

Town of Canton  
Canton School Committee Minutes of the Meeting of March 28, 2019  
Canton High School Distance Learning Lab

- A. Call to Order: The meeting of the School Committee is called to order by Chair Kristin Mirliani at 6:30 pm. Motion to go into Executive Session by Michael Loughran for the purpose of discussing contractual matters. Second by Nichola Gallagher. It was voted by roll call 3-0.

Kristin Mirliani	yea
Michael Loughran	yea
Nichola Gallagher	yea

- B. Open Session: Chair Kristin Mirliani calls meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

Present are:

Kristin Mirliani  
Michael Loughran  
Meg Gannon  
Reuki Schutt- Absent  
Nichola Gallagher

Also Present:

Dr. Jennifer Fischer-Mueller, Superintendent  
Barry Nectow, Business Manager (arr. 7:30)  
Colleen Hutchinson, Recording Secretary  
Max Macort, Student Representative  
Press  
Staff  
Public

Chair Mirliani held a moment of silence for Mr. Fred Kral and his wife, Cathleen, who died in a fire in their home. Mr. Kral was a retired CPH teacher and GMS Assistant Principal.

Chair Mirliani announced that this is the final meeting for both Meg Gannon and Mike Loughran. Chair Mirliani thanked Mike Loughran and Meg Gannon for their years of service to the Canton Public Schools. Members wished them well.

- C. Student Report: Max Macort visited both the JFK School and GMS. Max reported that teachers at JFK are given the freedom to find new ways of presenting lessons. They are also looking at the physical composition of classrooms to eradicate any possible distractions. JFK also celebrated March Madness with the selection of 16 books. Books were paired up, and students across the school voted on the winner from each pair. Last year 'Make Way for Ducklings' was the winner, and it is an early favorite this time as well. GMS recently hosted the Sreenagers film where approximately three hundred people attended. Principal Shannon will be visiting the three elementary schools to greet fifth graders and welcome them to the Galvin next year.

- D. New Business: (Chair Mirliani noted that we would be changing the order of some agenda items this evening.)

CHS Boys Hockey Team Visit: Mr. Derek Folan introduced the CHS hockey coaches and congratulated the coaches and team on winning the D2 State Championship. Principal Folan spoke about the team's leadership qualities and their character. Coach Brian Shuman introduced team members and spoke about the team's accomplishments.

- E. Superintendent's Report:

**Superintendent Activities Highlights**

CAPE Spelling Bee: The Spelling Bee is the largest fundraiser for CAPE. The money raised supports grants that teachers can apply for to enrich the experience of all Canton Public School Students. For a complete listing of grants awarded please go to:

[www.cantoncape.org](http://www.cantoncape.org). Superintendent Fischer-Mueller thanked Ellen Golden and Katie Clark Radovsky for organizing this event, and congratulated all the Spelling Bee winners.

SCREENAGERS: The GMS CAPT hosted a viewing of the documentary *SCREENAGERS*, on March 25. The film offered strategies on how to help our children navigate the digital world. Superintendent Fischer-Mueller thanked GMS Principal, Sarah Shannon, for organizing the event, and all the members of the panel who shared their expertise.

Artists in Bloom: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller congratulated Patricia Palmer on another amazing success with this year's Artists in Bloom event that took place on March 9-10 at Pequitside Farm. The event is a collaboration between CPS art students and area gardeners, from the Canton Garden Club, to showcase both student and community talent.

**Indicators of Excellence**

Galvin Middle School at the State MATHCOUNTS: Congratulations to Akshay on earning 4th place in this prestigious competition.

Next Principal of Dean S. Luce Elementary School: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller announced Yeshi Gaskin Lamour as the new Principal of the Dean S. Luce Elementary School. Mr. Gaskin Lamour will attend the School Committee meeting on April 11, 2019 for formal introductions.

Regional Science Fair: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller congratulated CHS Junior, Anvitha Addanki, on her first place win at the Regional Science fair for her Project titled: A Novel Noninvasive and Inexpensive Biomarker for Diagnosing Major Depressive Disorder (MDD).

2019 Real World Design Challenge State Award Ceremony: Congratulations to the Canton High School Bulldogs 2019 Real World Design Challenge 1st place State Champions. As first place winners, they will be attending and competing in the RWDC Nationals April 12-14th in Washington, DC.

The Real World Design Challenge (RWDC) is an annual competition, providing high school students, grades 9-12 the opportunity to work on real world challenges that face one of the Nation's leading industries.

