

**Madison Public Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
May 08, 2018
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 Katie Stein at 7:34 p.m. Chairman Stein led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Jessica Bowler; Galen Cawley; Greg DeSantis; Happy Marino; Violet McNerney; Emily Rosenthal; 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. Recognition

2.1.1. National Teachers Week - May 7-11, 2018

Superintendent Scarice introduced Mike Ginsburg and Mary Ellen Babik who attending the meeting representing the teachers of Madison Public Schools.

Superintendent Scarice noted that National Teacher Appreciation Day, also known as National Teacher Day, is observed on the Tuesday of the first full week in May. This day is part of Teacher Appreciation Week, which is the first full week in May of each year.

Teachers play a critical role in educating and shaping our children: the future leaders of our country. They are kind, patient, hard-working, dedicated and understanding professionals that mold our children's lives in a positive direction.

Superintendent Scarice thanked all of the teachers in the District.

2.1.2. National Nurses Week - May 6-12, 2018

Superintendent Scarice had each of the nurses in attendance introduce themselves to the Board (Karen Owen, Wendy Flynn and Dashana Kytte). Superintendent Scarice stated that there is an appreciation breakfast being held for the nurses in the District.

Superintendent Scarice gave a brief history of National Nurses Week and thanked the nurses for the important role they play in the District. Superintendent Scarice stated that not only do they deal with the day to day but they are also there as social, emotional and physiological support. Superintendent Scarice gave a break

down to the Board of the number of students at each of the schools with the number of office visits each year.

Karen Owens stated that a Gala is taking place this week to celebrate 50 Years. Dashana Kytte is being awarded with the Peer Recognition Award and Martin Sklaire will be awarded with the Nurse Advocate Award.

2.2. Public Participation

No comments were made.

3. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report

Emily Baker and Ryan Tomicic

Emily and Ryan reported on the following:

Decision for the 2018-2019 student representative replacement is taking place

Junior and Senior – AP exams are taking place this week

Junior prom took place last week and the students had a lot of fun and there was a great turn out.

Student voter registration for those 18 and over took place

Two Daniel Hand seniors were recognized by the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS)

Graduation will be held on June 25th at 6:00 PM

Senior prom is scheduled for June 2nd

June 8th the seniors are taking part in a volunteer day instead of a senior field day

4. Superintendent's Report

Thomas R. Scarice

4.1. High School Graduation and End of Year Activities

Superintendent Scarice stated that this year graduation will take place at 6PM. Last year graduation was held earlier in the day due to the weather.

Superintendent Scarice informed the Board of several of the year end school events that will be taking place.

4.2. Other Matters

Superintendent Scarice updated the Board on the 2018-2019 Brown School schedule. A hand out was provided to the Board members.

The projected kindergarten enrollment is 138 with a current enrollment of 131.

5. Board Members' Comments

Ms. Stein stated that she was pleased to be invited to an event sponsored by SEPTO last evening called "Choose Love at Home" it was the second in a series presented by Scarlett Lewis mother of Jesse Lewis who was killed at the tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School. The free downloadable provides families with emotional intelligence tools to model behaviors, set intentions, identify and manage emotions and respond to situations with love.

Ms. Stein updated the Board regarding a Board of Selectman request pertaining to the return of Island Avenue School.

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

6.1. Planning Committee

Members: Jessica Bowler, Chair; Emily Rosenthal, Happy Marino

Ms. Bowler reported on the following:

Science and Social Studies K-6:

Social Studies – Chris Pagliuco

Chris stated that we have almost completed Year 1 of the social studies curriculum implementation. He reminded us that every grade came into this year with their own circumstance and set of challenges.

Some area of focus for him this year were –

Creating ‘age appropriate’ resources for K-4 as not many are readily available until 5th grade.

Getting teachers to load student work as references for next year

Ensuring vertical alignment – upper grades seeing the foundation and where the kids have come from and the lower grades seeing where they are heading

Continuing to work on the collaboration with the community – grade 11 came and helped teach grade 5 for a day when they were reviewing documents from the Madison Historical Society

Madison Historical Society to create a junior membership for High School kids - \$3 and they can pay or volunteer some hours in exchange for the dues

Goals for 2018-2019

Continue to look at the vertical alignment

Look at the science and social studies integration

Prep for Brown school realignment especially around grade 5

Science – Sarah Sandora

Will be coming to the board in a few weeks for adoption of the following curriculum –

Grades 1, 2, 4-7, Conceptual Physics (9/10) and Chemistry for Health Sciences (11/12)

Her summer writing focus will be –

K, 3, 8 and the High School Electives

Goals for 2018-2019

Piloting K, 3, 8 and high school courses with the exception of the electives

Vertical alignment focus

Brown schedule for grades 4-5 for 2020 and beyond

Julie Phelps and Rebecca Coiteux

As Superintendent Scarice stated we finalized this and you all have it for your review. Any questions or concerns please let me know.

