

**Madison Public Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
October 23, 2018
7:30 PM
Town Campus Hammonasset Room**

MEETING MINUTES

“Full documentation of these proceedings can be found through on demand video located in the Meetings/Minutes section of the district website”

1. Call to Order / Attendance

The public meeting of the Madison Board of Education was called to order by Vice Chair Galen Cawley at 7:33 p.m. Vice Chairman Cawley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Kirk Barneby Galen Cawley; Happy Marino; Violet McNerney; Tom Pellegrino, Emily Rosenthal

Greg DeSantis via phone

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

For the record, Mr. Cawley noted that Chairperson Katie Stein is currently in Florida assisting hurricane victims and that such selfless dedication is entirely typical of Katie; in this case, she has transferred her ethic of service to a different community.

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

2.1. Public Participation

No comments were made.

3. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report

Ryan Tomicic and Jacqueline Sandor (Ryan entered the meeting at 7:41 PM)

Last Thursday was the end of first semester.

Majority of the fall sports have ended and tournaments are beginning.

Next week is Halloween and there will be a wake up call.

Homecoming is next week.

November 8th at 7:00PM the National Honor Society event will take place.

4. Superintendent's Report

Thomas R. Scarice

4.1. State Testing Results – Tabled until the November 13, 2018 BOE meeting.

4.2. College admissions report – Tabled until the November 13, 2018 BOE meeting.

4.3. Tri Board Ad Hoc Committee

Superintendent Scarice and Mr. Barneby reported on the following:

The committee first met on October 17th. The purpose of the Tri Board Ad Hoc Committee is to work collaboratively across the three primary town Boards to identify additional options for the BOE, beyond the BOE adopted 10+ year capital maintenance plan, as potential solutions to the issue of aging school facilities and mounting maintenance projects. The current 10+ year plan as it stands represents the first option. It is expected that this group will work with a potential deadline of April 1, 2019, to engage stakeholders in an effort to review additional options beyond the current capital maintenance plan.

The Committee's task is to identify, for public consideration, 3 to 4 additional options that are fiscally reasonable, accommodate long-term enrollment trends, consider the needs of the 21st Century learning environment, while acknowledging the town's obligation for other town facility projects

An additional key task for this Committee is setting criteria by which any new options will be judged. The BOE is aware of a similar process, such as the one used for the development of the 10+ year capital maintenance plan (i.e. constructability sequence, safety/security, programming priority, etc.)

The information will be added to the District's reconfiguration tab on the website, along with an update on the CIP process.

4.4. Other Matters

Superintendent Scarice noted that Madison Public Schools was awarded the Bonnie B. Carney Award for Excellence for Educational Communications for the District's website.

Mr. Salutari and Ms. Schneider presented the Board the Program of Studies for the 2019-2020 school year. The Program of Studies will go to the Board to be voted on at the November 13th BOE meeting.

Mr. Cawley thanked Mr. Salutari, Ms. Schneider and team for all their hard work on this project.

5. Board Members' Comments

No comments were made.

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

6.1. Curriculum and Student Development

Members: Galen Cawley, Chair; Emily Rosenthal, Kirk Barneby

DHHS Program of Studies

Mr. Salutari discussed a number of promising changes in the Program of Studies. Starting with the class of 2023, a minimum of 25 credits will be required to graduate, compared with 24 presently.

Student Study Teams (SST) work at DHHS

Jen Hawley, Natasha Zanelli, and Lindsey Fiondella discussed differentiated instruction for all students at Tier I, and the increased use of the Math and English learning labs at Tier II. They also presented new and more efficient guidelines for SST meetings.

Grade 9 Chromebook Distribution

Art Sickel reported on the successful 9th grade launch. Thus far, the Chromebooks seem to be a classroom-enhancing resource.

State Testing Results.

Ms. Dahling-Hench presented an in-depth analysis of the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC), including its design, declining national usage, and local relevance. Madison results are being updated.

Ms. Dahling-Hench also noted the Madison School District's most recent SAT results. Madison remains among the top ten in the state: 9th in English and 10th in Math. Madison students achieved an average score of 1175 (on a 1600 point scale) for the spring of 2018, significantly higher than comparable district (DRG B), shoreline, and state averages.

College Admissions Report.

The vast majority of recent DHHS graduates go on to attend college. Acceptance rates are extremely strong.

6.2. Communications Committee

Members: Emily Rosenthal Chair; Greg DeSantis, Kirk Barneby

Ms. Rosenthal reported on the following:

The Communication Committee met on October 18, 2018 to finalize our process for work and review. We decided to focus our first message on the work of the Ad-Hoc Tri Board, and Kirk has volunteered to work on a first draft for review at our next meeting on October 30, 2018. Based on advice from Board attorney Tom Mooney, and to be compliant with FOIA requirements, our monthly meeting will include two main activities:

- To review that month's draft message (prepared in advance by one member and then distributed with the agenda) and then finalize it for publication as a committee, and;
- To select a topic and author for the next month's message.

