Madison Public Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
June 05, 2018
6:00 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 6:02 p.m. Chairman Stein led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Jessica Bowler; Galen Cawley; Greg DeSantis; Seth Klaskin; Violet McNerney; Tom Pellegrino, Emily Rosenthal; Katie Stein

Happy Marino entered the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

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

2. Recognition/Reception for Retirees

2.1. 2018 Madison Public Schools Retirees

Superintendent Scarice introduced Mr. Ron Soja and the Daniel Hand High School encore group who performed. Each of the students introduced themselves. Mr. Soja stated that the students performed earlier today at a senior living facilities in Branford which mainly deals with dementia residents. Mr. Soja stated how the residence truly enjoyed the performance and that they were singing and dancing. Superintendent Scarice thanked Mr. Soja and the Daniel Hand High School encore.

Julie Phelps spoke on behalf of Ricki Briggs
Ricki Briggs, Computer Teacher, DHHS – 15 years

Arthur Sickle spoke on behalf of Sara Caraszi
Sara Caraszi, Executive Secretary, Student Data/Transportation Services, Central Office– 30 years

Steven Isleib, Math Teacher, DHHS – 35 years (unable to attend)
Joyce Merola, Food Services, Polson – 49 years (unable to attend)

Superintendent Scarice and Ms. Stein thanked the retirees for their years of service.

The Board meeting recessed at 6:25 p.m. for the retiree's reception

3. Business Session (reconvened at 6:46 p.m.)

4. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report

Emily Baker and Ryan Tomicic (Ryan did not attend the Board Meeting)

Emily reported on the following:

Senior prom took place this past Saturday at Cascade in Hamden. Everyone had a great time.
Band concert is scheduled for June 14th
Orchestra concert took place last week
Senior Awards Night is scheduled for June 21st
Graduation is scheduled for June 25th
Nite In Hand will take place following graduation

5. Superintendent's Report

5.1. Recognize the Board of Education Student Representatives

Emily Baker and Ryan Tomicic (Ryan did not attend the Board meeting)

For the past two school years Emily Baker has served the Board by representing the voice of our student body at Board meetings. Superintendent Scarce asked that the Board take a moment to recognize their contributions and to wish Emily all the best as she graduates from Daniel Hand High School and transitions to the next chapter of her academic career.

Ryan Tomicic will be recognized at the June 19th Board of Education meeting.

5.2. Introduce the 2018-2019 Board of Education Student Representative

Superintendent Scarice introduced Jacqueline Sandor who will be a junior this year at Daniel Hand High School as the new Board of Education student representative.

Ms. Stein, who participated in the selection process, stated that they received more applicants than ever before for the position of Board of Education Student Representative. Ms. Stein also stated that it is a very competitive process and that there were many dedicated and talented students who applied for the post. On behalf of the Board she congratulated Jackie Sandor and welcomed her to the Board table.

The Board welcomed Jacqueline as the 18-19 Board of Education student representative.

5.3. VFW Educator Recognitions

Over the years, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) have recognized a number of our teachers and administrators for their contributions in our classrooms and schools for their efforts in honoring our veterans, and for their exemplary work in the classroom. Again this year, we have two recognitions. However, according to our VFW liaison, Larry Brundrette, from VFW Post #2096 in Madison , these remarkable honors are among the highest given to educators and, he has asked if we could quietly invite the recipients so that their recognitions would be a complete surprise. In short, please keep this news as confidential as you can.

Larry Brundrette, from VFW Post #2096 in Madison presented the following:

Katie Mattioli DHHS English Teacher

Ms. Mattioli was recognized for her work in the course, “Combat Literature”, a part of our Board adopted English/Language Arts curriculum. The program involves student-veteran interviews

which are fully coordinated and arranged by students using thoughtful student-developed questions. Each student interviewer must then submit an individual report from the information received in their interview which provides a compelling narrative of the veteran's journey. We have been told by Mr. Brundrette that, under no uncertain terms, this is a one of a kind award.

Frank Henderson, Principal Polson MS
Mr. Henderson was awarded the annual Veterans of Foreign Wars Post Americanism Award for his outstanding efforts on behalf of all Madison's veterans with his program each year on Veterans Day, and his continued support of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Teacher of the Year. Under Mr. Henderson's leadership, Polson has received five consecutive winning nominations for the VFW Teacher of the Year program, the most of any school in VFW Post #2096 history.

5.4. Other Matters

Superintendent Scarice stated that on July 1st Becky Frost the current Assistant Principal at Polson Middle School will be taking over as the Principal of Island Avenue Elementary School. Ms. Frost stated that she is very excited about her new position as the Principal at Island Avenue.

Ms. Stein stated that she attended the Unified Sports banquet last night and it was an outstanding event that showcased inclusion, teamwork and athleticism throughout the district.

