

**Canton Board of Education
Regular Meeting Minutes**

January 10, 2023

7:15 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting

Board Members:

Lou Daniels	Present
Felicia Jordan	Present
Russell Bush	Virtual
Peggy Steinway	Present
Cindy Moeller	Present
Ryan O'Donnell	Virtual
Erika Hayes	Present
Joseph Scheideler	Present
Kim Sullivan	Present

Also Present:

Kevin D. Case, Superintendent of Schools
Kyra Lefebvre, Information Technology
Jon Bishop, Asst Superintendent of Schools
Donna Miscikoski, Business Manager
Claudia Nardi, Asst to Superintendent of Schools
Drew DiPippo, Principal of Canton High School
Deborah Schwager, Director of School Counseling

Student Representatives:

Simone Mesas	Present
Isabella Vogt	Present
Khalil Thomas	Absent

Lou Daniels, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m. and asked the student representatives to lead the Pledge of Alliance. K. Case reviewed the bylaws for board elections and L. Daniels stated that the elections will take place with a hand raise.

MOTION: To open nominations for Chair.

C. Moeller/L. Daniels

F. Jordan nominated Lou Daniels for Chair of the Canton Board of Education; P. Steinway seconded.

Count 9-0

L. Daniels elected as Chair. The meeting was turned over to Lou Daniels, Chair. L. Daniel asked that the Board to open nominations for the position of Vice-Chair.

MOTION: To open nominations for Vice-Chair.

K. Sullivan/C. Moeller

F. Jordan nominated J. Scheideler for Vice Chair of the Canton Board of Education; C. Moeller seconded.

Count 9-0

J. Scheideler elected as Vice-Chair. L. Daniels asked that the Board open nominations for the position of Secretary.

MOTION: To open nominations for Secretary.

E. Hayes/ P. Steinway

L. Daniels nominated K. Sullivan for Secretary of the Canton Board of Education; P. Steinway seconded.

Count 9-0

K. Sullivan elected as Secretary.

STUDENT REPORT - Isabella Vogt and Simone Mesa

Past Events:

- Wednesday, December 14th was the CIS Grade 6 Winter Concert
- Friday, December 16th was the CMS Student Council Winter Dance
- Friday, December 23rd was a half day for all schools
- Monday, December 26th - Monday, January 2nd was the district wide Holiday Recess

Upcoming:

- There will be a district wide half day on Friday, January 13th prior to the long weekend
- Select CHS students will be performing at the Northern Region Music Festival this upcoming Saturday (January 14th)

- There will be no school Monday, January 16th, as it will be Martin Luther King Day
- Senior CAMP Expo presentations will be held on Thursday, January 19th
- The CHS Prisms Concert will be held on Saturday, February 4th
- The CHS Earth Choral Concert will be held on Wednesday, March 1st

Ongoing:

- Winter sports teams have continued with their games and meets
- The CHS Musical rehearsals have begun, the performances on March 17th, 18th and 19th

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, *Kevin Case*

Superintendent Case shared that it has been a sad couple of weeks for the Canton School district with the loss of one of Canton's students in a tragic accident. He is overwhelmed by the amount of response and care that the district has shown for the student and his family. He provided special thanks to Principal Drew DiPippo, Asst. Principal Dr. Ruth Kidwell, Athletic coach, Bill Phelps and the entire Canton community for their support, as well as the Executive Leadership from CREC who attended the memorial service. He shared that the family thanked the district for all of Canton's initiatives. The January 17th budget meeting will be cancelled as there isn't a need to meet just yet. He shared the details on the upcoming community gathering and encouraged the public to register for the workshops and shared a number of flyers with initiatives going on at each of the schools.

CHAIR REPORT, *Lou Daniels*

Chair Daniels spoke about the application to Planning & Zoning Commission for the proposal of a municipal exception electronic signage in the area of Simonds Avenue, to the left of the entrance to the Canton Middle/High School. Signage will be able to communicate to the community upcoming events, games and both the schools and town would be able to use the signage as a form of communication. He is asking that the Board of Education approve the application to submit for electronic signage.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT, *Jon Bishop*

J. Bishop shared an update on the Safety and Security Request for Proposal which will be coming in this month. He stated that he and other district personnel attended a meeting with state security representative who oversees all the districts in CT and it was a valuable, insightful meeting. Also reminded the public about the upcoming community workshops being held on January 18th and February 1st.

