

Town of Canton  
Canton School Committee Minutes of the Meeting of December 15, 2016  
Canton High School Distance Learning Lab

The back-up support documents for each agenda item are arranged in the order listed below.

A. Open Session called to order by at 7:05 PM.

Present are:

John Bonnanzio  
Michael Loughran  
Reuki Schutt  
Kristin Mirliani  
Meg Gannon

Also Present:

Dr. Jennifer Fischer-Mueller, Superintendent of Schools  
Barry Nectow, Business Manager  
Community Members  
Press

B. Routine Matters

1. Motion to approve Minutes dated December 1, 2016. It was voted 5-0.

5 yeas 0 nay

2. Motion to approve the Minutes dated December 8, 2016. It was voted 5-0.

5 yeas 0 nay

3. Motion to approve Bill Schedule dated December 22, 2016. It was voted 5-0.

5 yeas 0 nay

C. Student Member Report: Student member, Rachel Vitelia, reported on the school events around the district. Rachel's report included:

Luce: Students at the Dean S. Luce recently contributed more than 1,000 pounds of food to the Canton Food Pantry. Not only did Luce students meet their goal, they exceeded it. Also, students from 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade enjoyed joining the Kennedy School students at the Canton Senior Center for a joint holiday shop. Over \$800 was raised, and many books collected, which have all been donated to the Canton Food Pantry.

Hansen: Students in Mrs. Sinton's fourth grade class have been collecting new, warm socks for the past two weeks. All socks donated will be given to the homeless through the Department of Public Health to try and support those in need during the winter months. Also, two of our 5<sup>th</sup> grade students are again organizing the 'Filled with Joy' holiday toy drive. We are collecting new toys,

which will be donated to patients at Boston Children's Hospital on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. This is our second year running the event, and all donations are appreciated!

JFK: The 5th graders along with those at the Luce, held a Holiday Shop at the local senior center with leftover gifts from both holiday shops. Students raised \$800 and proceeds went to the food pantry. This was a great community event. All classes that participated in collecting spare change during the month of November to help people battling Leukemia and Lymphoma raised \$1,178.28.

Galvin: On December 8<sup>th</sup>, during our last Bulldog Block, the 8<sup>th</sup> grade student body and teachers participated in the Mannequin Challenge. The Mannequin Challenge is a viral trend where participants freeze in action and the scene is filmed. Brian Hickox, an 8<sup>th</sup> grade English teacher, reached out to Ed McDonough from the high school to see if any students from the audio video program had interest in helping with the challenge. Kimmie Wong, a former Galvanite and current CHS student, volunteered to film and edit the Mannequin Challenge. Mr. Hickox and Kimmie developed a plan regarding how to prepare and complete the challenge. Several Bulldog Block groups teamed up in various locations throughout the Galvin Middle School and collaborated with each other upon what scene they would create. Kimmie filmed every group with the help of Greg Sheehan, a current freshman at Canton High School. All of the students and teachers enjoyed this unique experience that allowed students to display their humor, teamwork, patience, and leadership.

CHS: Canton High School hosted speaker Mike Smith, a self-proclaimed professional teenager. His message (delivered to the entire student body and staff) about finding your purpose, "Doing" rather than "Talking", working on behalf of others, and empathy connected with everyone. The students cannot stop talking about the presentation, and the student actually talked to their parents about this event. About 50 Canton students attended the JSA Fall Congress and performed very well in the debates and discussions. James Polsgrove won two best speaker gavels, while Chris Milne, Colin Messinger, and Nicole Mason each earned a best speaker gavel. Rachel Vatelina received a gavel for winning a social media contest, while Dylan Anderson won a full scholarship to the JSA Georgetown summer school program.

D. Public Comments/Questions:

Katherine Hoberg – 3 Charles Drive - Commented on her concern for the children who are not at proficient levels and not eligible for IEP. She is concerned that there is not enough support for those particular students. Jennifer Henderson and Dr. Fischer-Mueller commented that there are instructional strategies, teachers and aides to help these students and provide opportunities for them to grow.

