

**Minutes Canaan Board of Education Regular Meeting**  
**HYBRID In Person Meeting**

Lee H. Kellogg School • PO Box 237 • 47 Main Street • Falls Village, CT 06031  
**Tuesday, April 7, 2026 @ 5:00 PM**

**Present:** BOE Chair Patricia Mechare, Vice Chair Adam Sher (Virtual) Treasurer Emily Peterson (Virtual), Member Maria Bulson, Member Scott Miller (virtual), Superintendent Melony Brady-Shanley, Assistant Superintendent Jeanine Rose, Principal Andrew Deacon, Executive Secretary & Secretary to the BOE Laurie Wadsworth. Community members present: Louis Timolat, First Selectman David Barger, and Amanda Timolat (ATimolat joined virtually mid meeting). LTimolat and DBarger spoke into the record and departed at 5:30 pm. ATimolat spoke into the record from 6:30-6:43 and departed virtually at 6:43 pm.

- I. Call to Order 5:03 pm
- II. Approval of Agenda **MSP MBulson, EPeterson, unanimously approved**
- III. Minutes Approval: [03.10.2026 Minutes Canaan BOE ReScheduled Regular Meeting](#) **MSP MBulson, ASher, unanimously approved.**  
[03.16.2026 Minutes Canaan BOE Budget Workshop #3](#) **MSP MBulson, SMiller, unanimously approved**  
[03.30.2026 Minutes Canaan BOE Budget Workshop #4](#) **MSP, MBulson, EPeterson, unanimously approved**
- IV. Communications/Committees
  - A. ABC Board - MBrady-Shanley commented on the Lakeville Journal article regarding Region One Schools “consolidation/re-organizational” charge from the ABC Committee. Brady-Shanley explained that she has been charged by the ABC committee to assemble the components for what a feasibility study should contain. The ABC will then ask the board chairs to bring the study to their local boards. Local boards will have their own authority to pursue or not. Brady-Shanley anticipates the assembly of components to take a full year minimum.
  - B. LHK Building Subcommittee: Principal Deacon reported that the committee will meet April 9 at 2 pm in the LKH library.
  - C. LHK School Climate Committee: Principal Deacon reported that the committee will meet June 3rd at 9 am at LHK.
  - D. LHK Safety & Wellness Committee: Principal Deacon reported that the next meeting is TDB.
- V. Public Comment was moved up: Louis Timolat spoke in regard to the Lakeville Journal newspaper’s misrepresentation of the ABC Committee’s governing abilities to enact a re-organizational/consolidation. Mr. Timolat voiced concerns with the ABC Committee’s decision in regard to the fall 2026 Kindergarten entry age of 5 years old by 09.01.2026 without an appeal process. David Barger spoke about Ed Advance’s report regarding consolidation from a decade ago that was not adopted due to feasibility and other reasons. Brady-Shanley commented that she also felt broad-sided by the Lakeville Journal piece and felt it did not reflect the request of the ABC Committee.
- VI. Old Business
  - A. Principal Deacon shared the pieces that will be presented to the BOF on April 9, 2026 at the Town Hall at 6 pm.
    1. [Budget Proposal to BOF](#)
    2. [Budget Narrative](#)

- VII. Out of State Field Trips:
- A. [Troutbeck Symposium](#), Amenia, NY April 23, 2026 **MSP SMiller, ASher, unanimously approved.**
  - B. [Trevor Zoo, Millbrook NY, K,1,2](#) April 30, 2026 **MSP MBulson, EPeterson, unanimously approved**
  - C. [Broadway Play \(The Outsiders\)](#), NYC May 14, 2026 **MSP MBulson, EPeterson, unanimously approved.**
  - D. **MSP MBulson, SMiller, unanimously approved to contract with the HVRHS for the [NLSP Lunch 2026-2027](#) program service**
  - E. 3000 series policies: PMechare asked to split the 3000 policy series into #1-#30 (3000-3520.11) for May meeting second reading and for #31-#51 (3520.13 - 3543.311) for the June meeting second reading.
- VIII. Reports
- A. [Principal's Report](#)
  - B. [Assistant Superintendent's Report](#)
  - C. [Superintendent's Report](#)
- IX. **MSP MBulson, SMiller, unanimous to receive the financial reports.**
- A. NBT Check Register - [March 03.01.26-03.27.26](#)
  - B. Cash Report - [March 2026](#)
- X. Public Comment: Amanda Timolat spoke regarding the state of CT's Public Act 26-1 and the Region One's ABC Committee decision to enforce the statute to take effect as of July 1, 2026 without allowing for local boards of education to decide if they wish to continue to accept age exemption appeals under certain criteria until July 1, 2027 as is permissible by the act. Ms. Timolat was urged by Board Chair PMechare to meet with Superintendent Brady-Shanley.
- XI. **MSP by MBulson, ASher, unanimous to enter into an Executive Session at 6:44 pm with members of the BOE and Superintendent Brady-Shanley for approval of non-union employee contracts for 2026-2027.**
- XII. The Executive session concluded at 7:23 pm. **MSP MBulson, EPeterson, unanimous to**  
**1). approve Principal Andrew Deacon's 2026-2027 contract for a base salary of \$141,453 to be extended through June 30, 2029 and to establish a 3% annuity based on his salary;**  
**2.) approve Cindy Webb's contract through June 30, 2027 for an annual salary of \$14,358.18; and 3.) to table Laurie Wadsworth's contract approval for the May meeting.**
- XIII. **MSP MBulson, SMiller, unanimous to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie W. Wadsworth

LHK Executive Secretary, Secretary to the Canaan BOE

04.07.2026