

CANTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Our Vision

Opening Minds ~ Transforming Lives

CANTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, September 9, 2025 – 6:30 p.m.

Board Members:

Lou Daniels	Present
Felicia Jordan	Present
Russell Bush	Present
Peggy Steinway	Present
Jordan Toussaint	Present
Erika Hayes	Present
Joseph Scheideler	Present
Kim Sullivan	Present (6:32 p.m.)
Michelle Kulak	Present

Also Present:

Dr. Jordan Grossman, Superintendent of Schools
Anna Robbins, Business Manager (6:57 p.m.)
Claudia Nardi, Asst to Superintendent of Schools
Kyra Lefebvre, Communications Specialist
Brian Gouin, Athletic Director and Supervisor of Health & Physical Education

Student Representatives

Lucas Mainville	Present (left at 6:50 p.m. for athletic event)
Jonathan Ho	Present

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Daniels called the September 9, 2025 meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Jonathan Ho led the Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ryan Colgan of 7 Buttonwood Hill Rd. - *I want to emphasize that a Title 9 inquiry and investigation is a very serious matter. The US Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights have already found that Canton, along with other districts, violated Title 9 by denying athletic opportunities to female student athletes. These findings specifically included cases where biological males competed in girls' sports creating clear disadvantages for female athletes. For me personally, this is not abstract. My daughter is directly affected, canton school system. Currently offers a freshman boys soccer program but does not provide an equivalent girls team. This inequity was cited in the OCR findings and given that soccer is the largest youth sport in Canton, it cannot be explained away as a lack of participation. I want to know why this disparity exists and how it will be addressed. With the introduction of our new athletic director, I believe it is important to hear his stance on the issue as well. Specifically, whether he supports allowing biological male athletes to participate in girl's competitive sports. This is at the heart of the OCR findings and it's at the heart of fairness for our daughters. Transparency - the community deserves clarity on how the board is handling this. Since this is a municipal election year, it should be on the public record when and which board members voted in favor of using taxpayer dollars to push back on the OCR's resolution terms instead of working towards compliance. In addition, I urge the board to create either a public Q&A session or a published FAQ on the BOE website so families can access factual information about what is at stake, including the potential loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars in federal funding. This is more about legal compliance as it is ensuring equal opportunity for all Canton students protecting fairness and athletics and maintaining transparency and trust with taxpayers. Thank you.*

Jean Mix - 33 Garrett Rd. - *I just wanted to comment about the memo that was sent out by the Canton Public schools and they stated I quote- "our teams would no longer be eligible to and to participate in league games, conference championships, or state tournaments. Student athletes would lose valuable opportunities for competition, exposure, scholarships and school spirit through no fault of their own. Wouldn't this be terrible for any one student to have to go through, let alone all the athletes at Canton. Wouldn't you agree?" Well, one of our own did and has already gone through this. The biological female Canton student was not able to participate in competitions, conference championships and state tournaments due to the participation of two transgender females, or males identifying as transgender females. The female student, our own Canton child, lost valuable opportunities for competition. 25 different races were lost,*

exposure at state and regional tournaments, scholarships she lost out of and she did not get to participate in school spirit of seeing the banner raised in the gym by no fault of her own. This is exactly what happened to this particular student that canton. Her rights to have protection under Title 9, were not protected by Canton, the CIAC or the state of Connecticut. What we have here is a conflict of rights where one person's rights appear to be upheld at the expense of another. Canton has been negligent for five years by not protecting the rights of biological females. Instead of being on the forefront of coming up with solutions, our Superintendent, our Board of Education and administration have said we don't care about our bilateral female students. So, our Superintendent, Board of Ed and administration have said we do not care about our biological students and biological females. And biological females should just sit down and be quiet. You have failed us. Every student counts. Every student matters, including biological females. Thank you.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Board of Education Chair, L. Daniels welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Jonathan Ho, the Board of Education's Junior student Representative and our new Board Member, Michelle Kulak. L. Daniels shared a summer update. Dr. Grossman, Superintendent of Schools introduced Brian Gouin, the district's new Athletic Director and Supervisor of Health & Physical Education. He shared summer updates and upcoming events such as open house schedules and board meetings.

Student Representatives J. Ho and L. Mainville shared updates from the four schools – CBPS, CIS, CMS and CHS.

In the absence of the Business Manager, Dr. Grossman reviewed the Financial Memo and July and August Financials.

MOTION: Move that the Canton Board of Education approve the July and August 2025 Financials as presented.

(F. Jordan | E. Hayes; unanimous)

NEW BUSINESS

Brian Gouin provided a concise introduction and described his new role. Dr. Grossman and L. Daniels commended him on a job well done, even in his short time here, significant improvements have been made and noticed and they look forward to a fall update.

Finance Chair, R. Bush shared that in the Finance Committee meetings, conversations have been held surrounding the food service debt. Debt that is unpaid by families in the district for breakfast and lunch. No action was taken, as the Board needs to have further discussion on the process for debt services.