E. Superintendent Report: Dr. Fischer-Mueller provided an update on a variety of matters including:

Superintendent's Activities:

The Superintendent is in the final stages of her entry plan data collection and analysis of the online survey data is underway. All forums will be completed next week before break and the Superintendent will present the Entry Plan Findings report in February, as planned. Also, Mr. Nectow and Ms. Bromfield attended the Charms Collaborative Board meeting with me on Wednesday, December 7th. The Executive Director of the South Shore Education Collaborative (SSEC), Hank Perrin, also attended the meeting to update the Board on the SSEC's interest in adopting the Charms programs. SSEC remains interested in the possibility of maintaining the

location of the programs in Canton High School and the Rodman Administration Building for one more year. Dr. Fischer-Mueller will provide updates as we continue to assess this possibility. In addition, the Working Group met with Dore and Whittier Architects on Wednesday, December 14th. The group welcomed Canton's new Town Planner, Laura Smead. The purpose of the meeting was for Dore and Whittier to share the results of their operations assessment of the six school facilities. They were very complimentary of the overall maintenance and ongoing upgrades to the facilities. This is the result of successful long-term planning and collaboration with the Town, and attention to the ongoing maintenance and upkeep by our facilities management department. Dore and Whittier will share their analysis of our schools as educational facilities against MSBA standards, as more data is gathered from the Principals about building use. The three Visioning Days are January 18th, March 13th, and May 24th. The Superintendent will continue to receive confirmation of participation by a variety of stakeholders and expressed their appreciation of the commitment people are willing to make to this important phase of the work.

#### Indicators of Excellence:

On Thursday, Dec. 8th, Heidi Olson, CHS World Language Department Head, led the World Language National Honor Society Induction Ceremony in the Distance Learning Lab (DLL). Dr. Fischer-Mueller congratulated all the students honored this year. The Superintendent also congratulated senior, Roni Polsgrove, for receiving the Daughter's of the American Revolution (DAR) Good Citizen Award. In addition, the CHS and GMS Jazz concert was held on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup> and the Dr. Fischer-Mueller also congratulated all the musicians on an outstanding performance.

Canton High School teacher, Kate Kelly, and her junior professors began another four part session of *Race, Gender and Sexuality: Talking about What We are Afraid to Talk About* on December 8th. In addition, seven administrators completed a six session course run by Research for Better Teaching (RBT) titled *High Expectations Teaching*. The focus of this course was teaching strategies that promote high expectations for ALL students. The goal was to have a small group complete this course and share their learning with colleagues. Additionally, we are interested in bringing RBT to the district in the late spring for other educators.

On Wednesday, December 7th, the District had an Early Release Professional Development Day. The district staff continued moving forward with programming on social and emotional learning with future sessions planned for January and February. Nate Folan, author of *The Hundredth Monkey* and consultant in Social and Emotional Learning, presented a high school session titled "Integrating Connection and Content through Interactive Experiences," and to the Galvin Middle School, "Child First, Student Second: Academic Success through Social and Emotional Development." The feedback from both sessions was enthusiastic with numerous comments on the immediate "hands on" strategies teachers can apply in their classrooms. Nate will be coming to the elementary schools and preschool on January 11th. Katie Shamitz, founder of *Skills for Living*, will be coming to the district on January 11th to work with all of our Education Assistants and ABA tutors, and then returning in February to work with primary and secondary educators. Katie will also be bringing strategies for social and emotional learning to use in the classroom to our educators.

Also at the December 7th Early Release Day, the elementary and preschool teachers focused on the new science and technology standards with the goal of building one curriculum unit to

implement this year. The district has been utilizing Teachers 21 Consultant Katie Clarke since last June to assist in building a completely new curriculum in science. The state adopted the Next Generation Science and Technology Standards in the spring 2016, and the district has a two year window to make tremendous shifts in our approach to science instruction, as well as coverage of a variety of new science topics.

