Canaan Board of Education Regular Monthly Meeting

MINUTES Tuesday, November 3, 2026

IN PERSON, LHK Library at 5 pm

Lee H. Kellogg School

1. **Call to Order 5:00 PM**. Present: Patricia Mechare, Board Chair; Adam Sher, Board Vice Chair; Maria Bulson, Board Treasurer (virtual); Scott Miller, Board Member; Dathalinn O'Dea, Board Member. **A quorum is present**. Also in Attendance: Principal Jill Johnson, Assistant Superintendent Andrew Deacon (virtual), Superintendent Melony Brady-Shanley, Executive Secretary/Secretary to the BOE Laurie Wadsworth, invited Falcon Alliance Students, Parent Janna Siller. The students and the parent departed after the Spotlight on Learning presentation.

2. **Additions/Amendments to Agenda**: Add the Region 1 2027 - 2028 Calendar under New Business. Add the LHK Next Generation Accountability Report to the Principal's Report. *Note to add an Early Kindergarten discussion to the December, 2026 Agenda*.

3. Spotlight on Learning: Falcon Alliance Student Presentation narrated by Tzuf Siller, Eli Sher and Odhran King.

4. **The DRAFT 10.06.26 MINUTES Canaan BOE Regular Meeting as presented was approved unanimously on a motion by ASher, seconded by SMiller.**

5. Committee and Administrative Reports:
   a. Principal Report
      i. **Motion to approve the building usage for the FVSA BINGO Building Request Nov. 13, APR on a motion by ASher, seconded by SMiller, unanimous.**

      ii. Additional reporting by Principal Johnson was presented: LHK Next Generation Accountability Report

   b. Assistant Superintendent Report presented by ADeacon.
   c. Superintendent Report presented by MBrady-Shanley.
   d. ABC Representative PMechare - the committee has not met since 9.23.26
   e. Region One BOE Representative PMechare reported on the most recent meeting held 11.02.26 Agenda and Minutes

6. Cash Report, Check Register, Non-Lapsing Fund
   a. **Motion to receive as presented the NBT Check Register 10.01.26-10.31.26 by DO'Dea, seconded by SMiller, unanimous.**

   b. **Motion to receive as presented the** Report October 2026 **by DO'Dea, seconded by SMiller, unanimous**. Treasurer MBulson asked if the Principal's report moving forward could highlight any noteworthy budgetary items each month, Principal Johnson agreed.

   c. **Motion to receive the Non-Lapsing Fund Balance (unchanged) by SMiller, seconded by DO'Dea, unanimous**. Principal Johnson noted that following the King and King Audit of the Canaan BOE 2025-2026 Fiscal Year, there should be roughly $40,000 of unexpended funds to

be added to the Non-Lapsing fund. She also noted that around $34,000 in DRIP funds will be available for facility improvements.

7. Old Business: **The Canaan BOE unanimously approved to be a subscriber to the following Region One Policies**:
    a. **Motion by ASher, seconded by SMiller, unanimous to subscribe to *Policy #4112.8/4212.8 Nepotism: Employment of Relatives***
    b. **Motion by SMiller, seconded by ASher, unanimous to subscribe to *Policy #4113.12 Minimum Duty-Free Lunch Periods for Teachers***
    c. **Motion by DO'Dea, seconded by ASher, unanimous to subscribe to *Policy #4115 Educator and Support Program***
    d. **Motion by DO'Dea, seconded by ASher, unanimous to subscribe to *Policy #4115.3 Evaluation of Coaches***
    e. **Motion by SMiller, seconded by ASher, unanimous to subscribe to *Policy #4117.4 Non-Renewal/Suspension - Certified***
    f. **Motion by SMiller, seconded by ASher, unanimous to subscribe to *Policy #5118.1 Homeless Students***
    g. **Motion by DO'Dea, seconded by SMiller, unanimous to subscribe to *Policy #5118.2 Educational Opportunities for Military Children***
    h. **Motion by SMiller, seconded by ASher, unanimous to subscribe to *Policy #5122 Assigning Students to a Teacher and Classes in Grades PK-12***
    i. **Motion by DO'Dea, seconded by ASher, unanimous to subscribe to *Policy #5123 Promotion/Acceleration/Retention***
    j. **Motion by SMiller, seconded by DO'Dea, unanimous to subscribe to *Policy #5124 Reporting to Parents***
8. Discussion: The Canaan BOE still needs to recruit a parent for the Region One Organizational Study; the first meeting will be taking place very soon (under 2 weeks .
9. New Business:
    a. Letter from staff member - **The Canaan BOE acknowledges with regret the resignation of Paraeducator Krista Barger with commendations and thanks her for her service to LHK.** Principal Johnson reports that finding a paraeducator has not yet been successful following 2 interviews and that there is a known shortage of people trained for this type of position in many school districts. She provided a handout detailing a rationale for hiring instead a certified teacher and to split the combined 1,2 grades. She has requested a special meeting next week and will provide supporting financial details for discussion. LWadsworth will follow up with arranging a Virtual Special Meeting to be held either **Tuesday 11/10 at 7:30 am or Thursday 11/12 at 4 pm, TBD.**

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b. **The schedule for the Canaan BOE Meetings for Jan. 2027- Dec. 2027 was unanimously approved on a motion by MBulson, seconded by D'Odea.** This will be filed with the Town Clerk.

c. **The Region 1 2027-2028 Calendar was unanimously approved on a motion by SMiller, seconded by ASher.**

10. Unanimous motion to adjourn at 7 pm by SMiller, seconded by ASher.

Respectfully submitted 11.04.26
Laurie W. Wadsworth

LHK Executive Secretary/Secretary to the BOE

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