

**MINUTES
CANTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
SEPTEMBER 12, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Canton Area School District Board of Education was held in the Canton Jr/Sr High School Library on Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Our President, Mrs. Judy Sourbeer, called the meeting to order, welcomed all in attendance, and reminded the audience to please sign in if they had not done so.

All stood and recited the Pledge to the Flag.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Mrs. Judy Sourbeer, President; Mr. Ryan Allen, Mr. John Ambruch, Mr. Dave DeCristo, Mrs. Arica Jennings, and Mr. Denny Sourbeer.

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Amy Martell, Superintendent; Mr. Mark Jannone, Business Manager/Board Secretary; Mr. Michael Wells, Elementary School Principal; Mr. Donald Jacopetti, High School Principal; Mrs. Amy Repard, Special Education Supervisor; Mrs. Asti Tillotson, Food Service Director; Mrs. Sherry Lambert and Mr. Matt Jennings, newspaper reporters.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 8, 2024.

Voice Vote: All six members present voted yea.
Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage
were absent.
Motion carried.

REPORTS

Superintendent

Dr. Amy Martell, Superintendent, reported on the following items:

- Prospective student teachers had the opportunity to apply for the PA Student Teacher Stipend Program in the Spring of 2024. This program was for the 2024/2025 school year. The applicants were selected, and they have been notified that their applications are being considered. The Canton Area School District must complete the PA Student Teacher Support Program Intake Survey, a Program Participation Agreement, as well as an ACH agreement to be able to participate. Completing the documents does not guarantee that our district will have any selected student teachers in the 2024/2025 award year, but it will expedite the process for receiving funds if we do have a student teacher selected. The 2024/2025 state budget allocated \$20 million to the PA Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) to administer the Student Teacher Stipend Program this year, doubling the amount from last year. The law establishing the grant program also was amended to permit grant recipients to meet their post-certification work-requirement in a pre-kindergarten program, in addition to a public-school entity or nonpublic school. PHEAA is currently communicating provisional awards to those student teachers that completed an application on a first-come, first-served basis. PHEAA will coordinate with the student teacher's postsecondary school and secondary school placement to disburse funds by September 2024. More information is available at pheaa.org.
- ACT 55 OF 2024 ITEMS:
 - Section 1316-C Safety Personnel Waiver: Requires only school districts to have at least one full-time school security personnel who have completed their requisite training to be on duty during the school day beginning with the 2024/2025 school year unless the district

has been granted a waiver from the PCCD School Safety and Security Committee. School districts must certify that they have hired or contracted with a school security personnel that satisfies the requirements of Article XIII-C. PCCD will notify school districts of the waiver process following the School Safety and Security Committee meeting on September 11.

- Section 1316.1 Security Personnel Funding: Establishes a school security personnel restricted account for the purpose of making reimbursements to school districts for the hiring or contracting of school personnel, not to exceed \$50,000. However, no funding was allocated for 2024/2025.
- Section 1555 Curriculum Toolkit for 9/11: Enacted under Act 25 of 2024, this amendment requires school entities to conduct a moment of silence during instructional hours to observe the anniversary of September 11, 2001. Additionally, within 1-year, the Department of Education will provide a curriculum toolkit related to the events and significance of 9/11 for voluntary use by school entities.
- Notification of Criminal Charges against school staff - The current reporting by Teacher Information Management System (TIMS) to districts is not dependable and cannot guarantee the CSAs will be notified if one of their staff is charged with a crime, even crimes that jeopardize the safety and welfare of students. Dr. Martell shared The School District of Haverford Township's letter to the Secretary of Education regarding this issue.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION – AGENDA RELATED

There were no comments.

BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mrs. Arica Jennings to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented for August 31, 2024. (A copy is in the supplemental file.)

Roll Call Vote: All six members present voted yea.
Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage
were absent.
Motion carried.

Bills

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mrs. Arica Jennings to approve the bills for August.

Roll Call Vote: All six members present voted yea.
Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage
were absent.
Motion carried.

Tax Additions, Exemptions and Exonerations

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mrs. Arica Jennings to approve the tax additions, exemptions and exonerations.

Roll Call Vote: All six members present voted yea.
Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage
were absent.
Motion carried.

Transportation Rates and Changes

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mrs. Arica Jennings to approve the transportation changes.

Roll Call Vote: All six members present voted yea.

Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage were absent.
Motion carried.

Transportation

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mrs. Arica Jennings to approve the addition of Felicia Diefenderfer (contractor) and Jodi Hill to the current bus/van driver list.

Roll Call Vote: All six members present voted yea.
Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage were absent.
Motion carried.

License Agreement

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mrs. Arica Jennings to accept the license agreement between the Canton Area School District and Levin Legal Group, PC & Beard Legal Group, PC.

Roll Call Vote: All six members present voted yea.
Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage were absent.
Motion carried.

Agreement

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mrs. Arica Jennings to approve the 2024/2025 PHEAA Participation Agreement LEA for the PA Student Teacher Support Program.

Roll Call Vote: All six members present voted yea.
Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage were absent.
Motion carried.

Agreement

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mrs. Arica Jennings to approve the 2024/2025 Agricultural Articulation Agreement between Canton High School and Lackawanna College.

