

Canaan Board of Education
Minutes of the Special Meeting

Tuesday, January 9, 2024 Virtual at 5:00 pm
Lee H. Kellogg School, Falls Village, Connecticut, 06031

In attendance: Chair Patricia Mechare, Vice Chair Adam Sher, Members Emily Peterson and Maria Bulson. Treasurer Theresa Graney is excused. A quorum is present. **Also in attendance:** Superintendent Lisa Carter, Assistant Superintendent Jeanine Rose, Lee H. Kellogg Principal Stacey Calo, Executive Secretary/Secretary to the BOE Laurie Wadsworth and Lee H. Kellogg School Grade 3/4 Educator Matthew Kandel. Kandel departed at 5:30 pm.

- I. Call to Order 5:16 pm
- II. Election of the Canaan Board of Education Officers opened by Lisa Carter
 - A. **MPS MBulson, EPeterson to elect PMechare for Chair for 2 years.** MPS Nominations closed, MBulson, EPeterson, unanimous.
 - B. **MSP MBulson, EPeterson to elect ASher for ViceChair for 2 years.** MSP Nominations closed, MBulson, EPeterson, unanimous.
 - C. **MSP MBulson, ASher to elect TGraney for Treasurer for 2 years.** MSP Nominations closed, MBulson, ASher, unanimous.
 - D. **MSP PMechare, EPeterson to elect MBulson for Secretary for 2 years.** MSP Nominations closed MBulson, EPeterson, unanimous.
- III. Focus on Student Learning - Matthew Kandel, [Grade 3/4](#) - see linked video featuring students reading their poems. Matt answered questions from the BOE.
- IV. Approval of Agenda - **MSP MBulson, ASher, unanimously approved.**
- V. Approval [of 12.05.23 Minutes](#) **MSP ASher, EPeterson, unanimously approved.**
- VI. Communications
 - A. [Fogel Retirement](#) - PMechare read the letter into the record and it was accepted with regret by the BOE. **MSP MBulson, ASher, unanimously accepted.**
 - B. Region One Representative - [1.8.24 Agenda RE1 BOE](#) [1.8.24 Minutes RE1 BOE Mtg.pdf](#) PMechare reported, see Agenda and Minutes link. PMechare commented that she appreciated the support the community has for the building. LCarter commented that she appreciates the administrators at HVRHS who worked on creating the upgrade plans.
 - C. ABC Committee - [Agenda 1.3.2024 ABC Committee Special Meeting](#) [Minutes 1.3.24 ABC Committee.pdf](#) See links. PMechare reported that the ABC committee hired Mary Broderick to help with the search committee for a new Superintendent and she anticipates that this will be the work of the ABC Committee for the foreseeable future.
- VII. Old Business - n/a

VIII. New Business

- A. Set Budget Meeting - PMechare is meeting with a new selectman (Christopher Kinsella) to review the BOE budget process. **First Budget Special Meeting set for Monday January 22, 2024 at 5 pm, virtual.**

IX. Report

- A. [Principal](#) - see link. Principal Calo highlighted 3:15 Enrichment, community outreach (DM Hunt, Senior Center), and upcoming trips. The BOE commented with appreciation on the spirit and the variety of what has been started and offered.
- B. [Assistant Superintendent](#) see link. Highlights: PDEC & Reading Curriculum
- C. [Superintendent](#) see link. The Digital Equity Survey, sent to all families by Region One School Messenger, is particularly important to rural regions to complete. Upcoming meetings: Jan. 23, 6 pm - Region One Calendar virtual where all BOE's are invited to attend with separate Zoom breakouts. Jan. 24, 6 pm - virtual for Middle School Sports.

X. Financial Reports

- A. [Check Register](#) **MSP to receive MBulson, EPeterson, unanimously received.**
- B. [December Cash Report](#) **MSP to receive MBulson, EPeterson, unanimously received.**

- XI. 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 in Executive Session at 6:12 pm** with BOE members PMechare, EPeterson, MBulson, ASher; Principal SCalo, Superintendent LCarter, and Assistant Superintendent JRose by MBulson, EPeterson, unanimously approved. Executive Session concluded at 6:40 pm, no action taken.

XII. Public Comment - n/a

XIII. Adjournment MSP ASher, MBulson at 6:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted January 9, 2024

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