

Town of Canton  
Canton School Committee Minutes of the Meeting of August 22, 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 7:01 PM.

B. Open Session:

Present are:

Kristin Mirliani

Nichola Gallagher

Reuki Schutt

Maureen Moran

Kristian Merenda

Also Present:

Dr. Jennifer Fischer-Mueller, Superintendent

Colleen Hutchinson, Recording Secretary

Public

Press

Staff

C. Public Comments/Questions: None

D. Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller reported on the following events:

Superintendent Activities Highlights

Cabinet Meeting: Central office administrators and Superintendent Fischer-Mueller met with the CPS Cabinet to address back-to-school business issues including details on the opening days for staff, review of the Educator Evaluation process and updated regulations, review of the calendars for faculty meetings and administrative meetings and the upcoming sub orientation and new educator orientation.

Class of 1969 Reunion: Mr. Folan welcomed me to the Class of 1969 reunion and their tour of CHS. I welcomed the opportunity to meet these former students and hear some great stories about their time in the Rodman Building and subsequent move to the current high school.

Updates

Canton Community Television and SC Coverage: We extend a hearty thank you to Tanya Willow and her staff for the recent upgrades to the CHS Distance Learning Lab and their coverage of the School Committee meetings. Tonight is the first evening of live coverage of the School Committee meeting. Mr. Nectow expresses his gratitude and commends Ms. Willow regarding our collaborative relationship with Canton Community Television.

Indicators of Excellence

National Banner School Announcement: Congratulations to Ms. Shanna Belenky and Canton High School for their recognition as a National Banner School for promoting inclusion across our community.

Professional Development: Teachers across the school system have participated in a variety of exciting and enriching professional development opportunities throughout the summer. Workshops have included, for example, Writers' Workshop, Preparing for Adult Learning, Creating Learning Environments, DEEP and STEAM. The Commissioner of Education, Jeff Riley, visited GMS to observe the work that our teachers were doing for STEAM. He expressed his excitement in our attention to this important work and Canton's role in creating meaningful STEAM experiences for students. The Director of Teaching and Learning and the Assistant Superintendent will present a summary of this work to the School Committee later next month.

Important Dates and Events

August 23	Substitute Orientation, 8:00 – 3:00, CHS Library
August 26-27	New Educator Orientation, 8:00 – 3:00, CHS Library
August 27	Freshman Orientation, 8:30 - 12:30, CHS
August 28	Grade 6 Tour Night, 6:00 - 7:30, GMS
Sept. 2	Labor Day, No School
Sept. 3	ALL Staff report to work – No students
Sept. 3	Grades K-1 Open House, 6:00, Hansen School
Sept. 4	Teachers report to work – No support staff or students
Sept. 4	Grades K-1 Open House, 5:00, Luce School
Sept. 5	First Day of School for grades 1-12
Sept. 5	Grades K-1 Open House, 6:00, JFK
Sept. 6	PreK Open House, 12:30-3:00, Rodman PreK
Sept. 9	First Day of School for PreK & K
Sept. 11	Grades 2-5 Open House, 6:00, JFK
Sept. 12	Grades 2-5 Open House, 6:00, Hansen
Sept. 12	School Committee Meeting, 7:00, DLL

Sept. 17	CHS Athletic Night, 7:00, CHS Auditorium
Sept. 18	Grades 2-5 Open House, 6:00, Dean S. Luce School
Sept. 19	GMS Open House, 6:00, GMS
Sept. 24	CHS Open House, 6:30, CHS
Sept. 26	School Committee Meeting, 7:00, DLL

E. New Business

1. Fitness Equipment Donation: Mr. Derek Folan and Mr. Adam Hughes publicly thanked Mr. Bill Dadasis and Mrs. Kim Dadasis for the donation of state of the art fitness equipment. The equipment enhances the ability to train and support twenty-eight CHS teams and is of great value to the fitness classes too.

