

**Canaan Board of Education
Minutes of the Special Meeting
Wednesday, January 13th, 2021
Lee H Kellogg School
Falls Village, Connecticut**

A special meeting of the Canaan Board of Education was held via Zoom on Wednesday, Jan 13th at 4:30pm.

Members in attendance were Patricia Mechare, Chair; Tanya Golden; Theresa Graney; Maria Bulson; Adam Sher

Also in attendance were Alexandra Juch, Principal; Lisa Carter, Superintendent; Jill Pace and Scott Fellows, co Assistant Superintendents; members of LHK faculty and staff; members of the public.

The single purpose of the meeting was to consider the safe return to in-person learning, which had previously been tentatively scheduled for January 19th. Chair Mechare called the meeting to order at 4:31 pm and turned the meeting over to Carter for her remarks. Carter spoke, noting that she worked closely with the Torrington Area Health Department, the Region One Schools' physician Suzanne Lefebvre, and other colleagues to review the available data regarding Covid in the towns and schools of Region One, recommending that the board approve the January 19th return to in-person learning. Chair Mechare then polled board members, all expressing their agreement, except Graney who asked for further input from the school principal and LHK faculty/staff before weighing in. Mechare then polled LHK faculty/staff, beginning with Principal Juch. All faculty and staff who attended the meeting were polled and all were in agreement with reopening, with some teachers expressing gratitude to the board and administration for their commitment to the safety of students and Region One personnel. Next Graney spoke, supporting the return to in-person learning. Mechare spoke, thanking Kellogg faculty and staff and Carter for their dedication to the children of Falls Village and for their professionalism and the lengths they have gone to keep the children safe and the school open. On a motion by Graney, seconded by Bulson the board voted to return to the regular in-person school day, with the distance option available, effective January 19th. All were in favor. There being no further business of the board, Bulson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Sher. All were in favor, and the meeting adjourned shortly after 5pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Panzer, Secretary to the Board