

Town of Canton
Canton School Committee Minutes of the Meeting of November 1, 2018
Canton High School Distance Learning Lab

A. Call to Order:

The meeting of the School Committee is called to order by Vice Chair Michael Loughran at 7:00 pm.

B. Executive Session:

C. Open Session:

Present are:

Michael Loughran

Meg Gannon

Reuki Schutt

Nichola Gallagher

Kristin Mirliani - Absent

Also Present:

Dr. Jennifer Fischer-Mueller, Superintendent

Barry Nectow, Business Manager

Colleen Hutchinson, Recording Secretary

Public

Staff

Vice Chair Loughran held a moment of silence for Mr. Martin Badoian.

- D. Public Comments/Questions: Ms. Ellen Donovan inquired about the cost of the Annual Brochure. She raised concern with spending money on printing costs when she felt there is a need for Chrome books at GMS. Ms. Reuki Schutt assured Ms. Donovan that any costs associated with printing the brochure is not taking anything away from educational needs. Ms. Donovan also asked about the target audience for the brochure. Reported audience: voters, parents, realtors, community members.

Ms. Donovan also wants to keep dialogue open about prayer at school sponsored events. Superintendent Fischer-Mueller and Ms. Reuki Schutt confirmed that the district's response follows the law. Ms. Donovan encouraged students' rights to initiate prayer at their own at graduation. School Committee responded that they would continue to research and follow the law.

E. Student Report:

Mr. Max Macort reported on his visits to the Rodman Early Childhood Center and to the Luce School. It is Family Literacy Month at the Rodman. All students were given the book *How Kind* to read with their families. The book fair takes place at the end of the month. Preschoolers also participate in Birthday Pick-a-Book to take home for their birthday. Max observed a fifth grade class at the Luce using the same reading strategies that he uses in his AP literature class. He reported that there are two co-taught 3rd grade classes where one teacher teaches science and math class and the other teachers ELA and history. This is the first year the Luce has had co-taught classes; it has been well received. There is also a new Science room at the Luce. Luce teachers have the opportunity to sign up to observe other coworkers teach lessons during free periods.

F. Superintendent's Report:

Superintendent Activities Highlights

Human Resources Seminar: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller and Assistant Superintendent Kinsella attended a two-day workshop regarding Human Resources issues. This comprehensive seminar provided information specifically applicable to Canton Public Schools HR on hiring and retention practices and changes in state and federal laws, primarily in relation to discrimination and bullying.

German Exchange: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller and Vice Chair Mr. Loughran attended a German Exchange Breakfast and Farewell dinner. One element of great significance is how members of the Canton community continue to support and celebrate Canton High School's 40 year exchange with Bocholt, Germany, and the many, many folks who have been touched by this experience. Thank you to everyone who supports the German Exchange Program.

Inclement Weather Meeting: Superintendent Fischer –Mueller thanked Chief Doody, and Mike Trotta for joining Barry Nectow, Brian Lynch and herself to discuss procedures and communication regarding the winter weather that is on its way. With a focus on student and staff safety, discussion focused on the Town's efforts to clear the roads and sidewalks of ice and snow and continued communications with Mr. Trotta and local safety officials.

Updates

Personnel:

Martin Badoian: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller announced the passing of CHS Math Teacher and Math Team Coach Martin Badoian. Marty was a teacher in Canton for 59 years. Mr. Paul Dybdahl, with the help of the Math team, decided to honor Mr. Badoian by gathering all the Math Team trophies in storage and assembling them in Mr. Badoian's classroom. There is also a Vimeo <https://vimeo.com/297880659> by Mr. Ed McDonough honoring Mr. Badoian.

Services for Mr. Badoian are:

November 3, 2:00 pm

First Congregational Church of Sharon

29 N Main St, Sharon, MA 02067

Robie Peter: Ms. Robie Peter, Principal of the Dean S. Luce School announced her intentions to retire the end of this school year. Robie has made many significant contributions during her 32 years as a teacher and school administrator in Canton. Congratulations to Ms. Peter. Below is the letter Robie shared with the community:

Dear Luce Community,

Today has been a pretty emotional day telling my friends, staff and now you of my intentions. After considerable thought, and with mixed feelings, I have informed the district of my intention to retire at the conclusion of this school year. It is time to embark on the next phase of my life. It is bittersweet in many ways but I look forward to more time with family and friends and opportunities to engage in leisure activities.