**Move to accept the donation of Fitness Equipment:** Reuki Schutt

**Second:** Nichola Gallagher

**Vote:** 5-0

2. Canton Public Schools Appendix and Student Handbooks: Ms. Debra Bromfield, Assistant Superintendent Patricia Kinsella, Mr. Derek Folan, and Ms. Julie Shore presented the updated District Appendix and Student/Family Handbooks for each school. Ms. Bromfield noted that there were many minor language changes and a few substantive changes. Changes to the district appendix include: a notice that translations are available for all handbooks, Ms. Shore reviewed the new RUP, there is a directory information sign off sheet and student data privacy pledge. There were discussions and a request for more information about what is shared and collected by GSuite and how it is used. There are also changes to foster care students' rights and observation of special education programs. Mr. Folan explained that vaping is now included in the drug and alcohol section of the handbook. Minor student attire changes to both CHS and JFK. After some discussion, it was agreed that the JFK will strike the no spaghetti straps clause from their handbook. GMS made changes including all electronic devices should remain in students locker or backpack during the school day unless permitted by staff for educational purposes, locker visit times, no food or drink in the classroom except for clear water bottles and no student will be excluded from a field trip due to financial reasons. There was a brief discussion about allowing bottles other than clear water bottles and about the need to consistently have devices available for students who may not have their own electronic device to use.

**Move to accept the district appendix and student/family handbooks with minor changes noted for edits/typos and striking the no spaghetti strap dress code from the JFK Handbook:** Reuki Schutt

**Second:** Nichola Gallagher

**Vote:** 5-0

F. Old Business: None

G. Business Manager's Report: Superintendent Fischer-Mueller reported for Mr. Nectow that the JFK modulars are progressing as planned. An enrollment report was also presented. The current Kindergarten numbers are eighty-four at the Hansen, eighty-eight at the JFK, and eighty-three at the Luce. The GMS numbers have shown an increase of sixty across all grades. CHS is only one student above last year's number and the district shows an increase of twenty-five students overall.

H. Routine Matters:

1. Approve Minutes dated July 11, 2019  
**Move:** Reuki Schutt  
**Second:** Nichola Gallagher  
**Vote:** 5-0
2. Approve Executive Minutes dated July 11, 2019.  
**Move:** Reuki Schutt  
**Second:** Nichola Gallagher  
**Vote:** 5-0
3. Approve Workshop minutes dated August 15, 2019  
**Motion:** Reuki Schutt  
**Second:** Nichola Gallagher  
**Vote:** 5-0
4. An announcement that Maureen Moran signed and approved warrants dated:  
July 19, FY19  
July 19, FY20  
July 26, 2019
5. Approve bill schedule dated August 23, 2019  
**Move:** Reuki Schutt  
**Second:** Nichola Gallagher  
**Vote:** 5-0

I. Sub-Committee Reports

1. CPC - Nichola Gallagher - Meeting scheduled for next week with Kristin Phelps, Ms. Gallagher, Ms. Schutt, Mr. Nectow, and Superintendent Fischer-Mueller to talk about policy and plans.
2. BRC - Kristian Merenda Wellness - Met last night, nothing to report at this time.
3. Wellness- Maureen Moran met with Nurse Leader Ms. Elizabeth Nightingale. They will continue to work on webpage updates and review policy links.
4. Finance - Reuki Schutt/Maureen Moran - Nothing to report
5. Policy - Kristin Mirliani – Nothing to report
6. PRHC – Nichola Gallagher reported that they have chosen a designer to move forward with the 2nd-floor museum.

J. Future Business: Next School Committee Meeting will be held Thursday, September 12, 2019 @ 7:00 in the Distance Learning Lab at CHS.

K. Other Business: No report

L. Adjournment: At 8:20 p.m., the Canton Public School Committee was polled and voted unanimously to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing contractual matters, with no intention of returning to open session.

Roll call vote 5-0

Kristin Mirliani                      yea

Reuki Schutt                              yea

Nichola Gallagher                      yea

Maureen Moran                              yea

Kristian Merenda                              yea