

Town of Canton
Canton School Committee Minutes of the Meeting of August 20, 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 7:06 pm by Chair Mirliani via a roll call vote. Chair Mirliani noted that the Committee just held an Executive Session. Roll call vote of 5-0 opened the meeting.

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

Also Remotely Present:

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

Chair Mirliani announced that the agenda will be adjusted tonight. Public Comment will come after the School Reopening Discussion. Public Comment participants were notified via email.

B. Unfinished Business:

1. School Reopening Update: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller began with a review of the DPH COVID-19 Metrics. After a discussion with BOH, it was shared that the town's data is not trending favorably. The State Dashboard is a tool that informs the district's decision with regard to school reopening plans. Canton is still in the Yellow range, but closer to Red as of today with a 1.36 metric, a 1.76 metric lands Canton in the Red range. With this information, Superintendent Fischer-Mueller made a recommendation to the School Committee for a phased-in approach with a likely start of all remote learning beginning September 16, 2020. There is ongoing development of the phasing in of in-person instruction this fall. Negotiations with CTA are ongoing. Members supported the early notification and supported the recommendation so parents can plan, however, some Committee members asked for more discussion and an agreement with CTA before making a decision for all remote.

Motion to approve the recommendation of a likely remote start: Nichola Gallagher

Second: Kristin Mirliani

Roll Call Vote: 3-2

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

Superintendent Fischer-Mueller, Assistant Superintendent Folan, Mr. Nectow, Ms. Shore, Ms. Rooney, and Ms. Mullen continued to answer questions and discussed information presented at previous meetings. This meeting afforded Administration the time to publicly respond to many questions posed to the Committee and Superintendent via emails and from family surveys. Topics discussed this evening were ventilation, cleaning, busing, the use of outdoor classrooms, transmission reduction, allergies, student services, parent guardian choice, communication and accountability, and extracurriculars. The district is hiring new custodians to help with the extra cleaning required. All riders on the bus will need to wear a mask/face covering and there will be assigned seating. The busses will be cleaned after each morning run. Bus routes will be communicated the Thursday before the school start date and posted in the Canton Citizen. Temporary bus passes will be sent via email. DESE's guidance states that everyone is looked at as a screener, starting with parents and including bus drivers. If someone appears symptomatic, it should be communicated to the proper channels to protect everyone's health. Weather pending, classrooms will be outside as much as possible. A brief discussion ensued about security of outdoor classrooms. The updated [COVID-19 Protocols](#) is available on the website within today's presentation and also within the Comprehensive Plan posted on the homepage. Details of services provided for students with Special Circumstances were shared. Parents have the option to move between the continuum and the remote learning pathway after a 3-week transition. Parents can not change cohorts unless there is an extreme circumstance. Grades will be issued and attendance will be taken for all grades. Surveys will continue to be sent to families to gather information and address concerns. An MIAA update was provided, plans are ongoing. There is not any concrete information on after school programs yet. The district is in conversation with vendors. The full presentation of tonight's meeting is on the School Committee webpage under Meetings/Agendas/Minutes.

Ms. Donna Kilday presented reopening information regarding the Rodman Preschool. Ms. Kilday shared the priorities, and considerations of all three continuum models. The hours for PreK this year will be 9-1. There will be arrival and dismissal changes. The proposed tuition structure is \$2,203 for 2 days, \$3,306 for 3 days, and \$4,407 for 4 days of attendance for community peers. The Remote Learning Pathway Tuition is projected to be \$2,203. School Committee vote of approval is needed for the PreK model for reopening and the adjusted tuition. The full presentation and PowerPoint for tonight's presentation is on the School Committee webpage under Meetings/Agendas/Minutes.

C. Public Comment:

Sheila white	Questions/comments regarding plans. Questions about the cut off date for negotiations, will student's be able to engage with teachers, bus cleaning, and ventilation.
Karen Lempert	Questions about remote learning pathway and hybrid option, Honors and AP classes, dual enrollment in college, 3rd party for Remote Learning Pathway, technology for the window into the classroom.
Bailey Hewit	Spoke about the effectiveness of different masks. Single-layer gators are not effective in stopping the spread of the virus.
Dan Harn	School Reopening Choice. When will parents be asked to make final

	decisions?
Ellen	Asked about the timeline for the phased-in approach. Supports the hybrid model and students and teachers in school. Teachers should be in the classroom during remote teaching.

D. Routine Matters:

1. Approve Executive Minutes dated August 12, 2020

Move: Nichola Gallagher

Second: Maureen Moran

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

2. Approve Executive Minutes dated August 13, 2020

Move: Nichola Gallagher

Second: Kristian Merenda

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

3. Approve Minutes dated August 13, 2020

Move: Nichola Gallagher

Second: Maureen Moran

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

4. Approve Community Listening Session Minutes dated July 23, 2020

Move: Nichola Gallagher

Second: Maureen Moran

Roll Call Vote: 5-0

5. The announcement that the AP and Food Service warrants dated August 21, 2020, have been approved.

E. Sub-Committee Reports

1. CPC - Kristin Mirliani - nothing new to report.
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.

- F. Future Business: Next School Committee Meeting will be held Thursday, September 3, 2020, at 7:00 pm.

- G. Other Business: There was a suggestion to hold another meeting next week. The decision will be made at the beginning of next week.

- H. Adjournment: Nichola Gallagher motioned to close Open Session at 10:04 pm. Maureen Moran seconded. It was voted by a roll call vote 5-0. 5 yeas 0 nays

Kristin Mirliani yea

Kristian Merenda yea

Maureen Moran	yea
Nichola Gallagher	yea
Chuck Rae	yea