

**MINUTES
CANTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
FEBRUARY 8, 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, February 8, 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. 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; Mrs. Sherry Lambert and Mr. Matt Jennings, newspaper reporters; Mr. Lucas Drever, Mr. John Ambruch, Mrs. Nichole Ambruch, Ms. Miranda Pepper, and Mrs. Asti Tillotson.

BOARD APPOINTMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mrs. Arica Jennings to appoint John Ambruch, School Board Director – Region 2 – effective immediately through December 31, 2025.

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

OATH OF OFFICE

At this time, Solicitor Blaney administered the oath of office to newly elected board member, Mr. John Ambruch, authorized by Section 402 of the Pennsylvania School Code of 1949.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Sarah Neely and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 11, 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:

- Updated the board on the donated book vending machine. The PTA received a grant of \$8,000 from the Tioga Downs Foundation to purchase the book machine for the Canton Area Elementary School.
- The district received a nice letter from Mrs. Jean Metzger Erskine along with the donation of her father's high school diploma. Mr. Adam Metzger graduated from the North Union School of Union

School District (prior to the schools consolidating into Canton Area School District) in 1919. For many years, Mrs. Erskine supported the Adam Metzger Football Award in his honor.

- National School Counseling Week is February 5-9, 2024 the Canton Area School District honors Mrs. West and Mrs. Watson. School counselors are integral to the school as they are many times directly involved to safeguard the emotional and mental health for our students.

Board Committee Chairpersons

- **Buildings and Grounds Committee:** Chairperson, Mr. Tom Resavage, was absent. Mr. Dave DeCristo reported that he and Mr. Resavage met with Mr. Fred Richter to look at the chillers and boilers prior to a teleconference with Trane. Trane presented two options, a stand-alone chiller or a chiller with ice storage, as well as budget numbers for each. Mr. DeCristo requested an energy analysis. Trane stated they would complete an analysis; their software is certified. Mr. DeCristo met with Mr. Richter prior to this meeting and looked at the elementary school equipment. Mr. DeCristo discussed the options with the school board adding that, in his opinion, the systems are not disposable and are worthy of repair. Mr. Mark Jannone explained to the board that district taxpayers would have to fund the cost of repairs whereas grants may be available for replacement systems. A board member asked Mr. DeCristo if the new systems are not of the same quality as the old ones. He responded that is not necessarily the case; however, a new system does not guarantee there will not be problems. Mr. DeCristo explained that, due to EPA regulations, methods have changed and there are problems associated with these methods. He explained the difference between an antifreeze heat exchanger and a draining type system and that the new refrigerant is from the propane family, and is flammable, therefore no piping of refrigerant would be installed inside the school. For budgeting purposes, Mr. DeCristo will get a quote for a rebuilt compressor.
- **BLaST Representative:** Mrs. Arica Jennings invited Dana Vermilya, Blast IU 17 employee, to come and give a brief presentation on the book that was dedicated to our high school library. The book, titled "The Rebellious Recovery" by Aaron Baker, is a book about overcoming obstacles and setbacks in life. Dana serves many diverse roles within Blast and was instrumental in recruiting Aaron to be the keynote speaker for their yearly paraprofessional professional development day. Per the request of our Special Education Supervisor Mrs. Amy Repard, our CASD paraprofessionals attended this event and were able to bring back valuable information to serve our students.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION – AGENDA RELATED

There were no comments.

BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report

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

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ryan Allen, Mr. Dave DeCristo, Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Arica Jennings, Mrs. Sarah Neely, Mr. Denny Sourbeer, and Mrs. Judy Sourbeer voted ye.
Mr. John Ambruch abstained.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Bills

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Bill Holland to approve the bills for January.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ryan Allen, Mr. Dave DeCristo, Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Arica Jennings, Mrs. Sarah Neely, Mr. Denny Sourbeer, and Mrs. Judy Sourbeer voted ye.
Mr. John Ambruch abstained.

Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Tax Additions, Exemptions and Exonerations

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

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ryan Allen, Mr. Dave DeCristo, Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Arica Jennings, Mrs. Sarah Neely, Mr. Denny Sourbeer, and Mrs. Judy Sourbeer voted yea.
Mr. John Ambruch abstained.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Transportation Changes

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

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ryan Allen, Mr. Dave DeCristo, Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Arica Jennings, Mrs. Sarah Neely, Mr. Denny Sourbeer, and Mrs. Judy Sourbeer voted yea.
Mr. John Ambruch abstained.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Student Debt Exonerations

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Bill Holland to approve the Student Debt Exonerations list as per the G.H. Harris report.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ryan Allen, Mr. Dave DeCristo, Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Arica Jennings, Mrs. Sarah Neely, Mr. Denny Sourbeer, and Mrs. Judy Sourbeer voted yea.
Mr. John Ambruch abstained.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

BLaST Budget and Ballot

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Bill Holland to approve the proposed 2024/2025 BLaST I.U. 17 General Operations budget and Submission of Board of Directors Election Ballot.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ryan Allen, Mr. Dave DeCristo, Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Arica Jennings, Mrs. Sarah Neely, Mr. Denny Sourbeer, and Mrs. Judy Sourbeer voted yea.
Mr. John Ambruch abstained.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Letter of Agreement

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Bill Holland to approve the Letter of Agreement between Canton Area School District and MAC's Driving Academy effective June 1, 2024.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ryan Allen, Mr. Dave DeCristo, Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Arica Jennings, Mrs. Sarah Neely, Mr. Denny Sourbeer, and Mrs. Judy Sourbeer voted yea.
Mr. John Ambruch abstained.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.

