

**MINUTES
CANTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
FEBRUARY 13, 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, February 13, 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, Mr. Tom Resavage, and Mr. Denny Sourbeer.

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Amy Martell, Superintendent; Mr. Mark Jannone, Business Manager/Board Secretary; Mr. Donald Jacopetti, High School Principal; Attorney Cassie Blaney, District Solicitor; Mrs. Amy Repard, Special Education Supervisor; Mrs. Asti Tillotson, Food Service Director; Mr. Matt Jennings, Newspaper Reporter; Ms. Tessa Stone, Ms. Sara Ross, Mrs. Cori West, Mrs. Dana Vermilya, Mr. Curt Route, Mr. Link Vermilya, Mr. Ronnie Vermilya, Mr. Levi Vermilya, Mr. Greg Taylor, and Mr. Mark McMurray.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 9, 2025.

Voice Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

REPORTS

Superintendent

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

- Current enrollment: elementary students = 421, high school students = 354, home-school students = 35, CAVE students = 3, charter school students = 27, out-of-district placements = 9.
- Celebrating National School Counseling Week, February 3-7, 2025, the Canton Area School District honors Mrs. West and Mrs. Watson. School counselors are integral to the school as they are frequently directly involved to safeguard the emotional and mental health for our students.
- The school counselors have completed the Chapter 339 K-12 Future Ready Comprehensive Counseling Plan, which is on the agenda for approval. They have worked hard on this plan, which if approved, will be a five-year plan implemented 2025-2030.
- Updated the board on FFA Spirit Week activities as well as their donation collections for the Ronald McDonald House.
- CASD Bocce Team #2 is ranked second in the NTL while Bocce Team #1 is ranked third. League playoffs will be held February 28th at Liberty High School.
- Mrs. Barr's Life Skills classes are heading out to CHOP, Stull's, New Life Church, and assisting our maintenance department to gain work experience and learn job skills for post-high school life.

Board Committee Chairpersons

- **Buildings, Grounds, & Security Committee:** Mr. Jannone explained that the Buildings and Grounds Committee met with a TRANE representative to discuss overhauling both building chillers. This would be paid for with a Facilities Improvement Grant of \$500,000 and a local funds match of \$125,000.

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 January 13, 2025. (A copy is in the supplemental file.)

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

Bills

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

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
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 nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

Agreement

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the 2024/2025 IDEA 619 Agreement.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

BLaST Budget

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the proposed 2025/2026 BLaST I.U. 17 General Operations budget and Submission of Board of Directors Election Ballot.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

Letter of Agreement

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the Letter of Agreement between Canton Area School District and MAC's Driving Academy, effective June 1, 2025.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

Bid

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to accept the bid from ZITO for internet services at 1,000 MB for \$1,000.00 a month.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

NTCC Budget

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the 2025/2026 NTCC Budget.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

Letter of Agreement

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the Letter of Agreement between Canton Area School District and The Meadows Psychiatric Center for the 2025/2026, 2026/2027, and 2027/2028 school years.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

Memorandum of Understanding

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the Supervisor Stipend Memorandum of Understanding for Unified Champion Schools Bocce Ball.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

Authorization for Expenditure

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the Authorization for Expenditure in the amount of \$8,500.00 and the Server Hosting Agreement between BLAST and the Canton Area School District.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

Plan

A motion was made by Mr. Denny Sourbeer and seconded by Mr. Ryan Allen to approve the Act 93 Compensation Plan, effective July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

PERSONNEL

Retirement

A motion was made by Mr. Tom Resavage and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to accept the following retirement:

- a. Michele Gowin, Administrative Secretary II, effective March 9, 2025, with 21 years of service to the district.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

Resignations

A motion was made by Mr. Tom Resavage and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to accept the following resignations:

- a. Cindy Chaapel, part-time 9-month cafeteria worker, retroactive to 2/12/25.
- b. Don Cron, professional staff, effective 06/30/25, contingent upon affirmative vote on agenda item I.4.b.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

New Position

A motion was made by Mr. Tom Resavage and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to approve the creation of the following Act 93 position, starting in the 2025/2026 school year:

- a. Assistant Principal K-12, salary, days and benefits per Act 93 Compensation Plan.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

New Hires

A motion was made by Mr. Tom Resavage and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to approve the following new hires for the 2025/2026 school year:

