

Town of Canton  
Canton School Committee Minutes of the Meeting of December 3, 2020  
Remote Meeting Zoom Webinar

- A. **Call to Order** The meeting of the School Committee is called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Mirliani via a roll call vote in Executive Session 5-0. Attendance is taken again in Open Session. Roll Call 4-0.

Kristin Mirliani	yea
Kristian Merenda	yea
Maureen Moran	yea
Nichola Gallagher	yea (arrived at 7:01)
Chuck Rae	yea

Also Remotely Present:

Derek Folan, Interim Superintendent  
Barry Nectow, School Business Administrator  
Colleen Hutchinson, Recording Secretary  
Debbie Rooney, Director of Teaching and Learning  
Julie Shore, Director of Technology and Digital Learning  
Dianna Mullen, Director of Student Services  
Dave Turcotte, Principal, CHS  
Sarah Shannon, Principal, GMS  
David Brauninger, Principal, Hansen  
Emily DiDonna, Principal, JKF  
Yeshi Lamour, Principal, Luce  
Michael Green, Interim Principal, Luce  
Donna Kilday, PreK-2 Coordinator  
Danny Erickson, Athletic Director

- B. **Interim Superintendent's Report**  
**Interim Superintendent Highlights**

Rodman Preschool Visit: Mr. Folan spoke of his visit to the Preschool program.

DESE Grants: The Student Services Department is pleased to announce the return of the 274 and 298 DESE grants. The 274 grant funds the improvement of high quality programs and provides services documented on students' IEPs. This year Canton has been awarded \$14,856. The 298 grant is to fund the support of early childhood special education ages 3-5 to improve quality programs of students with IEP services. This year Canton has been awarded \$1,960.

Kevin Praik and Signature Voice Productions: A special thank you to 2016 Canton High School graduate Kevin Praik for this wonderful broadcasting work throughout the fall. He has a YouTube channel Signature Voice Productions.

**Updates**

Assessment Data Update: Teachers have completed their fall benchmarking assessments and are using this information to provide additional supports for students who need it. The good news is that at all levels, our data indicates that students are performing well on the grade level standards. Principals will be sharing additional information at upcoming site council meetings. Also, for elementary parents, there will be information about the benchmark assessment coming in this week's newsletter and parent/guardian reports will be coming

home at the end of next week for Cohort B and the beginning of the following week for Cohort A.

Flu Shot Requirement and Reminder: All students are required to have a flu shot by December 31, 2020, unless a medical or religious exemption is provided. In conjunction with CVS, we recently held two successful Flu Shot Clinics on December 1 and 2. Two additional clinics on December 17 and December 29.

### **Indicators of Excellence**

CPS Technology Team: A special shout out to the Canton Public Schools Technology Team and Director of Technology and Digital Learning Julie Shore. They are truly an example of excellence.

School to Careers: The School to Career Partnership brings together schools, leading businesses in the Greater Boston area, legislative and nonprofit organizations to provide the students and teachers of CHS experiences that enhance what is learned in the classroom and prepares them for the world of work.

CAPT: The Luce CAPT delivered gift bags with a mask, candy, and sanitizer. The Hansen staff received Table Talk pies, the JFK received cookies and thank you notes, and the GMS CAPT offered up a great breakfast.

### **Important Dates and Events**

Dec. 17	School Committee, 7:00 pm
Dec. 19	CHS Drama Fall Play Production, Virtual, 7:00 pm <b>"She Kills Monsters" by Qui Nguyen</b>
Dec. 20	CHS Drama Fall Play Production, Virtual, 2:00 pm <b>"Sideways Stories from Wayside School" by Louis Sachar</b>
Dec. 23	Early Release, PreK-12 Winter Break
Dec. 24 - Jan.1	No School, Winter Break
Jan. 4	School Resumes
Jan. 7	School Committee, 7:00 pm

## **C. New Business**

1. Winter Athletics: Mr. Daniel Erickson provided an update on winter sports protocols and requested a vote of approval for modified fees for athletics and facilities. Sports being offered are Gymnastics, Boys and Girls Swim, Boys and Girls Hockey, Boys and Girls Basketball. Moving Indoor Track to "Fall 2", Wrestling to Spring and Winter Cheer to Spring. The season will begin on Monday, December 14 and end no later than Sunday, February 21, 2021. No contests will be played until January 2021. Most of the existing protocols that were in place for the CHS Athletics Fall season will continue with the following important updates. Some examples are: Masks must be worn by all participants at ALL TIMES, not just when unable to socially distance. An "Arrive. Play. Leave" protocol, which was in play for the fall will continue but be even further emphasized since our activities will be taking place indoors.

No team social events may take place in person. This includes team dinners, banquets and tailgating. Spectators will be limited based on the facility. The complete protocol document can be found on the CPS website under the School Committee tab, Meetings/Agendas/Minutes/Reports.

