

**Madison Public Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
October 06, 2015
7:30 PM
Town Campus Hammonasset Room**

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order / Attendance

The public meeting of the Madison Board of Education was called to order by Chair Jean Fitzgerald at 7:36 p.m. Chairman Fitzgerald led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Bill Clorite; John Dean; Jean Fitzgerald; Alison Keating; Cindy Mead; Bruce Wilson

Also present: Thomas Scarice, Superintendent of Schools; Gail Dahling-Hench, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; students; and community members.

2. School / Community Session - 7:30 p.m.

2.1. Public Participation

Mr. Kevin Wolfe of 23 Lenore Drive stated his concerns regarding the potential of Kathleen H. Ryerson Elementary School closing.

Ms. Fitzgerald invited Mr. Wolfe to attend the upcoming DRA Public Forum meetings to be held on October 19th and November 9th. Ms. Fitzgerald also encouraged Mr. Wolfe to have other community members attend the public forums to state their concerns.

3. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report
Paige Calvert and Aidan Hughes

Ms. Calvert and Mr. Hughes reported on the following.

Spirit Day and the pep rally have already taken place and the school colors were back. Though this year, DHHS had the freshman in yellow instead of white. This year the pep rally took place on the turf.

Wake up call was performed by DHHS band. The band marched throughout DHHS playing songs. The students stated that this really showed the pride and the spirit of the school.

Senior picnic was held behind Polson. Ms. Calvert stated that there was food, games and a DJ and that all of the students enjoyed the day.

Ms. Calvert stated that Joe Barber posted a message on the Go Joe Go Facebook page thanking everyone for all of the cards and well wishes. Mr. Barber also mentioned how

grateful he was to be part of the Madison community. Mr. Barber also mentioned that he is working hard every day on his recovery.

4. Superintendent's Report Thomas R. Scarice

4.1. Senator Ted Kennedy Jr. and State Representative Noreen Kokoruda (on file)

Superintendent Scarice introduced Senator Ted Kennedy Jr. and State Representative Noreen Kokoruda, both of who provided details of the 2015 Legislative Update. Copies of the information presented to the Board can be found on the CAFE website.

4.2. Special Education Program Analysis (on file) Elizabeth Battaglia

Dr. Battaglia stated that a team of administrators, coordinators, and highly skilled consultants from LEARN will work with the Madison team to further develop the essential questions and identify specific qualitative and quantitative data to be collected. Based on these guiding questions and data points, the LEARN team will collect evidence to provide information that can be utilized by the Madison team to answer the essential questions put forth in the initial meetings.

Dr. Battaglia stated that LEARN initially met with Superintendent Scarice, as well as Ms. Cynthia Twiss, former Director of Special Education, and Ms. Gail Dahling-Hench, Assistant Superintendent, in February 2015 to discuss the needs of the district regarding a potential special education review and next steps.

Dr. Battaglia stated that LEARN will create a written report which will include comparative and correlative analysis for corresponding data points, commendations of staff and district practices, and recommendations with an outline of timelines and phases for next steps. An appendix of all quantitative and qualitative data collected will also be included, as well as a compilation of resources.

Dr. Battaglia noted that the timeline for project: Collection of evidence will occur before November 23, 2015. A draft report for review and initial presentation of the findings will be presented and discussed with the Madison central office team by December 18, 2015. The Madison and LEARN teams will discuss key findings and outcomes and determine next steps. A final draft of the report and a presentation of key information and findings to the larger special education department and Madison Board of Education members will be available if requested.

Dr. Battaglia stated that approximate number of hours estimated for the project would be 175, with a proposed LEARN discounted professional rate of \$16,500.

4.3. Daniel Hand High School grades 9-12 to compete at FAME show choir national qualifying events in Orlando, FL. March 10-13, 2015.

Superintendent Scarice notified the Board that Daniel Hand High School grades 9-12 will compete at FAME show choir national qualifying events in Orlando, FL, March 10-13, 2015. Superintendent Scarice stated that this is an exciting competition.

4.4. Other Matters

Superintendent Scarice stated that the District currently leases two softballs fields in front of Walter C. Polson Middle School that are part of the LaSage property which is currently for sale. Superintendent Scarice stated that the Planning Committee and DRA have discussed the use of the property if the District were to purchase it.

Superintendent Scarice noted that the LaSage property should go to the full Board at the October 20, 2015 Board of Education meeting as an action item.