I began my tenure in Canton long ago at the Lt. Hansen as the only early childhood special educator in the preschool program. I was afforded many opportunities to advocate for the needs of the children in Canton as the Early Childhood Coordinator,

Team Chairperson, Assistant Principal and as Principal of the Luce. I am very proud of my many contributions and accomplishments to the district. It has been a fascinating professional experience. I can hardly believe how fast the years have gone by. Canton has been my second home for much of my life. The Luce is a special community filled with a dedicated staff who encourage our students to SHINE. It's been a privilege and honor to have served as the Principal. While I am still Principal I will continue to work hard to support students, staff and families. Thank you for your support and commitment to our school. I am very proud of what we have accomplished here. I will always treasure the many memories I have of students and colleagues that I have been fortunate to influence. I feel humbled that the parents in Canton have entrusted their children to me for all of these years. I thank you all from the bottom of my heart for your professionalism, support and encouragement during my tenure in Canton. Wherever the future leads I know I will hold the community of Canton very dear.

*Sincerely,
Robie L. H. Peter*

Indicators of Excellence

Advancing Teacher Collaboration: Elementary Grade level team leaders participated in professional development, October 18. The teachers continue to build their collaboration skills and facility leading adult learning. Their next PD opportunities will take place during release time in November in which each grade level team will have time to come together to engage in professional learning facilitated by the grade level team leaders.

District-wide Professional Development: On November 6, all schools closed due to elections. Elementary educators were offered a variety of options for professional development sessions. GMS teachers will continue their visioning work with Principal Shannon, as they further develop their shared understanding of the GMS student experience. At CHS, the teachers will continue their work around Intentional Lesson Design.

Teacher on the Trail: In advance of Brian Hickox Alaska adventure, GMS students are participating in the "IditaRead" race from November 1 through January 31. Each homeroom is matched with a "musher" and students are challenged to read independently. They will track reading logs and winners will participate in a send off party for Mr. Hickox on February 13.

CHS Student Honored: As reported by *bpdnews*, on Thursday October 25, 2018, Boston Police Commissioner Gross accepted the Pink Pin Challenge proposed to him by Canton High School junior Shawn Burns. Shawn has been supporting the American Cancer Society's *Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Foundation* by asking police officers and firefighters to donate by purchasing a pink ribbon which he then challenges them to wear on their uniforms for the month of October. Shawn has raised more than ten thousand dollars so far and hopes that his message calls attention to a worthwhile cause while inspiring others to do what they can to help.

Rodman Early Childhood: On October 20, the Early Childhood CAPT sponsored an event, "Preschoolers in The Park" at Pequitside. Approximately 50 people attended the event which gave parents the chance to connect with other families. An additional benefit included the Best Buddies group from CHS that partnered with the Rodman Early Childhood Program. Approximately ten CHS Best Buddies came to the event to play with the children.

Important Dates and Events

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| November 3 | Cantonstock, All music ensembles perform grades 4 -12, 12:00pm - 4:00pm |
| November 6 | Election Day - No School Students - Staff Professional Development |
| November 12 | Veterans Day - No School |
| November 13 | School Committee Meeting – 7:00pm - DLL |
| November 14 | CFED Meeting, 7:00pm, CHS Library Conference Room |
| November 15 – 18 | CHS Fall Play, Public Welcome - 7:00pm CHS Auditorium |
| January 30, 2019 | Community Forum: A Celebration of Canton Public Schools, 7:00pm CHS Auditorium |

G. Old Business: None

H. New Business:

1. YMCA Rise Up Visit: Ms. Katie Doherty introduced Ms. Ellen Green, Vice President of Membership and Executive Director of the Stoughton Branch YMCA. The program provides youth (incoming 2nd and 3rd graders) from low income families literacy support during a free 6 week program. The first part of the day is centered on literacy; the second part is traditional camp activities. Ms. Green explained that the partnership with Canton allows children to gain confidence as readers.
2. CHS Performing Arts Travel Request: Mr. Derek Folan and Ms. Catherine Eckersley requested approval for Out of State and Overnight Travel for the CHS Performing Arts Annual trip to NYC for Broadway Jazz.

Move to approve the CHS Performing Arts Annual trip to NYC:

Reuki Schutt

Second: Meg Gannon

Vote: 4-0

3. Policies: Ms. Debra Bromfield presented policies below for review and vote of approval. Ms. Bromfield noted that all policy changes add wording so it is explicit in all policies that there is no nurse on premises for before and after school programs.

