

**MINUTES  
CANTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
NOVEMBER 9, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Canton Area School District Board of Education was held in the Canton Jr/Sr High School Library on Thursday, November 9, 2023 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. Gary Black, Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Arica Jennings, Mr. Scott May, Mrs. Sarah Neely, Mr. Tom Resavage, 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; Mrs. Sherry Lambert, Newspaper Reporter; Mrs. Bettyann Pidcoe, Mr. Robert Pidcoe, Mr. James Pidcoe, Mrs. Asti Tillotson, Mr. David DeCristo, Mr. Dwayne Sourbeer, Mr. Lucas Drever, Mr. Tom Hojnowski, Ms. Stacey Segur, and Ms. Jessica Portz.

**MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mrs. Sarah Neely and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 12, 2023.

Voice Vote: All eight members present voted yea.  
Mr. Ryan Allen was absent.  
Motion carried.

**REPORTS**

**Superintendent**

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

- Student Robert Pidcoe, with the help of his family and Canton Troop 33, restored the district's outdoor education pavilion for his Eagle Scout project.
- As a thank you to our school board directors, the PSBA donated the book *Memoirs of a Parrot* by Devin Scillian.
- PSBA and the CASD School District recognized school directors for their dedicated years of volunteer service to our students, the community, and public education. PSBA's Honor Roll Program recognized all qualified school directors completing eight, 12, 16, or 20 years of service by the end of 2023 with an Honor Roll Certificate. School Directors with 24 years of service, at each four-year increment, thereafter, will receive a plaque. For 12 years of service, Mr. Bill Holland received a certificate. For 16 years of service, Mr. Gary Black received a certificate. For 32 years of service, Mr. Denny Sourbeer received a plaque.
- Many applications are coming in for the Giving Tree Program. Dr. Martell provided information about the Giving Tree Program as well as the Kevin and Debbie West (owners of Woody's Ale House and Grille, Towanda, PA) and Pennsylvania State Police Annual Christmas Event.
- The CHS Kindness Club, advised by Kaylin Essick, has partnered with the Canton Food Pantry to put together Thanksgiving boxes. During the month of November, items are to be collected in homeroom for distribution to Food Pantry clients in December. There has been a significant increase in the number of community members using the Food Pantry in recent months.
- District student Lucas Drever placed 3<sup>rd</sup> at the 2023 National FFA Environmental and Natural

Resources Career Development Even. Our FFA students performed wonderfully at this event, which was held in conjunction with the 96<sup>th</sup> National FFA Convention and Expo in Indianapolis.

### **CITIZEN RECOGNITION - AGENDA RELATED**

There were no comments.

### **BUSINESS**

#### **Treasurer's Report**

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented for October 31, 2023. (A copy is in the supplemental file.)

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

#### **Bills**

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the bills for October.

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

#### **Tax Additions, Exemptions and Exonerations**

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

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

#### **Transportation Changes**

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

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

#### **Agreement**

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the agreement between TKA Consulting and Canton Area School District for the 2023/2024 school year.

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

#### **Resolution**

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the resolution between Friendship House Community/School Based Behavioral Health Care and Canton Area School District for the 2023/2024 school year.

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

### **Agreement**

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the IU 13 - PATTAN agreement in the amount of \$25,000.00.

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

### **Memorandum of Understanding**

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the 2023 - 2027 Memorandum of Understanding between the Canton Area School District and BLaST IU 17 for the purpose of Evacuation Transportation to Sheltering and Mass Care Sites.

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

### **Memorandum of Understanding**

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to accept the 2023/2024 Unified Champion of Schools Memorandum of Understanding between Special Olympics Pennsylvania and Canton Jr/Sr High School for the Unified Champion Schools program.

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

### **Agreement**

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to accept the 2023/2024 Letter of Collaborative Agreement between Merakey and the Canton Area School District.

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

### **PERSONNEL**

#### **Resignation**

A motion was made by Mr. Scott May and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to accept the resignation of the following employees:

- a. Evelyn Miller, full-time (9-month) Paraprofessional, effective 10/23/23 with 4 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> years of service to the district.
- b. Heather Charles, full-time (9-month) cafeteria worker, effective 11/30/23 with three months of service to the district.

