

**MINUTES
CANTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
JULY 15, 2021**

A special meeting of the Canton Area School District Board of Education was held in the Canton Jr/Sr High School Cafeteria on Thursday, July 15, 2021 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. Bill Holland, Mr. Scott May, and Mrs. Arica Jennings.

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Eric Briggs, 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; Mr. Dan Coran, Support Services Director; Mr. Matt Hicks, Newspaper Reporter; Ms. Ginnette Moskowitz and Mr. Ned Whitehead.

REPORTS

Superintendent

Dr. Eric Briggs, Superintendent, reported on the following items:

- Act 13 of 2020 signed into law by Governor Tom Wolf on March 27, 2020, revised the Act 82 Educator Effectiveness (EE) process used to evaluate professional employees in PK-12 education across the commonwealth. Effective for the 2021/2022 school year, the revised rating system will take effect for classroom teachers, non-teaching professionals, and principals as defined in Act 82 and Act 13:
 - Classroom teachers, defined as professional employees or temporary professional employees who provide direct instruction to students related to a specific subject or grade level.
 - Non-teaching professionals, defined as professional employees or temporary professional employees who are education specialists or provide services and who is not a classroom teacher.
 - Principals, defined as principals, assistant or vice principals, and directors of career & technical education. NOTE: Supervisors of special education (non-teaching professionals under Act 82) are considered principals for the purpose of Act 13.

All day today, the building principals, special education supervisor, and Mr. Briggs attended a training at the IU. We will be rolling out the new teacher rating system in the fall of this school year.

- Act 18 of 2019 amended the Public School Code of 1949 by adding Article XIII-E, Threat Assessment. Among its provisions, Article XIII-E requires the establishment of threat assessment teams for all school entities in Pennsylvania and tasks the School Safety and Security Committee (SSSC) to research, develop and provide free threat assessment guidelines, training, and informational materials, as well as model procedures and guidelines for school entities.
- Act 66 permits the following for the 2021/2022 school year:
 - A student who was enrolled during the 2020/2021 school year may repeat their 2020/2021 school year grade level in an effort to make up for any lost educational opportunities due to the COVID-19 pandemic, even if the student met the requirements to be promoted to the next grade; and
 - A student with a disability who was enrolled during the 2020/2021 school year and turned age 21 (either during the 2020/2021 school year or between the end of the 2020/2021 and the beginning of the 2021/2022 school year) may attend a school entity during the 2021/2022 school year and receive services as outlined in their most recent Individualized Education

Program (IEP) with all the protections under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).
The Canton Area School District had zero requests for retention through this act; the deadline to request the retention was July 15th.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION - AGENDA RELATED

There were no comments.

PERSONNEL

New Hires

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mr. Scott May to approve the hiring of the following, pending completion of all employment paperwork:

- a. Ginnette Moskowitz, 7-12 Spanish Teacher, B+24 step 1 \$62,157.00, effective August 23, 2021.
- b. Amy Repard, Special Education Supervisor, \$80,000.00, effective July 15, 2021.

Roll Call Vote: All five members present voted yea.
Mr. Eric Anderson, Mr. Gary Black, Mr. Neal Palmer and Mr. Denny Sourbeer were absent.
Motion carried.

Revised Plan

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mr. Scott May to approve the revised Act 93 Compensation Plan.

Roll Call Vote: All five members present voted yea.
Mr. Eric Anderson, Mr. Gary Black, Mr. Neal Palmer and Mr. Denny Sourbeer were absent.
Motion carried.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION - NON-AGENDA RELATED

Mr. Ned Whitehead, district resident, expressed concern with the early admission policy that the board passed. He stated that September 1st should be the cutoff date due to Harvard studies that show that even though a child may be intellectually ready, they are not emotionally ready. For that reason, he feels it increases the chance of identifying students with ADHD.

Mr. Ryan Allen responded that the district is mitigating that issue with evaluation testing. Mrs. Arica Jennings agreed, and added that parents are a child's main advocates.

Announcements

The next Board Meeting will be held Thursday, August 12, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. in the Canton Jr/Sr High School Cafeteria, Canton, PA.

Meeting Adjourned

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