JLC

Move to waive 2nd read: Reuki Schutt

Second: Meg Gannon

Vote: 4-0

Move to approve Policy JLC: Reuki Schutt

Second: Meg Gannon

Vote: 4-0

JLCA

Move to waive 2nd read: Reuki Schutt

Second: Meg Gannon

Vote: 4-0

Move to approve Policy JLCA: Reuki Schutt

Second: Meg Gannon

Vote: 4-0

JLCD

Move to waive 2nd read: Reuki Schutt

Second: Meg Gannon

Vote: 4 -0

Move to approve Policy JLCD: Reuki Schutt

Second: Meg Gannon

Vote: 4-0

JLCEA

Move to waive 2nd read: Reuki Schutt

Second: Meg Gannon

Vote: 4-0

Move to approve Policy JLCEA: Reuki Schutt

Second: Meg Gannon

Vote: 4-0

4. Canton Community Preservation Committee Vote: Pulled from the agenda. Will be presented at the next meeting.
5. Annual Brochure: Assistant Superintendent Patricia Kinsella presented the first Annual CPS Brochure. The brochure provides highlights of each school and tells the story of CPS. All children pictured in the brochure have signed media permissions on file. Superintendent Fischer-Mueller thanked Assistant Superintendent for her work on this product.
6. FY20 Capital Budget: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller and Mr. Barry Nectow presented the FY20 Capital Budget. Barry Nectow explained that we moved the timeline for requests back to the spring so we could begin Capital work over the summer and into the fall. Mr. Nectow walked through the Cash Capital Summary of Requests. Mr. Nectow invited Principal Shannon, Principal Folan and Mr.

Kevin Sullivan, PreK-12 Instructional Technology Coordinator and Student Representative Max Macort to speak about the line item request for portable devices for teachers. All guests spoke about the need for teachers to be more portable, less tethered to their desks. CHS has piloted portable devices for teachers with a few different vendors. Overall feedback is that technology for teachers has amplified lessons, allowed teachers to move freely around the classroom, engaged students more and improved time on learning. There may be changes in the Capital Plan if GMS receives MSBA acceptance and if we get CCPC funds. The total of the Superintendent's requests equals 750k. Barry Nectow provided an overview of the debt capital allocation priorities. There are 3 requests: WIFI backbone, CHS rooftop and Memorial Field Visitor bleachers. The School Committee will continue to review and discuss FY20 Capital Budget.

7. Request a Vote of Approval for Disposal of Surplus Property: Mr. Barry Nectow requested approval to dispose of old stage drapes.
Move to approve Disposal of Surplus property: Reuki Schutt
Second: Meg Gannon
Vote: 4-0

- I. Business Manager's Report: None

- J. Routine Matters:
 1. Approve Minutes dated October 18, 2018.
Move: Meg Gannon
Second: Nichola Gallagher
Abstain: Reuki Schutt
Vote: 3-0-1
 2. Approve Executive Minutes dated October 18, 2018.
Move: Meg Gannon
Second: Nichola Gallagher
Abstain: Reuki Schutt
Vote: 3-0-1
 3. Move to Release Executive Minutes dated October 18, 2018
Move: Meg Gannon
Second: Reuki Schutt
Vote: 4-0
 4. Approve Bill schedule dated November 8, 2018
Move: Reuki Schutt
Second: Nichola Gallagher
Vote: 4-0

- K. Sub-Committee Reports:
 1. CPC – Nichola Gallagher – nothing to report
 2. BRC – Mike Loughran – nothing to report
 3. Wellness - Meg Gannon – nothing to report
 4. Finance - Reuki Schutt/Meg Gannon – discussed earlier during Capital agenda item.
 5. Policy - Kristin Mirliani – discussed earlier during New Business.
 6. PRHC – Nichola Gallagher- nothing to report

- L. Future Business: Next School Committee Meeting will be held Tuesday, November 13, 2018 @ 7:00 in the Distance Learning Lab.
Vote to change next meeting from Thursday, November 15, 2018 to Tuesday, November 13, 2018

Move: Reuki Schutt

Second: Meg Gannon

Vote: 4-0

- M. Other Business:

- N. Adjournment: Time: 9:02 p.m.

Move to adjourn Open Session: Meg Gannon

Second: Reuki Schutt