- a. Sara Ross, PK-12 Special Education Teacher, M24 Step 1, \$71,565.00, effective August 4, 2025, with full benefits, pending completion of required employment paperwork and contingent upon expansion of her teacher certification to include 7-12 special education by the start of the 2026/2027 school year.
- b. Don Cron, Assistant Principal K-12, \$98,000.00, effective 7/01/25.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

New Hire

A motion was made by Mr. Tom Resavage and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to approve the following new hire:

- a. Alexa Dapp, part-time 9-month cafeteria worker, 5.5 hours per day, \$15.00 per hour with no benefits, effective 2/18/25, sick and personal time prorated per policies 334 and 336.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

Substitutes

A motion was made by Mr. Tom Resavage and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to approve the following substitutes, pending completion of required paperwork:

- a. Shannon Loveland, Paraprofessional, retroactive to 2/10/25.
- b. Wendy Route, Teacher, retroactive to 2/3/25.
- c. Jacqueline Shattuck, Guest Teacher.
- d. Logan Hawley, Cafeteria.
- e. Michele Gowin, Secretary.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

Volunteer List Additions

A motion was made by Mr. Tom Resavage and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to approve the following additions to the volunteer list; all required paperwork has been completed:

- a. Allyson Butcher, Softball, retroactive to 1/9/25.
- b. Todd Siedhof, Softball, retroactive to 1/13/25.
- c. Kelsey Herman, Jr. High Softball, retroactive to 1/15/25.
- d. Kareem Ragab, Jr. High Softball, retroactive to 1/17/25.
- e. Wendy Route, elementary classroom, retroactive to 2/3/25.
- f. Dave Ward, Jr. High Baseball, retroactive to 2/5/25.
- g. Jim Watkins, Jr. High Baseball, retroactive to 2/7/25.
- h. Susan Stull, elementary classroom, retroactive to 2/7/25.
- i. Joan Williams, elementary classroom, retroactive to 2/7/25.
- j. Scott Inman, Jr. High Baseball, retroactive to 2/10/25.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

Unpaid Days

A motion was made by Mr. Tom Resavage and seconded by Mrs. Sarah Neely to approve unpaid days for the month of January 2025, for the following employees:

- a. Employee #1898, 22 days
- b. Employee #1765, 4.5 days
- c. Employee #1762, .5 days
- d. Employee #1778, .75 days

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
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 policies:

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

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
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 policies:

- a. No. 227 Controlled Substance/Paraphernalia
- b. No. 351 Controlled Substance Abuse
- c. No. 882 Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

Rescindment

A motion was made by Mrs. Arica Jennings and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to rescind the December 5, 2024 second reading of the following revised policies:

- a. No. 103 Discrimination/Harassment Affecting Students
- b. No. 104 Discrimination/Harassment Affecting Staff

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

OTHER ITEMS

Revisions

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to approve the revisions to the following curriculum guides:

- a. Movie Studies
- b. AP Psychology
- c. 10th grade Modern America

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

Field Trips

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

- a. From Randy Frye, Regional IV Chorus in Lewisburg, PA from 3/19/25 - 3/21/25.
- b. From Randy Frye, All-State PMEA Competition in Mt. Pocono, PA from 4/9/25 - 4/12/25.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

Plan

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mr. Denny Sourbeer to accept the 339 K-12 Comprehensive Counseling Plan.

Roll Call Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

CITIZEN RECOGNITION – NON-AGENDA RELATED

Mr. Mark McMurray addressed the board to say that he is sad to see that Shelly Gowin is leaving the district. He stated that she is very good at what she does.

Mrs. Dana Vermilya addressed the board to ask them to consider adding a golf team. She stated that that five or six students are interested in playing. Mr. Dave DeCristo inquired about the expenses involved.

Mr. Curt Route addressed the board to offer further information regarding the addition of a golf team. He explained where everyone plays and that there would be no cost to the district.

Announcements

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

We have four student teachers who started with us in late January for their spring semester:

- a. Angelina Colon – K-12 Music Education – with Randy Frye.
- b. Levi Storrs – 4-8 – with Jaime Fitch.
- c. Ashley LaGrelus – 7-12 Earth & Space Science – with Casey Aylesworth.
- d. David Wootten – 7-12 Social Studies/Citizenship – with Brandy McRoberts.

The next Board Meeting will be held Thursday, March 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. Ryan Allen and seconded by Mr. Bill Holland.

Voice Vote: All nine members present voted yea.
Motion carried.

Mrs. Sourbeer adjourned the meeting at approximately 5:34 p.m. on a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark S. Jannone
Business Manager/Board Secretary