Last week the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education sponsored two training sessions for all administrators and specialists on the changes being implemented for MCAS 2.0. All students in grades 3-8 will be taking this test on the computer this spring. There have been major shifts in test formatting and increased expectations for writing in response to reading. The teachers will be provided a detailed overview of the formatting and content changes in early January. Efforts are currently underway at all grade levels to provide enhanced learning experiences on the Chromebooks to help the students improve their skills and increase their comfort on the Chromebooks.

#### Important Dates and Events

December 19th – Hansen School Building Addition Ribbon Cutting (9AM)

December 20th – CHS Winter Concert

#### F. Old Business:

1. Stipends: Barry Nectow reported on the vote made at the open session meeting on Thursday, December 8, 2016 regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to the Teachers Union, Unit A Contract, Appendix C+D, Stipends. Mr. Nectow reported on the new stipend amounts and reported that the stipends were paid out in the last paycheck that went out.

#### G. New Business

1. MCAS Report: Superintendent, Dr. Fischer-Mueller, and Assistant Superintendent, Jennifer Henderson, presented MCAS data tied to the DESE Report Card presented on December 1, 2016. The presented data showed trends for all elementary schools that included:
  - JFK Continues to show the highest levels of Proficient+ across all grade levels with a rise in ELA through 2015; Drop in math and Science.
  - Luce and Hansen show lower levels of proficiency+ but Hansen has a higher SGP across all subject areas.
  - Luce has demonstrated positive movement toward higher levels of proficiency and increasing SGO in 2016.
  - Science (no SGP) has declined at all three schools. One test in 5<sup>th</sup> grade only.
  - The JFK shows the highest of the three schools (up to 2015) in proficient+ category in three content areas (with drops in 2016). The SGP has continued to decline in ELA and the students with disabilities scores have declined.
  - Proficient+ levels at the Luce have declined from highs in 2011 and 2013 with some gains made (improving or met target), particularly in ELA Proficient+ in 2016. Also, the high needs scores and SGP in ELA and Math are improving (2016).

- Hansen data over time shows in general continuing upward trends in Proficient+ (with minimal change in 2016) as well as increasing SGP (with minimal change in 2016).
- The Galvin Middle School shows that with the exception of 2016, the percentage of students Proficient+ in ELA was in the high 80's. There is also no significant change across time in Proficient+ in Math and Science. The SGP's increased minimally over the last three years.
- Canton High school has seen continued improvement in proficient and advanced levels (P+) across all content areas with most significant gains in English Language Arts. Science scores are leveling off, SGP across all content areas has dropped, and scores for the high needs populations continue to be problematic in Math.

Action Steps across all schools include a shift to new science standards and performance based learning. Professional development will focus on social and emotional learning, High Expectations Learning, and Science Performance Based Learning and Assessment. The evaluation process will focus on reflective conversation about teaching and learning, as well as calibration for evaluators and evaluation of effective teaching and learning. The elementary school principals will present their highlights, areas of focus, and next steps for 2016-17 at the January 5, 2016 meeting. The PowerPoint presentation used during this presentation will be available on the School Committee website.

2. Donations: Barry Nectow reported on the donations to Canton Public Schools made in November. The donations include:

<b><u>Canton Public Schools</u></b>				
<b><u>Cash Donations</u></b>				
<b><u>October 2016</u></b>				
<b><u>ACCOUNT</u></b>	<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>ORGANIZATION / NAME</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT</u></b>	<b><u>PURPOSE OF CHECK</u></b>
SD102	10/4/2016	Bank of Canton	\$250.00	Robotics donation
SD102	10/4/2016	Harbor One	\$50.00	Robotics donation
SD102	10/4/2016	Julie Goodman	\$1,000.00	Robotics donation
SD101	10/17/2016	CAPE	\$1,500.00	L. Ide CAPE award
SD101	10/17/2016	Robert & Michelle Karle	\$99.00	ipad insurance
SD101	10/17/2016	Jonathan & Donna Arata	\$99.00	ipad insurance
SD102	10/17/2016	Wegmans Food Market	\$250.00	Robotics donation
SD108	10/17/2016	misc. football donations	\$4,010.00	GMS football donations
SD102	10/25/2016	Schneiders Law Office	\$330.00	Mock Trial team
SD102	10/25/2016	CAPE award	\$1,500.00	African drumming - S.Hallal
SD102	10/26/2016	CAPE award	\$1,000.00	Speaking fee - M. Chamberland
SD108	10/26/2016	CAPE award	\$1,125.00	1XL student progress - V. Allen
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,213.00</b>	