The modified user fee approved for fall sports are to be carried over to the Winter, Fall 2 and Spring. The winter athletic fee would be \$160 (adjusted from \$195). Additionally, it was recommended that the existing Facility Fees for Ice Hockey, Swim and Gymnastics be adjusted as follows:

- a. Ice Hockey Facility fee- \$300 (down from \$350)
- b. Gymnastics Facility fee- \$125 (down from \$150)
- c. Swim Facility fee- \$75- (down from 100)

**Motion to approve the modified user fee and facilities fees as presented**

**above:** Nichola Gallagher

**Second:** Kristian Merenda

**Roll Call Vote:** 5-0

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

2. School Improvement Plans: Building Principals shared their 2020-2021 School Improvement Plans. These plans are being presented now as opposed to Spring time due to COVID. Each Principal talked about their priorities/goals, key actions, resources and evidence that will be used to show progress and actions. The District's Strategic Framework is the guiding principle in formulating plans. Principals worked with their school councils to develop their SIP. There was a lengthy discussion about how each school's framework and plan are ensuring that all children are getting what they need. The measurable tool is assessments. This data can inform instruction and allow for differentiation of instruction as needed. Academic excellence is embedded in the larger vision of all school SIPs. All assessment data is shared with parents/guardians. The complete copy of all School Improvement Plans can be found on the CPS website under the School Committee tab, Meetings/Agendas/Minutes/Reports.

**Motion to approve the 2020-2021 School Improvement Plans:** Nichola Gallagher

**Second:** Maureen Moran

**Roll Call Vote:** 5-0

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

3. School Calendar: Interim Superintendent Folan presented the revised school calendar reflecting changes through the remainder of the school year for a vote of approval. Mr. Folan confirmed that the calendar would not change if the district were to move to a different model ie. all in or fully remote. Wednesday's schedule will remain in place. The last day of the school year will be Friday, June 18. There are two staff professional development days that need to be scheduled during the remainder of the year. These days will be used if there is a transition in the learning model (in-person, hybrid, remote) or as other needs arise. February and April vacations will remain as

scheduled. Interim Superintendent Folan explained that changing school vacation structure would be a change in working conditions and would need to be re-negotiated. Snow days will be determined on a case by case basis.

**Motion to approve the revised 2020-2021 School Calendar:** Nichola Gallagher

**Second:** Kristian Merenda

**Roll Call Vote:** 5-0

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

4. COVID Update: Interim Superintendent Folan provided a school department COVID update. Mr. Folan emphasized that families should continue to fill out the daily screener, follow COVID protocols and be attentive to indoor and outdoor activities. The District continues to have no school based transmission. The Town of Canton is in the yellow range. Mr. Folan also reminded families of the flu shot requirement. The district will be offering 2 more clinics this month on December 17 and December 29. The second learning conditions survey will be going out on December 10. The data analysis will be shared in the January 7 meeting. Families and staff will be asked to weigh in on the aspect of spacing (social distancing measurements) regarding all in capacity. Families will be asked about their learning choice model (i.e. all in, remote, hybrid).
5. Policy Review: Interim Superintendent Folan presented the following policies for a 1st read. The subcommittee referenced Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) policy manual, the Town of Canton Select Board and Lexington as guidelines for the policies below.
  - i. BEDH - Public Comment - There was a discussion about some proposed changes. One change is that public comment is not an exchange of discussion, debate or dialogue, it is for the public to be heard and share a comment. The changes proposed are to bring the policy back in line with the law. The goal of the proposed policy is to be welcoming, offer opportunities for the public to be heard, contain clear guidance, and be in line with MASC policy. There was a discussion about where on the agenda public comment should be held. There were several comments and suggestions to consider for the next read.
  - ii. KBA - School/Family Relations Goals
  - iii. KE - Public Complaints - There was a suggestion to add “in compliance with personnel policies and collective bargaining agreements.” There was also a question about other specific wording in the last paragraph. The committee will revisit.

D. **Business Managers Report** None

E. **Public Comment** None

F. **Routine Matters**

1. Approve Executive Minutes dated November 12, 2020

**Move:** Nichola Gallagher

**Second:** Kristian Merenda

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0**

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

2. Approve Minutes dated November 12, 2020

**Move:** Nichola Gallagher

**Second:** Chuck Rae

**Roll Call Vote: 5-0**

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

3. Announcement that the warrants dated December 4, 2020, will be delivered to the Business Manager tomorrow by Ms. Moran.

**G. Sub-Committee Reports**

1. CCPC - Kristin Mirliani - Meeting on 12/7 @ 7 pm to hear the Luce Playground project proposal. All are welcome to attend.
2. BRC - Chuck Rae - nothing new to report
3. Wellness- Chuck Rae - nothing new to report
4. Finance - Maureen Moran/Nichola Gallagher - nothing new to report
5. Policy - Kristian Merenda – nothing new to report
6. PRHC – Nichola Gallagher - nothing new to report
7. CDEI - Nichola Gallagher - meeting on 12/7 @ 7 pm. As a result, Ms. Merenda will attend the CHS National Honor Society event on 12/7 at 7 due to Ms. Gallagher's conflict.
8. Master Planning Committee - This new subcommittee has started up and will report out at upcoming meetings.

**H. Future Business** Next School Committee Meeting will be held Thursday, December 17, 2020, at 7:00 pm.

**I. Other Business** Topic for discussion at an upcoming meeting: subcommittee meetings and purpose of subcommittees. Members would like to review.

**J. Adjournment** Nichola Gallagher motioned to close the Open Session at 10:07 pm. Kristian Merenda seconded. It was voted by a roll call vote 5-0.

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

Documents used during the meeting:

1. Interim Superintendent's Report dated December 3, 2020
2. CHS Winter Athletic Season MEMO

3. CHS Athletic Department COVID-19 Safety Standards for Winter/Fall II/Spring Sports Seasons
4. 2020-2021 School Improvement Plans - CHS, GMS, Hansen, Luce, JFK, Rodman PreK
5. CPS Draft COVID Calendar 2020-2021 School Year
6. Policies: KE: Public Complaints, KBA: School/Family Relations Goals, BEDH: Public Comment