to preserve their ability to qualify for the John and Abigail Adams and the Stanley Z. Koplik scholarships. Students must meet a minimum score threshold and score within the top 25 percent of their school to be eligible for the [John and Abigail Adams Scholarship](#). With respect eligibility, any student in the class of 2021 (this year's juniors), who has met the first part of the Adams Scholarship eligibility requirements but who feels that their ability to get into their district's top 25 percent was adversely affected by the essay prompt, can sign up to take this November's ELA retest for the purpose of improving their scores.

Students must take all sections of the November ELA paper based retest (*Composition and Reading Comprehension Sessions 1, 2, and 3*), and the higher score will serve as the score of record. If a student does not earn a higher score on the November ELA retest, the spring 2019 grade 10 ELA score will remain the score of record.

Principal Folan and Assistant Principal Fogel are here to describe the Commissioner’s response to this issue and the impact on Canton students.

Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE): Also known as “triple E,” is described as a rare but serious infection that is spread by the bite of a mosquito infected with the EEE virus. The Town’s Director of Public Health, John Ciccotelli, keeps us up to date and closely follows the Norfolk County Mosquito Control Project and the risk levels determined by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Risk levels range from remote, low, moderate, high and critical. Canton remains



at the moderate risk level. A map showing each MA community's risk level is pictured and available for viewing [online](#). Mosquito spraying on the fields of the Canton Public Schools was increased this year from three treatments to six. Prior to each spraying, the school community is informed. We are well prepared for any information from the Department of Health that would prompt changes to our plans for outdoor activities.

### **Indicators of Excellence**

**Professional Development:** You may recall that last spring, we asked our PreK-5 educators to choose PD concentrations that they will participate in for the four PD sessions this year, three early release and one full day. This allows educators to go deeper with their professional learning and gives them time to put their new learning into practice in their classrooms with follow up support throughout the year. The educators were in sessions about Reading Workshop, Writing Workshop, Understanding Mathematical Thinking, Early Childhood, Universal Design for Learning, Mental Health and Learning Environments.

At GMS, their team spent the afternoon preparing for the interdisciplinary units that they will teach during STEAM week Oct 21-25. We had 34 educators participate in the PD this summer, but others still needed some training to get them ready to teach the units.

At CHS, educators worked within their departments on a variety of professional learning topics that worked toward their department goals of transforming learning for students.

### **Important Dates and Events**

Sept. 27	Dean S. Luce Circus, 7:00-8:00 pm, Luce School
Sept. 30	No School, Rosh Hashanah
Oct. 1	GMS 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Trip Parent Meeting, 6:30–8:00 pm, GMS
Oct. 4-24	German Exchange Students Visit
Oct. 9	No School, Yom Kippur
Oct. 11	School Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm, CHS Distance Learning Lab

# Literacy Update

School Committee Meeting  
September 26, 2019

Teaching and Learning  
CANTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Last spring we rolled out a multi-year PD plan with our PreK-5 educators in preparation for the 2019-20 professional development sessions. In general, the plan focuses on providing excellent, ongoing PD and high-quality materials to all elementary educators and continuing to allow them choices for their professional learning. We want to support every educator in providing a strong balanced literacy program that meets the needs of all learners in their room. Making this type of change takes time.

## Where are we going?

### Focus on Balanced Literacy

Balanced literacy is an approach to oral and written language instruction in which teachers rely on best practices in explicit skill instruction and use of authentic, high quality literature to lead students to proficiency as readers and writers. It is not a specific program or set of materials. Balanced Literacy approaches allow for a long instructional block each day spent with children working in small groups, with a partner or independently and a small portion of the time spent with the teacher providing whole group instruction.

### Instructional Practices

A balanced literacy program includes the following essential components:

- Independent Reading
- Guided Reading
- Interactive Read Alouds
- Shared Reading
- Spelling, Phonics and Word Study
- Responding to Reading
- Writing

**This first year:** Early Adopters will begin implementing a balanced literacy approach through the workshop model of instruction for both reading and writing. They are using the Calkins Units of Study as a guide. They will continue to use the guided reading materials from Journeys as one resource for that part of reading workshop. The work of the Early Adopters this year will help us to determine the best next steps for literacy instruction for Canton.

All other elementary educators will continue to use Journeys this year.

**Next year:** All other elementary educators will begin the transition away from Journeys and into Reader's and Writer's Workshop. Educators who participated in the Writing Workshop concentration this year will begin Reading Workshop next year. Educators in

other concentrations will choose their focus on reading or writing with guidance from their building principal and reading specialist.

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**Town of Canton**  
**Community Preservation Committee**  
**FY 20 CPA Pre-Application Form**  
**Due date: Rolling – No later than 5:00 pm on Friday, October 4, 2019**

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Project Sponsor or Organization: Canton Public Schools

Contact Name: Barry S. Nectow

Address: 960 Washington Street, Canton, MA 02021

Telephone Number: 781-821-5060 X1245      Email: [nectowb@cantonma.org](mailto:nectowb@cantonma.org)

Project Location/Address: William H. Galvin Middle School, 55 Pecunit Street, Canton, MA 02021

Amount of Funding Requested: \$33,075.