<b>Canton Public Schools</b>				
<b>Cash Donations</b>				
<b>November 2016</b>				
<b>ACCOUNT</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION / NAME</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>PURPOSE OF CHECK</b>
SD108	11/3/2016	multiple donations	\$675.00	GMS footbal donations
SD108	11/3/2016	fundraising	\$504.00	GMS cheerleading donations
SD108	11/3/2016	fundraising	\$1,525.73	GMS cheerleading donations
SD101	11/4/2016	Meghan Byrne	\$99.00	ipad insurance
SD101	11/4/2016	CAPE	\$1,100.00	Rodman Reads!
SD102	11/4/2016	William & Linda Wirta	\$250.00	CHS Showcase donation
SD102	11/4/2016	Robert Burr Jr.	\$330.00	Mock Trial donation
SD102	11/4/2016	Reuki Schutt	\$200.00	Mock Trial donation
SD103	11/4/2016	CAPT	\$1,696.08	donation
SD108	11/14/2016	Dwight Seaman	\$1,070.00	GMS footbal donations
SD101	11/29/2016	Canton Arts Council	\$4,650.00	Encore scholarship
SD102	11/29/2016	CAPE	\$189.95	CHS library makerspace
SD102	11/29/2016	CAPE	\$287.80	Chamberlain - Hotel for guest speaker
SD108	11/30/2016	Waterfall Bar & Grill	\$100.00	GMS footbal donations
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,677.56</b>	

3. Roof Warrant Article: Barry Nectow requested a vote from the School Committee on sending the Roof Warrant Article to Town Meeting. After a brief overview, Reuki Schutt motioned to approve the Roof Warrant Article to Town Meeting. The motion was seconded by Meg Gannon. It was voted 5-0.

5      yeas                      0      nay

4. FY18 Operating Budget Preview: Dr. Fischer-Mueller and Barry Nectow presented the preview of the FY18 Operating Budget to the School Committee. The budget included components to the Free Full-Day Kindergarten and where it stands with respect to the grant to be received. Reuki Schutt addressed some concerns and questions which were answered by Mr. Nectow. The School Committee requested to review the Budget Preview and revisit at the upcoming School Committee Meeting.

5. Policy First Read: Kristin Mirliani and Debra Bromfield provided the First Read for the Parental Notification Relative to Sex Education (File: JP) and Student Gifts and Solicitations (File: IHAMA) Policies. Reuki Schutt moved to waive the first read of both the Parental Notification Relative to Sex Education (File: JP) and Student Gifts and Solicitations (File: IHAMA) Policies. Michael Loughran seconded the motion. It was voted 5-0.

5      yeas                      0      nay

Reuki Schutt also motioned to approve both the Parental Notification Relative to Sex Education (File: JP) and Student Gifts and Solicitations (File: IHAMA) Policies. Michael Loughran seconded the motion. It was voted 5-0.

5      yeas                      0      nay

H. Business Manager's Report: Barry Nectow announced that the new turf field is ready for use and the track is open for the public to use.

I. Sub-Committee Reports

1. TEC- Dr. Jennifer Fischer-Mueller/John Bonnanzio – Nothing to report
2. CPC – Reuki Schutt – Nothing to report
3. BRC- Michael Loughran - Nothing to report
4. Wellness- Meg Gannon - Nothing to report
5. Finance – Reuki Schutt/Meg Gannon – Nothing to report
6. Building Use – John Bonnanzio – Nothing to report
7. Policy – Kristin Mirliani – Nothing to report

J. Future Business – Next Meeting Thursday, January 5, `2016

K. Other Business – No other business.

L. Adjournment – Reuki Schott motioned to adjourn at 9:40 PM. It was seconded by Michael Loughran. It was voted 5-0.

5 yeas 0 nay