Board Members provided updates to the meetings that were had for their committees. Some meetings have not happened as the school year has just started. Chair Daniels shared an updated Committee document with the Board – minimal changes but committees had to be reassigned due to the addition of a new Board Member and the removal of another Board Member.

Included in the Board Packets were a copy of the upcoming Board of Education events which consisted of school open houses and upcoming board meeting schedules for walkthroughs and remaining meetings for 2025.

CONSENT AGENDA | RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

A. Approval of Minutes

- June 3, 2025 – Regular Meeting

MOTION: Move that the Canton Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda

(J. Toussaint | P. Steinway; 8-0-1 with J. Scheideler abstaining)

B. Review and possible approval as first read of the following policies:

- Administration of Medication Administration of Medications (v40 to 39).docx
- Admission to School Admission to the Public Schools At or Before Age 5 (v3 to 2).docx
- Attendance, Truancy, and Chronic Absenteeism Attendance, Truancy and Chronic Absenteeism (v31 to 30) .docx

MOTION: Move that the Canton Board of Education approve the following policies as a first read:

- **Administration of Medication Administration of Medications (v40 to 39).docx**
- **Admission to School Admission to the Public Schools At or Before Age 5 (v3 to 2).docx**
- **Attendance, Truancy, and Chronic Absenteeism Attendance, Truancy and Chronic Absenteeism (v31 to 30) .docx**

(K. Sullivan | P. Steinway; unanimous)

- C. Review and possibly approve the Canton Middle School trip to Washington, DC on April 22-24, 2026.

MOTION: Move to the approve the Canton Middle School trip to Washington, DC on April 22-24, 2026.

(E. Hayes | F. Jordan; unanimous) Discussion: J. Toussaint inquired about what the fundraising opportunities were and that information will be provided after inquiring with CMS Administration.

- D. Review and possible approval of the repeal the following non-Shipman & Goodwin model policies:

0000 - Philosophy of the Canton Public Schools	6141.328 - Bring Your Own Device
0050 - Code of Ethics	6142.102 - Social and Emotional Learning
0050.1 - School District Legal Status	6144 - Controversial Issues
0200 - Educational Goals	6145.2 - Interscholastic/Intramural Athletics
0300 - Policies for Canton Public Schools	6151 - Class Size
0500 - Comprehensive Improvement Plans/Schedules	6159 - Individualized Education/Special Education Program
0521 - Form Report Form for Complaints of Discrimination	6161 - Selection of Educational Materials
0521 - Nondiscrimination	6161.11 - Responding to Public Requests for Reconsideration of Education Materials
0521.1 - Non-Discrimination/Sexual Harassment Report Form	6172.3 - Homeschooling Guidelines
0521.1 - Sexual Harassment	7000 - Concepts and Roles in Planning for Educational Facilities
0523 - Equity and Diversity	7010 - Principles
1110.1 - Parent Involvement	7112 - Forecasting Enrollments
1250 - Visits to the Schools	7114.1 - Facilities Renovation and Maintenance
1316.3 - Promoting Civil Discourse	7114.2 - Temporary School Facilities
3326.3 - Canton Board of Education Purchasing Card	7115 - Developing Educational Specifications
3541.313 - Video Cameras on School Transportation	7123 - Educational Consultant, Architectural Consultant
4131 - Staff Development	7130.1 - Energy-Conserving Construction
5118 - Nonresident Attendance	7144 - Public Presentation/Public Approval
5131.1 - Bus Conduct	7230.2 - Indoor Air Quality
5131.111 - Video Surveillance	7240.1 - Selection and Installation of Playground Equipment
5141.28 - First Aid/Emergency Medical Care	7540 - Assembling and Preserving Documents
5145.53 - Gender Identity and Expression	
6111 - School Calendar	

MOTION: Move to approve the repeal the following non-Shipman & Goodwin model policies: (each individual policy was read and mitigation of policy memo is attached to these minutes)

(J. Scheideler | J. Toussaint; unanimous)

MOTION: Move to enter into Executive Session For purposes of a discussion regarding security strategy and protocols, inviting Dr. Grossman, Superintendent of Schools at 7:26 p.m.

MOTION: Move to exit Executive Session at 7:47 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Move that the Canton Board of Education adjourn it's September 9th Regular Meeting at 7:49 p.m.



CANTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Opening Minds ~ Transforming Lives

Jordan E. Grossman, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

Jon Bishop

Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Barbara McLean

Director of Pupil Personnel Services

MEMORANDUM

Date: 9/4/2025

To: Canton Board of Education

Subject: Policy Consideration

Attachment to Minutes

The Board has been working to refine the portfolio of policies via the Shipman and Goodwin model documents to reflect the Canton Public Schools in name and operations. As the migration effort continues, the following policies are up for repeal. In this memo, you will find the current policy as well as correlating rationale.