DESE Visit: As part of DESE Commissioner Jeff Riley's listening tour, he visited CHS on March 12. Commissioner Riley met with teachers and students and visited classrooms and programs to witness the great work taking place at CHS. To view a video created by CHS students about the Commissioner's visit follow link below:

<https://twitter.com/digucator/status/1106264180871647232?s=12>

CHS Girls Hockey: Congratulations to the CHS Girls Hockey Team on receiving the James F. Mulloy Ice Hockey Team Sportsmanship Award for 2019. This award is presented to teams that exemplify sportsmanship.

### **Important Dates and Events**

March 29	CHS Spring Concert, CHS Auditorium, 7:00 pm, Public Welcome
April 2	Report Cards Emailed - All Grades
April 3	Early Release, PreK-5 Parent Conferences
April 4	PreK-5 Parent Conferences, Evening
April 9	CHS Jazz Concert, 7:00 pm, Public Welcome
April 11	School Committee Meeting
April 15-19	Spring Recess

#### F. New Business:

JFK Student Council: Ms. Meg Gannon introduced the JFK Student Council Members and spoke about their background and explained how the group got started. Thirty students ran for four officer positions, there are also homeroom representative positions. The group meets during recess for 10 minutes to plan activities. Members did a presentation to school committee where they talked about their work and shared their spring project.

#### G. Public Comments/Questions: Ms. Ellen Donovan publicly thanked both Michael Loughran and Meg Gannon for their volunteer service and dedication to the students of CPS.

#### H. New Business:

1. CHS 18-22 Year Old Program: Ms. Debra Bromfield, Mr. Derek Folan and Ms. Shanna Belenky presented the new Transition Program for students ages 18-22 years old. Currently there are six students who will stay at CHS and participate in the program until they are 22 years old. The students will complete activities of daily living in the morning, look at current events, do chores in their mock apartment, then go out to jobs on campus or in the community with a job coach. In the afternoons, they will participate in leisure activities. This program affords students the opportunity to learn vocational, recreational and daily living skills in an authentic setting.

2. CHS Out of State Travel Request: Mr. Derek Folan and JSA Advisor, Mr. Patrick Connor requested approval for JSA members to attend the Spring State Congress in Stanford, CT on April 27-28, 2019.

**Move to approve CHS travel for JSA members to attend Spring State Congress in Stanford, CT:** Mike Loughran

**Second:** Meg Gannon

**Vote:** 4-0

3. Cabot Fund Grant: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller and Mr. Barry Nectow presented the Cabot Fund recommendations for approval. The total grant amount being awarded between eight recipients is \$12,000. Mr. Nectow reviewed the criteria for approval. The recipients recommended are: Brookwood Community Farm, Canton Scouting, Pequitside Camp, Canton Basketball, Canton Youth Hockey, Pop Warner Football and Cheerleading, Luce Fun Run, and the JFK CAPT. The complete list of recipients and criteria can be found on the CPS web page under the school committee tab.

**Move to approve the Cabot Fund distribution of grant money for eight recipients totaling \$12,000:** Mike Loughran

**Second:** Meg Gannon

**Vote:** 4-0

4. School Calendar: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller presented the 2019-2020 school calendar for a vote of approval. CTA supported continued alignment with the contract, which calls for a school start date after Labor Day. The calendar will be posted on the school website.

**Move to approve the 2019-2020 district calendar:** Mike Loughran

**Second:** Meg Gannon

**Vote:** 4-0

5. Bus Fee Increase Proposal: Mr. Barry Nectow requested a vote of approval to increase the FY20 bus fee from \$250-\$300, \$285 for second rider and \$265 for third rider. The family cap will be \$840. The last increase was in FY16. Mr. Nectow did a comparison of fees with our 12 town peer group, the average fee is \$300. The fee increase will offset the overall cost of transportation. The public was reminded that by law, the town is not required to transport all students, Canton goes beyond what it is legally obligated to do. The complete report can be found on the CPS web page under the school committee tab.

**Move to approve a \$50 increase in bus fees:** Mike Loughran

**Second:** Meg Gannon

**Vote:** 4-0

6. Kidsborough Contract: Mr. Barry Nectow proposed that Kidsborough be awarded the Luce School before and after school contract. There were five proposals in all. All proposals were scored by a five member committee, Kidsborough scored the highest. Luce Administrators are pleased with the program. The contract is a three year contract with two one year options, which brings it to a possible five year contract.

