

**Madison Public Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
February 02, 2016
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 7:32 p.m. Chairman Fitzgerald led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Jessica Bowler; Galen Cawley; John Dean; Jean Fitzgerald; Seth Klaskin; Cindy Mead; Katie Stein

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

No comments were made.

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

Mr. Hughes did not attend the meeting

Ms. Calvert reported on the following:

Ms. Calvert stated that senior portraits were taken this week.

Ms. Calvert stated that the course selection sheets were returned to the office this week.

Ms. Calvert noted that the band concert will be held this Thursday night.

Ms. Calvert noted that colleges will be visiting Daniel Hand High School.

4. Superintendent's Report
Thomas R. Scarice

4.1. Updates on Ongoing District Wide Projects

Superintendent Scarice noted that it is currently mid-way through the school year and that the curriculum project is still ongoing. Language Arts and math will be wrapping up.

Superintendent Scarice noted that the Madison Instructional Technology Team (MITT) has begun which is being co-chaired by Gail Dahling-Hench and Arthur Sickle. The team is taking a look at the current technology/instructional needs of the District. Superintendent Scarice stated that a plan should be in place by the end of the school year. Superintendent Scarice stated that the plan will go to the full Board for adoption. Superintendent Scarice stated that there will be communication with parents regarding the technology plan.

Superintendent Scarice noted that an internet safety is also being worked on by the SRO, Ms. Dahling-Hench and Mr. Sickle.

Superintendent Scarice stated that a draft of the Special Education plan will be brought to the full Board. Ms. Mead asked about the SPED report and when it would be available. Superintendent Scarice stated it is currently in a very draft state and will be ready in the next few months.

Superintendent Scarice stated that the Effective School Solutions (ESS) is looking very impressive and will be ready for a formal presentation soon.

Superintendent Scarice stated that there is an ongoing committee made up of faculty and administrators regarding social, emotional and learning needs.

Superintendent Scarice stated that the School Utilization Study is currently on pause until March. Superintendent Scarice noted that the District is looking at 6, 5, and 4 school District models

Ms. Fitzgerald stated that the LaSage property is still on the table. The cost is still to be determined.

Mr. Dean asked if there will be a study done regarding traffic. Superintendent Scarice stated that there will be several items that will need to be considered.

Superintendent Scarice noted that in the fall the Board of Education will begin the accreditation process. A pilot with the accreditation agency with the District will be held February 10-11, 2016.

Ms. Mead asked about the enrichment program. Superintendent Scarice stated that Madison deserves a program like this that is not staff dependent.

4.2. Other Matters

Superintendent Scarice noted that The Madison Public Schools will partner with The Country School to host a screening of the acclaimed and provocative documentary, "Most Likely to Succeed". The screening will take place on Thursday - February 04, 2016 at 6:15 PM at the The Country School. Superintendent Scarice also stated that he will be participating in the Q&A following the screening.

Superintendent Scarice noted that there will be a big celebration at Island Avenue School this Friday which will begin at 9:30 AM. Superintendent Scarice asked that people arrive by 9:15 AM. Superintendent Scarice stated that he will be in touch with the major networks tomorrow notifying them of the event.

Superintendent Scarice discussed the District Participation Rate Consequences and the number of students who took the SBAC test. Superintendent Scarice stated that the

students were not forced to take the test and that the parents of the students who did not take the test chose to have their child opt out of taking it. Superintendent Scarice stated that the Connecticut State Department of Education was supposed to send a letter to the Districts by January 15, 2016 which the District did not receive as well as the meeting date is scheduled for Districts on February 5, 2016 which the District has not received an invitation for yet. Superintendent Scarice noted that the CSDE was stating it would take away Title 1 funding for those Districts that did not have a high enough testing participation rate.

5. Board Members' Comments

No comments were made.

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

6.1. Planning Committee

Members: Jessica Bowler, Chair; Cindy Mead, Galen Cawley

Social Studies Middle School Update – Review and Writing Curriculum

- Paul Coppola has been in this position for 6 months.
- The Planning Committee reviewed the key features and enhancements along with the PBAs.

Writing the curriculum -

- Combining the National standards and bringing it to a local Madison level
- Citizenship/Compassion/Community are the core concepts driving the content
- Inquiry process
- Connect students to the content
- Interdisciplinary opportunities - civics, economics and geography built into the courses
- Goal is to make history matter
- Kids ask questions - teacher facilitates
- Overall engaging kids

Food Service Update -

- Art let us know that the RFP template is now available
- Very tight template
- Plan to involve the students and parents and administrators in the process - ask questions and get feedback about current program - likes and dislikes, things we can offer or do differently RFP - plan to go out to the street in March

Tennis Courts -

- Will be resurfaced this summer (was funded by old low cap)
- As part of the school utilization study we will address future possible expansion and improvement of the tennis courts - we cannot address further until then.

6.2. Personnel Committee

Members: John Dean, Chair, Alison Keating, Happy Marino

Mr. Dean reported that the next meeting regarding negotiations with NAGE will be held on February 9, 2016.

6.3. Policy Committee

Members: Alison Keating, Chair; Katie Stein, Seth Klaskin

6.3.1. Policy #5120.3 - Health Services (2nd Reading)

6.3.2. Policy #1360 - School Volunteers (2nd Reading)

6.3.3. Policy #5120.4.2.5 - Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect and Sexual Assault (2nd Reading)

Ms. Keating did not attend the meeting tonight. Ms. Fitzgerald reported that Policy #5120.3 - Health Services, Policy #1360 - School Volunteers and Policy #5120.4.2.5 - Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect and Sexual Assault are all for second reading tonight. The three mentioned policies will be going to third reading at the February 16, 2016 Board of Education Meeting.

6.4. Finance Committee

Members: Cindy Mead, Chair; Alison Keating, Jessica Bowler

No report was given.

6.5. LEARN Liaison

Liaison: Katie Stein

No report was given.

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: \$11,236.07 - 2014-2015 Budget and \$397,835.00 - 2015-2016 Budget

8.2. Line Transfers: \$12,200.00

8.3. Budget Expenditure as of January 27, 2016

MOTION: by Klaskin seconded by Mead to approve the Consent Agenda.

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; Dean; Fitzgerald; Klaskin; Mead; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

9. Action Item: Minutes of the January 19, 2016 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Klaskin seconded by Cawley
to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2016 Board
of Education Meeting.

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; Dean; Fitzgerald; Klaskin;
Mead; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

10. Action Item: To remove Policies #3542 – Food Service Guidelines, #3542.1 – Nutrition Program, #3542.3 – Vending Machines After review from legal counsel and upon adoption of the Policy 6142.101 – Wellness, policies 3542, 3542.1 and 3542.3 are redundant and no longer necessary.

Atty. Klaskin noted that Policies #3542, #3542.1 and #3542.3 have become part of the Wellness Policy #6142.101.

MOTION: by Policy to remove Policies #3542 –
Food Service Guidelines, #3542.1 – Nutrition
Program, #3542.3 – Vending Machines

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; Dean; Fitzgerald; Klaskin;
Mead; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

11. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

12. Future Agenda Items

No future items were discussed.

**13. Meetings / Dates of Importance (see attached)
January and February 2016 Calendars**

14. Adjournment

MOTION: by Dean seconded by Bowler to adjourn
the meeting at 7:57 p.m.

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; Dean; Fitzgerald; Klaskin;
Mead; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0