- [0000 Philosophy of the Canton Public Schools.doc](#) - Supported by BOE Strategic Plan; policy not required by law
- [0050 Code of Ethics.docx](#) - Supported by Bylaws, Town Charter, and CABA; policy not required by law
- [0200 Educational Goals.doc](#) - Supported by BOE Strategic Plan; policy not required by law
- [0300 Policies for Canton Public Schools.doc](#) - Supported by Bylaws; policy not required by law
- [0500 Comprehensive Improvement Plans/Schedules.doc](#) - Supported by BOE Strategic Plan, policy not required by law
- [1110.1 - Parent Involvement](#) - Outdated References; [6006 - Parent and Family Engagement Policy \(Title I\).docx](#) Provides support
- [1250 - Visits to the Schools](#) - Covered by [1008 Visitors](#)
- [1316.3 - Promoting Civil Discourse](#) - Policy not required by law, outdated references; shift to operational guidance
- [4131 - Staff Development](#) - Policy not required by law - covered by state law
- [5118 - Nonresident Attendance](#) - Policy not required by law - covered by state law
- [5131.1 - Bus Conduct](#) - Policy not required by law - covered by [5023 - Student Discipline.docx](#) and [5031 - Transportation.docx](#)
- [5131.111 - Video Surveillance](#) - Policy not required by law
- [6111 - School Calendar](#) - Policy not required by law - covered by state law
- [6141.328 Bring Your Own Device](#) - Outdated references, Covered by [5032 - Use of Private Technological Devices by Students.docx](#)
- [6142.102 - Social and Emotional Learning \(SEL\)](#) - Policy not required by law, covered by [5003 - School Climate Policy](#)
- [6144 - Controversial Issues](#) - Policy not required by law, outdated references; shift to operational guidance
- [6159 - Individualized Education/Special Education Program](#) - Policy not required by law - covered by federal law
- [6161 - Selection of Educational Materials](#) - New model policy being developed, shift to operational guidance pending new policy
- [6161.11 - Responding to Public Requests for Reconsideration of Education Materials](#) - New model policy being developed, shift to operational guidance pending new policy
- [6172.3 - Homeschooling Guidelines](#) - Policy not required by law
- [7000 Concepts and Roles in Planning for Educational Facilities.doc](#) - Policy not required by law, PMBC oversight
- [7114.1 Facilities Renovation and Maintenance.doc](#) - Policy not required by law, BOE and Town CIP committee
- [7115 Developing Educational Specifications.doc](#) - Policy not required by law, PMBC oversight
- [7230.2 Indoor Air Quality.doc](#) - Policy not required by law, outdated reference, covered by [IAQ Requirements for School Districts AN ACT CONCERNING INDOOR AIR QUALITY IN SCHOOLS](#).
- [7540 Assembling and Preserving Documents.doc](#) - Covered by [2002 - Retention of Electronic Records and Information.docx](#)
- [3326.3 - Canton Board of Education Purchasing Card](#) - Policy not required by law, Covered by State Law - Sec. 10-248. Payment of school expenses [Chapter 171 - Town Management](#)
- [3541.313 - Video Cameras on School Transportation](#) - Policy not required by law
- [5141.28 - First Aid/Emergency Medical Care](#) - Covered by [4007 - Emergency Action Plan for Athletic Events.docx](#) and [4020 - Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness](#)
- [5145.53 - Gender Identity and Expression \(Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Youth\)](#) - Policy not required by law - covered by state law https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap_164.htm#sec_10-15c; and [1004 Non-discrimination \(Community\)](#), [5017 - Non-discrimination \(Students\)](#), [4016 - Non-discrimination \(Personnel\)](#)
- [6145.2 - Interscholastic/Intramural Athletics](#) - Policy not required by law - outdated references
- [6151 - Class Size](#) - Policy not required by law, shift to operational guidance
- [0050.1 School District Legal Status](#) - Policy not required by law - covered by state law: [Chapter 171 - Town Management](#)
- [0200 Educational Goals](#) - Supported by BOE Strategic Plan; policy not required by law
- [0521 Form Report Form for Complaints of Discrimination](#) - covered by [1004 Non-discrimination \(Community\)](#)
- [0521 Nondiscrimination](#) - covered by [1004 Non-discrimination \(Community\)](#)
- [0521.1 Form Non-Discrimination/Sexual Harassment Report Form](#) - covered by [1004 Non-discrimination \(Community\)](#)
- [0521.1 Sexual Harassment](#) - covered by [4021 - Title IX Sex Discrimination and Harassment \(Personnel\)](#), [5030 - Title IX Sex Discrimination and Harassment](#) and [1004 Non-discrimination \(Community\)](#), [5017 - Non-discrimination \(Students\)](#), [4016 - Non-discrimination \(Personnel\)](#)
- [0523 Equity and Diversity](#) - Policy not required by law, outdated references; shift to operational guidance
- [7010 Principles](#) - Policy not required by law, BOE and Town CIP committee, PMBC
- [7123 Educational Consultant, Architectural Consultant](#) - Policy not required by law, BOE and Town CIP committee, PMBC
- [7130.1 Energy-Conserving Construction.doc](#) - Policy not required by law, BOE and Town CIP committee, PMBC
- [7144 Public Presentation/Public Approval.doc](#) - Policy not required by law, BOE and Town CIP committee, PMBC
- [7240.1 Selection and Installation of Playground Equipment.doc](#) - Policy not required by law, covered by BOE/Town CIP committee, PMBC