**Move to approve the Luce before and after school contract be awarded to Kidsborough:** Mike Loughran

**Second:** Meg Gannon

**Vote:** 4-0

I. Other Business:

1. GMS Statement of Interest: Mr. Barry Nectow presented the GMS Statement of Interest (SOI) for a re-vote of approval to include required language below:

*Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on March 28, 2019, prior to the SOI submission closing date, the School Committee of the Town of Canton, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest Form dated March 19, 2019 for the William H. Galvin Middle School which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which an application may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future: Priority categories 2, 5 and 7 are consistent with the recently completed master plan and feasibility Study and addresses over-crowding, modernization of school facility systems and addresses an obsolete building in order to provide a full range of programs consistent with the district educational vision; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest Form, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City/Town/Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority*

**Move to approve the SOI with language above:** Nichola Gallagher

**Second:** Mike Loughran

**Vote:** 4-0

2. FY20 Budget: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller and Mr. Barry Nectow presented the FY20 operating budget with a 3.82% increase, totaling \$44,014,362, for a vote of approval. The FY 20 budget was voted on January 3, 2019 with an increase of 5.45%. Recently, the Town's Finance Committee voted a budget increase for the schools with a 3.82% increase. Mr. Nectow outlined reductions in staff, supplies and services as a result of not getting the original budget that we planned for. Mr. Nectow reminded members that at that same meeting, the Finance Committee did approve \$700 for the special education reserve fund and \$125 for the JFK modular project. Superintendent Fischer-Mueller explained that all changes to the budget were done with Principals' input and suggestions. Superintendent Fischer-Mueller thanked members of the Finance Committee, Mr. Jim Murgia and Mr. Rob Barker for their help and cooperation. The complete copy of the FY20 budget can be found on the CPS website under the school committee tab.

**Move to approve the FY20 Operating Budget of \$44,014,362:** Mike Loughran

**Second:** Meg Gannon

**Vote:** 4-0

3. Policy EBC 2<sup>nd</sup> Read: Ms. Debra Bromfield presented policy EBC for a 2<sup>nd</sup> read with changes to *read fire drill are held four times per school year and*

*evacuation drills are held three times per school year, in each building, constituting the absolute minimum.*

**Move to approve Policy EBC with changes:** Mike Loughran

**Second:** Meg Gannon

**Vote:** 4-0

- J. Business Manager's Report: Mr. Nectow reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals approved all four waivers for the JFK Modular project; there is a twenty day comment period then the permit will be pulled. The project will move forward with Northern Contracting with an expected opening of September 2019. Mr. Nectow informed the committee that the DOT did not award the Town of Canton and the Luce School school the grant for the work at the intersection of Sherman, Angela and Pleasant Street. Finally, Mr. Nectow announced that it is bus application time. The timeline is below:

**4/8/2019** – Blackboard Announcement to all families that the Pay and Ride Applications will be submitted electronically this year.

**4/10/2019** – Applications and instructions will be made available electronically to all families. (Paper copies will also be available)

**5/10/2019** – Bus applications due (no late fee assessed)

**5/11/2019-6/9/2019** – Bus applications accepted, \$50 late fee assessed

**After 6/9/2019** – Applications accepted with late fee, no guarantee of seat on bus until after 10/1/2019.

**New registrations do not apply to the deadline dates above.**

Chair Mirliani requested the CHS Parking Pass applications be made available at the same time as well.

K. Routine Matters:

1. Approve Minutes dated February 28, 2019

**Move:** Nichola Gallagher

**Second:** Meg Gannon

**Vote:** 3-0-1

2. Approve Executive Minutes dated February 28, 2019, with revision. Error noted: Kristin Mirliani participated by phone conference not Meg Gannon.

**Move:** Michael Loughran

**Second:** Meg Gannon

**Vote:** 4-0

3. Approve Bill schedule dated March 21, 2019

**Move:** Mike Loughran

**Second:** Meg Gannon

**Vote:** 4-0

4. Approve Bill schedule dated April 4, 2019

**Move:** Mike Loughran

**Second:** Meg Gannon

**Vote:** 4-0

L. Sub-Committee Reports:

1. CCPC – Nichola Gallagher – nothing to report
2. BRC – Mike Loughran – nothing new to report
3. Wellness - Meg Gannon – nothing to report
4. Finance - Reuki Schutt/Meg Gannon – nothing to report
5. Policy - Kristin Mirliani – nothing to report
6. PRHC – Nichola Gallagher – Continuing to work with Srimayi; she came up with a proposal and may be contributing to the exhibit they are working on.

M. Future Business: Next School Committee Meeting will be held Thursday, April 11, 2019 @ 7:00 in the Distance Learning Lab.

N. Adjournment: Mike Loughran expressed his pleasure with working on the School Committee; he feels that the schools are in very good shape. Meg thanked the committee for a fabulous experience.

Time: 8:22 pm

**Move to adjourn Open Session:** Mike Loughran

**Second:** Meg Gannon

**Vote:** 4-0