Motion carried.

Contract

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Bill Holland to approve the contract with Frontier for 500MB of connectivity speed at a cost of \$535.00 per month effective 07/01/24 - 06/30/27.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ryan Allen, Mr. Dave DeCristo, Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Arica Jennings, Mrs. Sarah Neely, Mr. Denny Sourbeer, and Mrs. Judy Sourbeer voted yea.
Mr. John Ambruch abstained.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

PERSONNEL

New Employee

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the following new employee, pending completion of required paperwork:

- a. Stephanie Williams, part-time (9-month) Cafeteria Worker II, \$12.00/hour, no benefits, effective 02/08/24.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ryan Allen, Mr. Dave DeCristo, Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Arica Jennings, Mrs. Sarah Neely, Mr. Denny Sourbeer, and Mrs. Judy Sourbeer voted yea.
Mr. John Ambruch abstained.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Resignation

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to accept the resignation of Korrin Wheaton, part-time (9-month) Cafeteria Worker II, effective 02/16/24, with three months of service to the Canton Area School District.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ryan Allen, Mr. Dave DeCristo, Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Arica Jennings, Mrs. Sarah Neely, Mr. Denny Sourbeer, and Mrs. Judy Sourbeer voted yea.
Mr. John Ambruch abstained.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Substitute List Additions

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the following additions to the substitute list, pending completion of all paperwork:

- a. Kasey Lyon, Teacher, retroactive to 01/26/24.
- b. JoAnne Tarbox, Paraprofessional, retroactive to 01/31/24.
- c. Kim Crawford, Nurse

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ryan Allen, Mr. Dave DeCristo, Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Arica Jennings, Mrs. Sarah Neely, Mr. Denny Sourbeer, and Mrs. Judy Sourbeer voted yea.
Mr. John Ambruch abstained.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Volunteer List Additions

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the following additions to the volunteer list; all paperwork is complete:

- a. Bryan Graham, Softball, retroactive to 01/15/24.
- b. Kelsey Herman, Softball, retroactive to 01/17/24.
- c. Lauren Preston, Battle of the Books and field trips, retroactive to 01/24/24.
- d. Jenna Boyce, Softball, retroactive to 01/29/24.
- e. Devon Weed, elementary classroom, retroactive to 02/05/24.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ryan Allen, Mr. Dave DeCristo, Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Arica Jennings, Mrs. Sarah Neely, Mr. Denny Sourbeer, and Mrs. Judy Sourbeer voted yea.
Mr. John Ambruch abstained.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Unpaid Days

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

- a. Employee #1743, 1 day
- b. Employee #1835, 1 day
- c. Employee #1846, 5 days

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ryan Allen, Mr. Dave DeCristo, Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Arica Jennings, Mrs. Sarah Neely, Mr. Denny Sourbeer, and Mrs. Judy Sourbeer voted yea.
Mr. John Ambruch abstained.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

Wage Increase

A motion was made by Mr. Bill Holland and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to approve the increase of all Cafeteria Worker I wages by \$1.00 per hour and all Cafeteria Worker II wages by \$3.00 per hour, effective for wages earned on and after 02/11/24.

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

Minimum Wage

A motion was made by Mr. Bill Holland and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to set the minimum hourly rate for Cafeteria Worker I & II at \$15.00 per hour.

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

FINANCE/POLICY

First Reading

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Bill Holland to approve the first reading of the following new/revised policies:

- a. No. 121 – Field Trips (revised)
- b. No. 122 – Extracurricular Activities (revised)
- c. No. 200 – Enrollment (revised)

- d. No. 202 – Eligibility of Nonresident Students (revised)
- e. No. 217 – Graduation (revised)
- f. No. 254 – Educational Opportunity for Military Children (new)
- g. No. 702 – Gifts, Grants, Donations (revised)

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Ryan Allen, Mr. Dave DeCristo, Mr. Bill Holland, Mrs. Arica Jennings, Mrs. Sarah Neely, Mr. Denny Sourbeer, and Mrs. Judy Sourbeer voted yea.
Mr. John Ambruch abstained.
Mr. Tom Resavage was absent.
Motion carried.

OTHER ITEMS

Field Trips

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Bill Holland to approve the following overnight field trips:

- a. From Randy Frye, Region IV Chorus from March 6-8, 2024, at Valley View High School, for a choral competition.
- b. From Randy Frye, All-State Chorus from April 17-20, 2024, in Erie, PA, for a choral competition.

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 to discuss personnel matters.

There was an executive session held at the conclusion of last month's meeting to discuss security.

The next Board Meeting will be Thursday, March 14, 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. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mrs. Arica Jennings.

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

Mrs. Sourbeer adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:49 p.m. on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark S. Jannone
Business Manager/Board Secretary