Now the Admin Team will move to the Polson and Elementary models and schedules.

Uses of PD Time

Julie Phelps and Anthony Salutari

We reviewed the PD building activities for 2017-2018 and the number of subs at each school this year. We also reviewed the Instructional Rounds that was used at Brown during this school year.

Progression of Freshman English

Anthony Salutari and Michelle Horn

It became clear to Mr. Salutari that an increase in coaching presence was needed at the high school for freshman English so Michelle's schedule was adjusted to 3 days at the high school and 2 at Brown.

Need to adjust for the differences now of the kids entering high school who now have been using readers and writers workshop for a few years. As a result we need to reimagine the English classroom and start to see how we can bring in the idea of choice to freshman English.

This requires shifts in practice –

Teaching reading and writing vs. assigning

Teachers conferring 1:1 or in small groups with an instructional focus

Students spend more time working with each other on reading and writing

Overall emphasis on growth not products

What did we do so far –

Michelle moved to the high school in November as the instructional coach

Increased PD taking existing units and creating units that allow for choice, independent reading time and book clubs as a central focus

Built grade 9 classroom libraries to allow for engaging book choice

It has been a little rocky as you can imagine as this is a shift for the high school

Changes the overall engagement model but still read the classics as a whole class novel

Focus for 2018-2019

Re-look at the whole English Department not just freshman English

6.2. Personnel Committee

Members: Greg DeSantis, Chair, Violet McNerney

No report was given. Meeting is scheduled for tomorrow evening with the Teamsters.

6.3. Policy Committee

Members: Emily Rosenthal Chair; Violet McNerney, Seth Klaskin

6.3.1. Policy #4141 - Social Networking (3rd Reading)

Policy #4141 - Social Networking is going to the Board for 3rd reading and taking action to adopt the Policy.

Bylaw #9400 - Organization of the School Board – action to be taken later in the meeting to waive the 2nd and 3rd readings and adopt the Policy.

6.4. Finance Committee

Members: Happy Marino, Chair; Galen Cawley

The current Special Education budget accounts are in a deficit. As we start to close out the year, we are identifying accounts with funds that we can transfer to reduce this deficit. We will need to decide if we want to request funds out of the External Placements Reserve Fund now and still aim to return the \$120k to the town to be used for the 18-19 ESS program. Or, exhaust all funds (including the \$120k) to reduce the SPED deficit and perhaps request a lower amount from the External Placements Reserve Fund.

6.5. LEARN Liaison

Emily Rosenthal

No report was given. Next meeting is scheduled for May 10th.

6.6. Facilities Committee

Members: Seth Klaskin, Chair, Galen Cawley, Greg DeSantis

Mr. DeSantis reported on the following:

The Facilities Committee met on Tuesday, May 1, 2018. Discussion was held about updates to the prioritization of the Ten Year Plan, largely due to the order in which maintenance items must be appropriately addressed. Next, we discussed options for sharing the Ten Year Plan with the community, as well as options for soliciting feedback from the community.

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: \$343,533.36 – 2017/2018 Budget

8.2. Line Transfers: \$305,881.31

8.3. Budget Expenditure as of May 3, 2018

MOTION: by DeSantis seconded by Rosenthal to approve the Consent Agenda.

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; DeSantis; Marino; McNerney; Rosenthal; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

9. Action Item: Minutes of the April 24, 2018 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Marino seconded by McNerney to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2018

Board of Education Meeting.

AYES: Cawley; DeSantis; Marino; McNerney; Rosenthal; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Bowler

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

10. Action Item: To approve the revised Teacher Evaluation

MOTION: by Cawley seconded by DeSantis to approve the revised Teacher Evaluation.

AYES: Cawley; DeSantis; Marino; McNerney; Rosenthal; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Bowler

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

11. Action Item: To adopt Policy #4141 - Social Networking

MOTION: by Policy Committee to adopt Policy #4141 - Social Networking.

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; DeSantis; Marino; McNerney; Rosenthal; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

12. Action Item: To waive the 2nd and 3rd reading of Bylaw #9400 - Organization of the School Board

MOTION: by Marino seconded by DeSantis to waive the 2nd and 3rd reading of Bylaw #9400 - Organization of the School Board.

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; DeSantis;

Marino; McNerney; Rosenthal; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

13. Action Item: To adopt Bylaw #9400 - Organization of the School Board

MOTION: by Policy Committee to adopt Bylaw #9400 - Organization of the School Board.

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; DeSantis; Marino;

McNerney; Rosenthal; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

14. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

15. Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items were discussed.

**16. Meetings / Dates of Importance (see attached)
May-June 2018**

17. Adjournment

MOTION: by DeSantis seconded by Rosenthal to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; DeSantis;

Marino; McNerney; Rosenthal; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0