When required: July 2020

**Is the Project Allowable?** Please use the chart below to determine if your project is eligible for CPA funding in one or more of the CPA project categories. If you are unsure about whether or not your project is allowable, please contact CCPC Administrator at [ccpc@town.canton.ma.us](mailto:ccpc@town.canton.ma.us).

Determining Project Eligibility				
	Open Space	Historic	Recreation	Housing
Acquire	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Create	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Preserve	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Support	No	No	No	Yes
Rehabilitate and/or Restore	Yes – if acquired or created with CPA Funds	Yes	Yes	Yes – if acquired or created with CPA Funds

*For a more detailed chart with definitions, please visit: <http://www.communitypreservation.org>*



**Request category(ies):**

Open Space \_\_\_\_\_ Historical \_\_\_\_\_ Community Housing \_\_\_\_\_ Recreation XXX

Number of acres in parcel: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of housing units proposed: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Name of Project: **William H. Galvin Middle School Basketball Court Refinishing Project**

**Brief Description of Project:**

**The project will repair and refinish the two (2) basketball courts at the William H. Galvin Middle School. Specifications include repairing all cracks, refinishing the courts and relining both courts. The project also includes new posts, backboards and rims.**

**Estimated Budget:**

<i>Requested Amount from CPA Fund</i>	<i>\$36,750</i>
<i>Matching Funds (if applicable)</i>	<i>\$3,675</i>
<i>Total Project Cost</i>	<i>\$33,075</i>

**Estimated Timeline to complete work:**

**The project will be completed during FY21, at a time least disruptive to the residents of Canton**

Summarize how this request benefits the Town of Canton and meets the goals of the Community Preservation Act:

**The outdoor basketball courts at have been in a state of disrepair for several years. As a result of the poor condition, court use is low. The courts are one of two sets of public basketball courts in the town. The other basketball courts are at the John F. Kennedy Elementary School and are used heavily by both the residents of Canton and the JF Kennedy Elementary School. Refinishing the William H. Galvin Middle School Outdoor Basketball Courts will allow the residents of Canton and second option for**

outdoor basketball play. Also, bringing the courts online would give the William H. Galvin Middle School an option to expand its wellness programing.

**Other Comments**

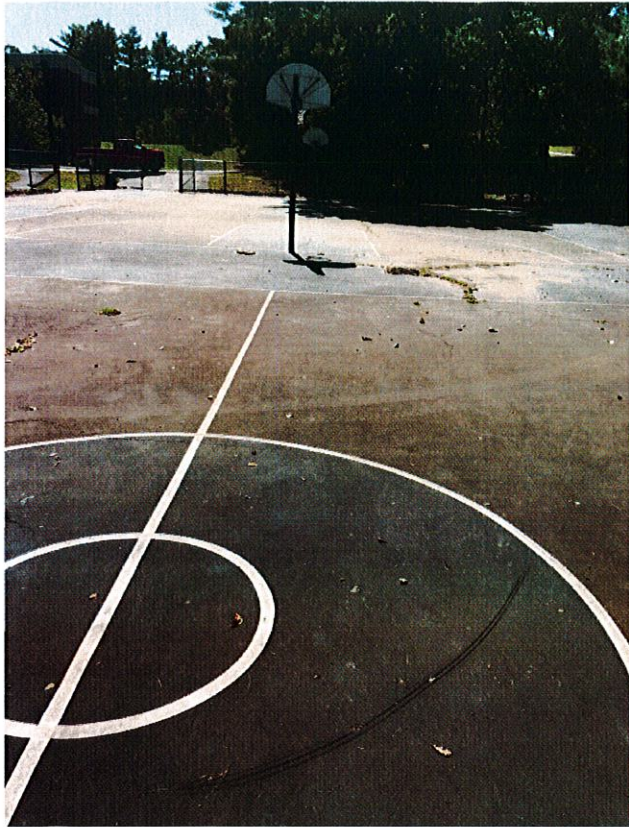
Provide any other information you think the CCPC should be aware of in evaluating your pre-application.

**Attached is a project budget and photographs of the existing courts. A cost estimate for the project from a vendor will be included in the final submission.**

Date: 9/24/2019 Applicant Signature: Bruce S. Dent

Date received by the CCPC: \_\_\_\_\_





William H. Galvin Middle School Basketball Court Resurfacing Project  
Project Budget Estimate  
September 23, 2019

Court Resurfacing Contractor	\$25,000
Posts, Backboards and Rims	\$10,000
Contingency (5.00%)	<u>\$1,750</u>
Total Project Cost Estimate	\$36,750
School Committee Funds	\$3,675
CCPC Request	\$33,075