Superintendent Scarice noted that although he did not attend the May 22nd BOE meeting due to his daughter being in a school play that evening, he has spoken with several of the parents who voiced their concerns regarding the model at Brown Middle School. He plans to continue to answer questions raised at the May 22nd meeting and in addition will plan a time at DHHS to answer any questions from students.

Ms. Dobson stated that at the upcoming June 19 Board of Education meeting, the Board will be asked to take action on an update to our 403(b) plan that we offer employees. This update and action item is considered routine as it is necessary to make the plan IRS compliant.

Mr. McMinn distributed the draft 10 year Facilities Plan at to the Board for review. The plan includes the 5 year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) requests.

6. Board Members' Comments

Ms. Stein thanked Assistant Superintendent Dahling-Hench for procuring the "new to us" furniture throughout Central Office. It looks great and it was done at no cost to the District and on her own time. Thank you.

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

7.1. Planning Committee
Members: Jessica Bowler, Chair; Emily Rosenthal, Happy Marino

Ms. Bowler reported on the following:

Brown Music Program

We met and revisited the proposed Brown Schedule for 2019-2020 specifically around the music program changes.

We reviewed and discussed how the admin team got to where we are today.

After reviewing again we feel again excited and that this proposed schedule is developmentally appropriate for 4th and 5th graders to expose kids to all types of music and theater arts.

4th graders will now have an increase of music and theater arts time and 5th graders will have the same number of days (90) but the format will be different.

Both grades will now have
30 days of theater
30 days of music including choral work
30 days of an instrumental program

Music teachers are now brainstorming on specific options and ideas for this model.

We are also hoping to be able to offer other opportunities for band and orchestra ensembles at this level for example afterschool time for this - brainstorming is ongoing for this area as well.

As a side note, Tom is following up with the attendees from the last meeting to ensure that their questions and concerns are answered and addressed.

SRO Planning

In the current model we have 2 SROs at our schools – one we pay for and one that is paid for by the town.

Starting in 2019-2020 the school district will need to pay for both of these positions and we will plan for this in our budget planning and assumptions.

For 2019-2020 we will have one SRO for each campus. 1 for Ryerson/Brown and 1 for Jeffrey/Polson and Hand.

7.2. Personnel Committee

Members: Greg DeSantis, Chair; Violet McNerney, Tom Pellegrino

Mr. DeSantis welcomed Tom Pellegrino to the Personnel Committee. Teamster negotiations are still ongoing.

7.3. Policy Committee

Members: Emily Rosenthal, Chair; Violet McNerney, Seth Klaskin

No report was given. The Policy Committee meets again on June 19, 2018.

7.4. Finance Committee

Members: Happy Marino, Chair; Galen Cawley, Tom Pellegrino

No report was given. The next scheduled Finance Committee meeting is June 19, 2018.

7.5. LEARN Liaison
Emily Rosenthal

No report was given. Next meeting is scheduled for June 14th.

7.6. Facilities Committee
Members: Seth Klaskin, Chair; Galen Cawley, Greg DeSantis

Mr. Klaskin reported on the following:

The Facilities Committee met on Thursday, May 31 as a makeup for the weather-postponed meeting the previous Tuesday.

The Committee first discussed the final version of the proposed 10 Year Plan. Only minor adjustments had been made to the previous version, to accommodate construction sequencing as recommended by Bill McMinn in consultation with our Colliers consultant, Chuck Warrington. The Board has had the previous version for a couple months, now. Committee members made suggestions for minor language adjustments that were incorporated by Bill McMinn during the meeting. The committee held a vote on the final version as presented, with its minor language adjustments as agreed, and voted unanimously to advance the 10YP to the Board this evening for final consideration. There will be a full Board vote on the 10YP on the June 19 Agenda. I know the committee joins me in thanking all of you for your valuable insights and input into this important plan. This document is a roadmap that provides clarity and transparency regarding the actual costs of maintaining our educational facilities. It is quite an achievement for a Board and District to undertake such careful and objectively quantified planning.

The committee then turned its attention to the 5-year CIP Plan that it must adopt before proposing its 5-year Facilities plan to the town's CIP committee, comprised of two representatives each from the Board of Education, the Board of Selectmen, and the Board of Finance. Our Board Reps to the CIP Committee are Galen Cawley and Katie Stein.

The Facilities committee first acknowledged that the purpose of undertaking a 10 Year Plan was to allow longer range planning to inform our 5-year CIP Plan window. As such, the committee voted unanimously to adopt the first five years of the 10YP not presently under budget (Fiscal Years 2019-2024) as its proposed 5-Year CIP Plan. Tonight the Facilities committee recommends to the Board that the Board adopt Fiscal Years 2019-2024 as presented in the 10YP as its recommended CIP Plan. The Board will vote on this proposal at the June 19 Board Meeting so that our Reps to the CIP Committee can carry out recommended Plan to the CIP. In voting unanimously, the Facilities committee acknowledged that the proposed 5-Year Plan appears daunting. However, modern security needs, modern accessibility standards, the educational requirements of our students, the reconfiguration of our grade distribution, and a decade of austerity maintenance have compounded our facility needs. It is incumbent on the Board to address maintenance and other facilities issues in a realistic and responsible manner, from the perspective of our quantifiable physical plant and programmatic needs. In voting down the Facilities referendum last spring, the town indicated its desire to maintain its current buildings for the time being. It is the Board's statutory duty to provide for the responsible upkeep of its educational buildings, and this proposed 5-Year CIP Plan represents the Facility committee's best efforts to discharge its statutory duty.