BUSINESS OFFICE, *Donna Miscikoski*

D. Miscikoski shared the financials for month ending December 2022. She stated that there is a deficit in the special education line item but that will be offset from the CHOICE program funds. The financial audit was complete at the end of December and there were no findings.

PUBLIC FORUM – no virtual comments

Theresa Sullivan -Barger was present and provided insight on the Canton Greater Together Community Fund Advisory Committee and grants that are available. She wanted to be sure the district was aware of the grant opportunities Below is her email that was provided to the Board of Education for public comment: Thanks to the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, Canton and each of the other 28 communities in the Foundation's region has money to distribute through grants to support the Canton community. Established in 2019, each Community Fund allows residents to identify unmet needs and receive grant funding to reach a diverse array of ages, interests and needs. The Canton Greater Together Community Fund will offer grants from \$500 to \$10,000 to Canton-based nonprofit groups or individuals who are working under the umbrella of an existing nonprofit as their fiscal agent. Organizations and individuals from throughout the Canton community are encouraged to apply. The Canton Community Fund plans to give out up to \$30,000 in 2023 and continue to build the fund for future years' grants. The application period opens Feb. 1, and the deadline to apply is March 15 at 5 p.m. Grant awards will be announced in early June.

Representatives of the Canton Community Fund Advisory Committee will offer an in-person Information Session to give an overview of the grant application process and answer any questions about how to apply for a grant. This Information Session will take place on Wednesday, Feb. 9 at 7 p.m. at the Canton Community Center, Room C, and include light refreshments, including Cake Gypsy cupcakes. Email CommunityFundCantonCT@gmail.com to register, please. Fillable applications may be downloaded from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving's Canton Community Fund page at www.hfpg.org/cantoncf. Completed applications may be emailed to CommunityFundCantonCT@gmail.com; typed completed applications may be dropped off at a dedicated collection box at the Canton Public Library's circulation

desk. To learn more about the Canton Greater Together Community Fund, including how to apply, or to make a contribution to the Canton Community Fund, go to www.hfpg.org/cantoncf. Last year, the HFPG awarded \$25,500 in grants to the Collinsville Historical Society, Canton Main Street, the Cherry Brook Garden Club, Canton Land Conservation Trust, Canton Youth Soccer Association, Friends of Canton Public Libraries and SpiritHorse Therapeutic Riding Center of Canton.

The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving is the community foundation for Hartford and 28 surrounding towns. Through partnerships, the Foundation seeks to strengthen communities in Greater Hartford by putting philanthropy in action to dismantle structural racism and achieve equity in social and economic mobility. Made possible by the gifts of generous individuals, families and organizations, the Foundation has awarded grants of more than \$849 million since its founding in 1925. For more information, visit www.hfpg.org or call 860-548-1888.

PRESENTATIONS

Deborah Schwager, Director of School Counseling was present and provided an in-depth presentation on the Canton Schools Districts Counseling initiatives. Principal Drew DiPippo was also present and he spoke highly about the counseling department and staff stating how incredibly fortunate the community is to have these resources for students and families.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: That the Canton Board of Education accept the Consent Agenda as presented.

K. Sullivan/E. Hayes; unanimous

MOTION: Move that the Canton Board of Education approve the 2023-2024 Program of Studies.

F. Jordan/ C. Moeller; 8-0-1 (L. Daniels opposed, not present at prior meeting)

MOTION: Move that the Canton Board of Education approve the December 2022 Financials

P. Steinway/ J. Scheideler; unanimous

MOTION: Move that the Canton Board of Education submit a Zone Change Application for a Zoning Regulation Amendment to the Canton Planning and Zoning Commission, to incorporate language that would allow for digital electronic signage under section 7.3B and 7.3C of the Canton Zoning regulations.

F. Jordan/ R. Bush; unanimous

MOTION: Move that the Canton Board of Education move into Executive Session inviting Superintendent Case. (9:05 p.m.)

F. Jordan/C. Moeller; unanimous

K. Case left executive session at 9:15 p.m.

MOTION: Move that the Canton Board of Education exit Executive Session at 9:25 p.m.

R. Bush/C. Moeller; unanimous

MOTION: Move that the Canton Board of Education adjourn its January 10, 2023 Board of Education meeting at 9:26 p.m.

J. Scheideler/ P. Steinway; unanimous

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Sullivan, Board Secretary