

**MINUTES
CANTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
JANUARY 9, 2025**

The regular meeting of the Canton Area School District Board of Education was held in the Canton Jr/Sr High School Library on Thursday, January 9, 2025 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, Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Arica Jennings, Mrs. Sarah Neely, 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; Attorney Cassie Blaney, District Solicitor; Mrs. Amy Repard, Special Education Supervisor; Mr. Matt Jennings and Mrs. Sherry Lambert, newspaper reporters; and Ms. Cinda Dewey.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Saray Neely and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the minutes of the Reorganization Board Meeting of December 5, 2024.

Voice Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
 Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
 Motion carried.

REPORTS

Superintendent

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

- Reminded the board that a Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting needs to be scheduled to discuss the facilities improvement grant of \$500,000. The potential plan is to overhaul both chillers by TRANE.
- The district purchased nine mega bags of playground tire mulch to replenish the mulch that actually “walks away” on the bottoms of shoes or is dispersed into the surrounding areas. A certain amount of mulch is needed to keep it safe for our students. The Bradford-Tioga County Head Start donated \$5,000 towards the purchase of this mulch. The total cost was \$9,000.
- It has been observed that speeding beyond the 10-mph limit has been occurring when families are headed to the elementary school for morning drop off. In addition, there have been a number of parents dropping off in areas not designated for drop off. In the morning there is heavy traffic of cars and buses, students crossing the street and riding bikes, as well as small children who tend to dart around on the sidewalks. We all must remember to drive cautiously to avoid accidents and to keep our students safe by dropping them off at the proper drop-off locations.
- BOCCE season started with a win against Troy. The next match is January 15th at Liberty.
- The Federal Monitoring Final Report Notice for Canton Area School District indicates we passed and are commended for our hard work to provide support and services to our students. Dr. Martell shared information about this monitoring.
- Last school year, Mrs. Essick had several students featured in writing competitions. Their works were published in two books. Dr. Martell shared these works.
- The Pennsylvania School Board Association donated the book *Buddy Bench* written by Patty Brozo and illustrated by Mike Deas, to our elementary library in appreciation of our district’s

commitment to student success.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION - AGENDA RELATED

There were no comments.

BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report

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

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Bills

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the bills for December.

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Tax Additions, Exemptions and Exonerations

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the tax additions, exemptions and exonerations.

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Transportation Changes

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the transportation changes.

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

2025/2026 Bids

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to authorize advertising of bids related to the 2025/2026 school year.

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

2024/2025 Spring Sports Bid

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the 2024/2025 Spring Sports Bid in the amount of \$6,902.33.

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Audit

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to accept the 2023/2024 financial audit as presented by EFPR Group.

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Agreement

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the Website Hosting Agreement between BLAST IU 17 and Canton Area School District.

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Act 1 Resolution

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to accept the Act 1 Resolution which certified that the board will not raise any school district tax for the 2025/2026 budget at a rate that exceeds the 7.7% index.

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Resolution

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the resolution setting tax collectors' commissions for 2026 - 2029 at \$0.65 per bill.

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

PERSONNEL

Revised Start Date

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. John Ambruch to approve the revised start date for Garrett Wesneski from January 14, 2025 to January 13, 2025.

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

New Hire

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. John Ambruch to approve the hiring of Alexa Dapp, Cafeteria Long-Term Substitute, at \$15 per hour, effective 1/13/25.

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Unpaid Days

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. John Ambruch to approve unpaid days for the month of December 2024, for the following employees:

- a. Employee #1898, 14 days
- b. Employee #1917, ½ day

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Retirement

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. John Ambruch to accept the following retirement:

- a. Trina Beers, 3rd grade Teacher, effective May 31, 2025 with 31 years of service to the district.

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Volunteer List Additions

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. John Ambruch to approve the following additions to the volunteer list; all required paperwork has been completed:

- a. Brock Matthews, Boys' Basketball, retroactive to 12/10/24
- b. Becca Ross, Softball, retroactive to 12/20/24
- c. Lianne Landis, High School, retroactive to 12/27/24
- d. Jan Rumsey, PTA and CHS/CES field trips, retroactive to 1/02/25
- e. Tim McAninch, Track, retroactive to 1/07/25
- f. Leah Strong, Track, retroactive to 1/07/25

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

FINANCE/POLICY

Second Reading

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the second reading of the following new/revised policies:

- a. No. 005 Organization (revised)
- b. No. 202 Eligibility of Nonresident Students (revised)
- c. No. 236.1 Threat Assessment (revised)
- d. No. 254 Educational Opportunity for Military Children (revised)
- e. No. 308 Employment Contract/Board Resolution (revised)
- f. No. 607 Tuition Income (revised)
- g. No. 611 Purchases Budgeted (new)
- h. No. 805.2 School Security (revised)
- i. No. 810 Transportation (revised)
- j. No. 820 Identification Badges (new)
- k. No. 823 Opioid Antagonist (revised)
- l. No. 831 Electronic Searches (revised)

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

First Reading

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the first reading of the following revised policies:

- a. No. 610 Purchases Subject to Bid/Quotation
- b. No. 616 Payment of Bills

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

OTHER ITEMS

2025/2026 Calendar

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to approve the 2025/2026 Canton Area School District Calendar.

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Quarterly Reports

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to approve the second quarter Central Treasury reports for the Canton Elementary School and the Canton Jr/Sr High School.

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Agreement

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to approve the Letter of Collaborative Agreement between Canton Area School District and Merakey.

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Field Trip Requests

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to approve the following overnight field trip requests:

- a. From Tammy MacWhinnie, January 22 - 24, 2025, to Berwick High School for District Band.
- b. From Tom Hojnowski, February 15 - 16, 2025, to Harrisburg for the ACES Leadership Conference.

Roll Call Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION - NON-AGENDA RELATED

There were no comments.

Announcements

There was an Executive Session prior to the Board Meeting, at 4:45 p.m., to discuss personnel matters.

The next Board Meeting will be held Thursday, February 13, 2025, 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. Bill Holland and seconded by Mr. Ryann Allen.

Voice Vote: All eight members present voted yea.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Mrs. Sourbeer adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:22 p.m. on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark S. Jannone
Business Manager/Board Secretary