

**Canaan Board of Education
Minutes of the Special Meeting
Monday, February 8th, 2021
Lee H Kellogg School
Falls Village, Connecticut**

A special meeting of the Canaan Board of Education was held via Zoom on Monday, February 8th for the purposes of spending plan development. Members in attendance were Pat Mechare, Chair; Theresa Graney; Tanya Golden; Adam Sher; Maria Bolson. Chair Mechare called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm, with the late start due to a board member experiencing technical difficulties logging into the Zoom meet. Principal Alexandra Juch was also in attendance, as well as Kristen Panzer, secretary to the board.

The board reviewed the proposed budget provided by Principal Juch, series by series. The first item that led to discussion were questions about the "Title One" full time teaching position, with members questioning if this position should be funded by Title One grant monies rather than Canaan Board of Education monies, however, per Juch, this is not a grant funded position, and hasn't been since before Juch's tenure. Furthermore, Juch and Panzer reported to the board that Canaan does not qualify for Title One grant monies according to the federal formula. Panzer to share documentation with the board. The board next took up the proposed counselor position with Mechare polling board members for their willingness to fund this position. While all board members were in favor, costs were considerable and by consensus the board agreed that the position should be funded as a half time position in the 2021-2022 spending plan proposal. At least one member felt that the board needed a strong narrative to support this line item in the spending plan. Others concurred. The board also discussed increasing the PE/Health position by .10 FTE, from .5 FTE to .6 FTE. Per Juch, this would allow for more targeted health education by separating grade levels for age appropriate instruction. As discussion and review of the spending plan continued, it became clear that the board would need to set aside a separate time to consider the proposed technology spending plan. They agreed to meet again on Thursday, February 18th for another budget workshop session, and asked if Joseph Markow, LHK technology coordinator, could attend to support his spending plan proposal.

On a motion by Bulson, seconded by Golden, the board voted to move into executive session for the purposes of principal salary discussion. All were in favor and the board moved into executive session at 9:11 pm. Panzer also exited the meeting at this time, turning host controls over to Sher.

At 9:50 the board returned to public session. No action was taken. There being no further business of the Board, Bulson moved to adjourn, Golden seconded. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 9:51.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Panzer