Roll Call Vote: All six members present voted yea.
Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage were absent.
Motion carried.

Letter of Agreement

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mrs. Arica Jennings to approve the Letter of Agreement between The Main Link and Canton Area School District for the purpose of providing Peer Support Services, effective for the 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 school years.

Roll Call Vote: All six members present voted yea.
Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage were absent.
Motion carried.

PERSONNEL

Resignation

A motion was made by Mr. John Ambruch and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to accept the letter of resignation from the following:

- a. Theresa Jannone, Full-Time (9 month) Paraprofessional, effective 9/13/24, with 8 years of service to Canton Area School District.

Roll Call Vote: All six members present voted yea.
Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage
were absent.
Motion carried.

New Hire

A motion was made by Mr. John Ambruch and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the hiring of the following new employees, pending completion of all required paperwork:

- a. Cassandra Howard, 5th Grade Teacher, M+48 Step 1, \$76,615.00, with full benefits, retroactive to 8/20/24.
- b. Madison Riggs, Part-Time (9 month) Cafeteria Worker, \$15.00 per hour, no benefits, retroactive to 9/9/24.
- c. Elysee McPherson, Part-Time (9 month) Paraprofessional, \$18.00 per hour, no benefits, retroactive to 9/3/24.

Roll Call Vote: All six members present voted yea.
Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage
were absent.
Motion carried.

List Additions

A motion was made by Mr. John Ambruch and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the following additions to the 2024/2025 co-curricular sports/non-sports lists:

- a. Chelsie Swartz, Sophomore Class Advisor, \$509.08.
- b. Janelle VanNoy, Yearbook Club Advisor, \$2,545.40.
- c. Randy Frye, Music Director, \$763.62.

Roll Call Vote: All six members present voted yea.
Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage
were absent.
Motion carried.

Substitute List

A motion was made by Mr. John Ambruch and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the following additions to the substitute list, pending completion of all required paperwork:

- a. Barb Knapp, BLaST Guest Teacher, retroactive to 8/28/24.
- b. Chloe Ward, BLaST Guest Teacher, retroactive to 8/28/24.
- c. RaeAnn Rathbun, BLaST Guest Teacher, retroactive to 8/29/24.
- d. Maggie Saxon, Paraprofessional.
- e. Alexa Dapp, Cafeteria
- f. Stephanie Glover, Certified Teacher, retroactive to 9/9/24.
- g. Charles Engel, CASD Guest Teacher, retroactive to 9/10/24.

Roll Call Vote: All six members present voted yea.
Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage
were absent.
Motion carried.

Volunteers

A motion was made by Mr. John Ambruch and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the following volunteers (all paperwork is complete):

- a. Jimmy Pepper, Football, retroactive to 8/11/24.
- b. Jeffery Morse, Football, retroactive to 8/12/24.
- c. George Schoonover, Independent Golf Coach, retroactive to 8/12/24.
- d. Becca Jennings, Kindergarten field trips.
- e. Will Gowin, Cross Country, retroactive to 8/12/24.
- f. Curt Route, Independent Golf, retroactive to 8/7/24.

Roll Call Vote: All six members present voted yea.
Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage were absent.
Motion carried.

FINANCE POLICY

Second Reading

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. John Ambruch to approve the second reading of the following revised policies:

- a. No. 602 Budget Planning
- b. No. 603 Budget Preparation
- c. No. 608 Bank Accounts
- d. No. 612 Purchases Not Budgeted
- e. No. 614 Payroll Authorization
- f. No. 618 Special Purpose Funds
- g. No. 625 Procurement Cards
- h. No. 703 Sanitary Management
- i. No. 710 Use of Facilities by Staff
- j. No. 811 Bonding
- k. No. 812 Property Insurance
- l. No. 813 Other Insurance
- m. No. 814 Copyright Material
- n. No. 830.1 Data Governance

Roll Call Vote: All six members present voted yea.
Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage were absent.
Motion carried.

OTHER ITEMS

Library Reports

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. John Ambruch to approve the fourth quarter (June-August) Canton Area Elementary School and Canton Jr/Sr High School Libraries Board Reports.

Voice Vote: All six members present voted yea.
Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage were absent.
Motion carried.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION – NON-AGENDA RELATED

There were no comments.

Announcements

There was an Executive Session prior to the Board Meeting, at 4:30 p.m., to discuss security matters.

The Superintendent has confirmed the letter of indemnification with the Canton Borough for the homecoming parade to be held on October 4, 2024 at approximately 5:00 p.m.

The Canton Area School District is entering into a Title III EL funds Consortium Memorandum of Understanding with CSIU 16, effective for the 2024/2025 school year, which allows us to use Title III funds.

The next Board Meeting will be held Thursday, October 10, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the Canton Jr/Sr High School Library, Canton, PA.

Meeting Adjourned

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. John Ambruch and seconded by Mrs. Arica Jennings.

Voice Vote: All six members present voted yea.
Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Sarah Neely, and Mr. Tom Resavage
were absent.
Motion carried.

Mrs. Sourbeer adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:16 p.m. on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark S. Jannone
Business Manager/Board Secretary