Finally, the committee turned to the matter of discussing a potential date when it can responsibly turn over the Island Avenue School building to the Town of Madison. After consultation with Bill McMinn, the committee voted unanimously to propose a turnover date of no later than Monday, August 5, 2019. The committee will raise a Motion to add a vote on this date to this evening's Agenda. The vote will be to adopt a Motion to notify the Boards of Selectmen and Finance of the Board of Education's intent to turn over custody of the Island Avenue School building and its grounds to the Town of Madison no later than Monday, August 5, 2019. Note that this is a "no later than" date and reasonable efforts will be made to vacate the premises and turn the facility over to the Town prior to that date.

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

No comments were made.

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

9.1. Bills Payable: $1,500.00 - 2016-2017 Budget; $299,133.23 - 2017-2018 Budget

9.2. Line Transfers: $73,196.78

9.3. Budget Expenditure as of May 31, 2018

MOTION: by DeSantis seconded by McNerney
to approve the Consent Agenda.
AYES: Bowler; Cawley; DeSantis; Klaskin; Marino; McNerney; Pellegrino; Rosenthal; Stein
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN:
MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

10. Action Item: Minutes of the May 22, 2018 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Bowler seconded by Rosenthal
to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2018 Board of Education Meeting.
AYES: Bowler; Cawley; Klaskin; Marino; McNerney; Pellegrino; Rosenthal; Stein
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: DeSantis
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

11. Action Item: To approve the 2019 France Trip

MOTION: by Planning Committee to
approve the 2019 France Trip.
Board of Education Meeting.
AYES: Bowler; Cawley; DeSantis; Klaskin; Marino; McNerney; Pellegrino; Rosenthal; Stein
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN:
MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

12. Action Item: To approve Addendum Number Two to the Agreement between the Madison Board of Education and the Compass Group USA, by and through its Chartwells Division, dated July 1, 2016. Addendum Number Two is dated May 15, 2018 and is effective July 1, 2018. It extends the term of the Agreement by one year through the 2018-2019 school year, and increases Chartwells' fees by 2.65%.

MOTION: by Bowler seconded by McNerney to approve Addendum Number Two to the Agreement between the Madison Board of Education and the Compass Group USA, by and through its Chartwells Division, dated July 1, 2016. Addendum Number Two is dated May 15, 2018 and is effective July 1, 2018. It extends the term of the Agreement by one year through the 2018-2019 school year, and increases Chartwells' fees by 2.65%.
AYES: Bowler; Cawley; DeSantis; Klaskin; Marino; McNerney; Pellegrino; Rosenthal; Stein
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN:
MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

13. Action Item: To add an action item to approve the transfer of Island Avenue Elementary School to the Town of Madison no later than August 5, 2019 barring any catastrophic circumstance.

MOTION: by Bowler seconded by DeSantis to add an action item to approve the transfer of Island Avenue Elementary School to the Town of Madison no later than August 5, 2019 barring any catastrophic circumstance
AYES: Bowler; Cawley; DeSantis; Klaskin; Marino; McNerney; Pellegrino; Rosenthal; Stein
NAYS: None
MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

14. Action Item: To approve the transfer of Island Avenue Elementary School to the Town of Madison no later than August 5, 2019 barring any catastrophic circumstance.

MOTION: by Klaskin seconded by Bowler to approve the transfer of Island Avenue Elementary School to the Town of Madison no later than August 5, 2019 barring any catastrophic circumstance.
AYES: Bowler; Cawley; DeSantis; Klaskin; Marino; McNerney; Pellegrino; Rosenthal; Stein
NAYS: None
MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

15. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

16. Future Agenda Items

No future items were discussed.

17. Meetings / Dates of Importance (see attached)
June 2018

18. Action Item: Enter into Executive Session to discuss Security.

MOTION: by DeSantis seconded by Bowler
to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing Security at 7:36 p.m.
AYES: Bowler; Cawley; DeSantis; Klaskin; Marino; McNerney; Pellegrino; Rosenthal; Stein
NAYS: None
MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

19. Adjournment

MOTION: by Klaskin seconded by Pellegrino
to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.
AYES: Bowler; Cawley; DeSantis; Klaskin; Marino; McNerney; Pellegrino; Rosenthal; Stein
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN:
MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

Approved at the June 19, 2018 Board of Education Meeting