Superintendent Scarice stated that the District should have equity towards the purchase of the property.

Mr. McMinn stated that the softball fields would be a great asset to the District. Mr. McMinn stated that the District has a lease to buy with over \$100,000 in equity towards the purchase.

Ms. Mead stated that by purchasing the property it would give the District flexibility.

5. Board Members' Comments

No comments were made.

6. Board Committees / Liaison Updates (Ref. Bylaw #9450)

6.1. Planning Committee

Members: Cindy Mead, Chair; Bill Clorite, Jessica Bowler

Ms. Mead noted that there are three new classes being added to DHHS: Black American Literature, AP-Science and CTE Course.

Ms. Mead also noted that there will also be some course description changes as well as some courses that will be dropped.

Ms. Mead stated that the school utilization study regarding architectural report, mechanical, plumbing report analysis was received by the planning committee this evening at the end of their meeting. The Planning Committee will be reviewing the information.

Ms. Mead stated that the Capstone Course will be added later this year.

Mr. McMinn spoke to the Board regarding leasing hands free cleaning equipment. Mr. McMinn stated that the floor cleaning equipment would be used to clean the carpets at Walter C. Polson Middle School as well as the hardwood floors at Daniel Hand High School. Mr. McMinn stated that he will have numbers at the next meeting. Mr. McMinn stated that this should go to the full Board at the October 20, 2015 Board of Education meeting as an action item.

6.2. Personnel Committee

Members: Bob Ruggiero, Chair, Alison Keating, Jessica Bowler

Mr. Dean reported that the next negotiation meeting will be held on Thursday, October 8, 2015 at 4:00 PM., with future meetings on the following dates: October 13th, October 29th and November 5th. There is also another date of November 12th which has not yet been confirmed.

6.3. Policy Committee

Members: Bruce Wilson, Chair; Seth Klaskin, Bob Ruggiero

6.3.1. Policy #5120.3 – Health Services (Second Reading)

6.3.2. Policy #5120.3.3 – Administering Medication (Second Reading)

Both Policy #5120.3.3 and Policy #5120.3 are moving forward to third reading at the October 20, 2015 Board of Education Meeting.

6.4. Finance Committee

Members: Bill Clorite, Chair; Cindy Mead

Mr. Clorite stated that the committee has not met since the last Board of Education Meeting and that the Finance Committee will have a report at the October 20, 2015 Board of Education Meeting.

6.5. LEARN Liaison

Liaison: Alison Keating

No comments were made.

7. Audience Response to Information Presented (Ref. Bylaw #9540.10)

No comments were made.

8. Consent Agenda (Ref. Bylaw #9540.2 and #9540.8)

8.1. Bills Payable: \$183,929.11 2014-2015 Budget and \$841,234.42 - 2015-2016 Budget

8.2. Line Transfers: \$19,504.57

8.3. Budget Expenditure as of September 30, 2015

8.4. Donation: \$5,000.00 from J. Milton Jeffrey Elementary School from the J. Milton Jeffrey Elementary School PTO to subsidize school field trips.

MOTION: by Mead, seconded by Keating to approve the Consent Agenda.

AYES: Clorite, Dean, Fitzgerald, Keating, Mead, Wilson

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

9. Action Item: Minutes of the September 15, 2015 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Wilson, seconded by Mead to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2015 Board of Education Meeting.

AYES: Clorite, Dean, Fitzgerald, Keating, Mead, Wilson

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

10. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

11. New Business

No new business was discussed.

12. Future Agenda Items

No future items were discussed.

13. Meetings / Dates of Importance (see attached)

October and November calendars are attached.

14. Action Item: To add Executive Session to the agenda

MOTION: by Mead, seconded by Wilson to add Executive Session to the agenda.

AYES: Clorite, Dean, Fitzgerald, Keating, Mead, Wilson

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

15. Action Item: Enter into Executive Session to discuss an attorney-client privilege document.

15.1. Discuss an attorney-client privilege document

MOTION: by Keating, seconded by Mead to enter into executive session for the purposes of discussing an attorney-client privilege document at 8:56 p.m.

AYES: Clorite, Dean, Fitzgerald, Keating, Mead, Wilson

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

16. Adjournment

MOTION: by Dean seconded by Mead to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 p.m.

AYES: Clorite, Dean, Fitzgerald, Keating, Mead, Wilson

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Approved at the 10/20/15 Board of Education Meeting

LAF