

Canaan Board of Education
Minutes of the Special Meeting

Tuesday, December 7, 2023 Virtual at 5:00 pm
Lee H. Kellogg School, Falls Village, Connecticut, 06031

In attendance: Chair Patricia Mechare, Treasurer Theresa Graney, Members Emily Peterson and Maria Bulson. A quorum is present. Member Adam Sher, Assistant Superintendent Jeanine Rose, and Principal Stacey Calo are excused. **Also in attendance:** Superintendent Lisa Carter, Lee H. Kellogg Executive Secretary/Secretary to the BOE Laurie Wadsworth and LHK Middle School and Second Grade Math Teacher Amanda Spelbos. Spelbos departed at 5:35 pm.

- I. Call to Order 5:03 pm
- II. Board of Education Recognition: **Janna Siller**, Adamah Organic Farm. Pat Mechare lauded Janna for her work with our students and her environmental dedication including her collaboration with LHK Science/Steam educator Mrs. Perugini for soil studies in the LHK garden to enrich our 8th grade STEAM program. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math). LHK Grade 3/4 educator Mr. Kandel has worked closely with Janna on the Kellogg garden project. In support of the LHK garden, Janna has donated time, tools, and resources (seeds, seedlings, fencing, etc). All classes have had the opportunity to work in the garden on a winter crop of spinach- Janna has sent seeds to school, and has taken time out of her work day to come to LHK and help our students. With Janna's continued collaboration, she and some of our Kellogg staff are hoping to plan for a year long garden study. Lastly, thanks to Janna and her collaboration with LHK Humanities educator Mrs. Paolucci, the Environmental Club and all LHK students and staff, we continue to promote Environmental Awareness (Portrait of a Graduate) with our ongoing compost program. LHK is composting daily with classroom pails for snack and during our lunch. Janna has scheduled pick ups with our custodian Chad Olson. Janna has even donated her time and come to an LHK Earth Day celebration to further educate our Falcons on composting.
- III. Focus on Student Learning - Amanda Spelbos - [Middle School/Grade 2 Math](#) Spelbos reported that LHK uses Illustrative Math and she augments from Podcasts by Pamela Harris, "Math is Figureoutable". Memorization is not taught for multiplication, such strategies as Ratio Tables are used instead.
- IV. Approval of Agenda MSP MBulson, TGraney, unanimously approved.
- V. Approval of Minutes [November 7, 2023 Draft Regular Meeting Minutes](#) MSP TGraney, EPeterson, **unanimously approved.**
- VI. Communications
 - A. Region One Representative [Agenda 12.04.23](#) [Minutes 12.04.23](#) PMechare reports that the meeting was focused on HVRHS building projects and upgrades that have been long overdue and anticipates summer work/bids to begin.
 - B. ABC Committee [Agenda 11.15.2023](#) [Minutes 11.15.2023](#) PMechare reports
- VII. Old Business
 - A. Policy for Second Read and Final Approval

1. [1700 Possession of Firearms](#) MSP TGraney, MBulson, unanimously approved.

VIII. New Business

A. Policies for **Codification** (only a new and/or specific date stamp required) or **Updated Legal**

1. [5118.2 Resident and Non Resident Tuition Waiver](#)

MSP to codify with today's date by TGraney, MBulson, unanimously approved.

2. [5118.1 Resident and Non Resident Attendance](#)

MSP to codify with today's date by TGraney, MBulson, unanimously approved.

B. [1212 School Volunteers](#) - see highlighted proposed language deletion on Page 6 under Volunteer Form A - **MSP to remove the highlighted text TGraney, EPeterson, unanimously approved.**

XI. Reports

A. [Principal](#) - members had no questions or concerns. NESDEC predictions for future enrollment show growth. PMechare noted that housing availability/opportunities will have an impact.

B. [Assistant Superintendent](#) - in JRoses' absence, LCarter noted that this is the first year in many years that LHK has received Title 1 funds and she believes that it is due to lunch service.

C. [Superintendent](#) Highlights from LCarter: At the **CABE/CAPSS Conference** she attended in November the speaker cautioned that AI was too new to fully embrace; the Cheshire School System's Health and Wellness program (uses the same Threat Assessment Training that Region One does) is a model for HVRHS and includes First Aid aspects as well; the Region One Calendar will be ready in January.

XII. Financial Reports - TGraney noted that spending is in line; some line items are over, overall is fine.

A. [Check Register](#)

B. [October Cash Report](#) Maria had questions about the line 3051100 YearBook, note to follow up on that expense but otherwise **MSP to receive both reports TGraney, MBulson, unanimous.**

XIII. Executive Session for the purpose of discussing an MOU regarding a Region One employee's ability to carry personal illness days from one school district to another.

MSP to enter into an Executive Session at 6:31 by MBulson, TGraney. The Executive Session was attended by LCarter, PMechare, MBulson, TGraney, EPeterson and it ended at 6:55 pm.

XIV. Public Comment n/a

XV. Adjournment **MSP at 6:55 by MBulson, TGraney, unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted December 6, 2023

Laurie Wadsworth, LHK Office Administrator and Secretary to the Canaan BOE