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

#### **Job Title**

A motion was made by Mr. Scott May and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to approve the creation of a new job title "Head Cashier" and set the rate of pay at \$14.00 per hour with full benefits.

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

### **New Employees**

A motion was made by Mr. Scott May and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to approve the following new employees, pending the completion of all required employment paperwork:

- a. Abigail Voth, full-time (9-month) Paraprofessional, \$13.00/hour with full benefits, retroactive to 11/7/23.
- b. Amber Harold, full-time (9-month) Head Cashier, \$14.00/hour with full benefits, effective 11/29/23.
- c. Korrin Wheaton, part-time (9-month) cafeteria worker, \$12.00/hour with no benefits, effective 11/13/2023.

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

### **List Additions**

A motion was made by Mr. Scott May and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to approve the following additions to the 2023/2024 Co-Curricular Non-Sports List:

- a. Deborah Fitzwater, Mentor to Taran Carlisle, \$998.20.
- b. Caitlin Barr and Mariah Smith, Co-Supervisors Unified Sports Bocce, \$1,000.00 combined retroactive to 10/19/23.

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

### **List Additions**

A motion was made by Mr. Scott May and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to approve the following additions to the substitute list, pending completion of required paperwork:

- a. Chloe Ward, CASD Guest Teacher
- b. Gracie Fitch, Paraprofessional
- c. Cheryl Filson, BLaST Guest Teacher

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

### **Volunteers**

A motion was made by Mr. Scott May and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to approve the following volunteers; all paperwork has been completed:

- a. Christopher Roupp, girls' basketball, retroactive to 10/13/23.
- b. Carolyn Thoren, girls' basketball, retroactive to 10/25/23.
- c. Whitney Madill, choreographer.
- d. Gary Ward, wrestling.
- e. Chelsey Heatley, softball.

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

## **Unpaid Days**

A motion was made by Mr. Scott May and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to approve unpaid days for the month of October 2023, for the following employees:

- a. #1862 - 5 days
- b. #1774 - 3 days
- c. #1221 - ½ day
- d. #1875 - 1 hour
- e. #1846 - 1 ¼ days
- f. #1811 - 2 days

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

## **FINANCE/POLICY**

### **Second Reading**

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the second reading of the following revised policy:

- a. No. 325 - Dress and Grooming

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

### **First Reading**

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the first reading of the following revised policy:

- a. No. 249 - Bullying/Cyberbullying

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

## **OTHER ITEMS**

### **Field Trips**

A motion was made by Mr. Gary Black and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the following overnight field trip requests:

- a. From Randy Frye, ACDA Eastern Region Choir from 2/28/24 - 3/2/24, in Providence, RI.
- b. From Randy Frye, PMEA District 8 Chorus from 1/24/24 - 1/26/24, in Montoursville, PA.

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

## **Professional Development Plan**

A motion was made by Mr. Gary Black and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the FRCPP 2024 - 2027 Professional Development Plan.

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

### **Steering Committee Members**

A motion was made by Mr. Gary Black and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the FRCPP Steering Committee Members.

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

### **Academic Standards and Assessment Requirements**

A motion was made by Mr. Gary Black and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the FRCPP 2024 - 2027 Academic Standards and Assessment Requirements.

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

### **Student Services Assurances**

A motion was made by Mr. Gary Black and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the FRCPP 2024 - 2027 Student Services Assurances.

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

### **CITIZEN RECOGNITION - NON-AGENDA RELATED**

There were no comments.

### **Announcements**

The next Board Meeting will be the reorganization meeting held on Thursday, December 7, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. in the Canton Jr/Sr High School Library, Canton, PA.

Superintendent has confirmed the letter of indemnification with the Canton Borough for the graduation parade on May 31, 2024 at approximately 7:45 p.m.

### **Meeting Adjourned**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely.

Voice Vote: All eight members present voted yea.  
Mr. Ryan Allen was absent.  
Motion carried.

Mrs. Sourbeer adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:24 p.m. on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark S. Jannone  
Business Manager/Board Secretary