The full board will be notified of each month's topic in advance to allow for board input. We have added one more meeting to the calendar for October 30th at 6pm at Polson, and then we will be on track for regular monthly meetings.

Our hope is to publish each message in the Source, on the Board website, and on district social media sites. The Committee is compiling a list of topics for subsequent columns, and I encourage Board members to suggest any topics they would like to see included in our outreach. In addition, Board members who are not members of the Communication committee, but would like to write a column on a particular topic would be welcome. Messaging will focus on work of the Board and how that affects the town, and suggested future topics include: the budget process, how money is spent, the curriculum review cycle, the work of each committee, and other topics that may address particular questions, for example, why are we spending more money per pupil when enrollment is declining. Messages will encourage public comment and questions via our website, and will also direct readers to the district website, public meetings, and other meetings or events of interest.

6.3. Facilities Committee

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

Mr. Cawley reported on the following:

The Facilities Committee met on Tuesday, October 16. Bill McMinn presented information on upcoming facility projects impacted by the revised BOE CIP Plan for FY 2019-2020. The Facilities committee discussed the projects and Bill's plan before voting unanimously to advance all three projects recommended by Bill and Colliers International. Those projects are the replacement of the DHHS audio system, the purchase of elementary school furniture and the purchase of moving services using contractors on the state master contract. He then presented the committee with an Energy Audit report that pointed to some opportunities to increase our energy efficiency. Bill noted that the audit was helpful and he advised the committee of his plans to address some of the identified opportunities moving forward.

The committee reviewed and discussed town CIP processes and the actions of the Board of Selectmen in response to the BOE's reduced CIP Request for 2019-2020.

The committee then turned its attention to the Brown Intermediate School OPAL project. The matter was on the agenda to discuss and possibly take action on the project plan for OPAL. During discussion, it was noted that the Board's reduction of its CIP Request resulted in a priority being placed on this project. It was further noted that the Board's vote to advance the new CIP Request also served to ratify the Brown Playground Committee's Project Plan as proposed.

The committee discussed options for how to parse and phase the project plan in order to help reduce the project's fiscal impact on the 2019-2020 Fiscal Year CIP expenditure for this project.

Because the Board's two CIP representatives, Katie and Galen, were present for this discussion, the committee felt they are adequately prepared to address fiscal impact reductions and phasing as necessary when representing the Board at CIP meetings where these matters will be decided. The committee took a vote to keep the Brown School Playground Committee's OPAL Project Plan intact as advanced to the CIP, and to allow our BOE CIP representatives to utilize the CIP process to devise a suitable plan for the funding of the project. The motion passed unanimously.

6.4. Finance Committee

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

Ms. Marino reported on the following:

The finance committee met tonight, October 23. For the 2018/19 budget year we are 85% committed at this time with an unencumbered balance of a little over \$7 million.

Per the approval of this board at our last meeting, we discussed the financial possibility of funding a dedicated SRO at DHHS for this school year. Chief Drumm attended the meeting, he is in support of this as is the board of selectmen and the board of finance. We identified some areas where we could look for funding within the budget and determined that we would have further discussion as a board to see if we should fund this position.

We took action to return \$134k to the town, and are requesting \$85k be used to replenish the Special Ed Reserve fund.

We adopted the Budget Calendar and will distribute copies when we clean up the edits.

Our last agenda item was 2019/20 Budget Assumptions. It is Katie's understanding and Seth's certainty that the Finance Committee has no responsibility for these Assumptions in the budgeting process. Rather than arguing, I asked Tom to present the Budget assumptions to the full board and we would look at them here rather than in committee. We are under increased scrutiny due to the CIP plan, so I think it will be good to add this level of transparency to the budgeting process.

6.5. Personnel Committee

Members: Tom Pellegrino, Chair, Violet McNerney, Happy Marino

Mr. Pellegrino reported on the following:

The Personnel Committee on October 10th. Teacher negotiations are still underway. The next committee meeting is scheduled for November 1st.

6.6. Policy Committee

Members: Greg DeSantis Chair; Violet McNerney, Seth Klaskin

6.6.1. Policy #6163.32 Service Animals & Policy 5120.3.6 Animals in Schools
(Second Reading)

6.6.2. Policy #5060 Registration for School (Second Reading)

6.6.3. Policy #5113 Student Attendance (Second Reading)

6.6.4. 2019-2020 School Calendar

Mr. DeSantis reported on the following:

The above listed policies are up for second reading this evening. The 2019-2020 school calendar will be going back to the Policy Committee at their next scheduled Policy meeting on November 13th.

The Committee has not met since the last BOE meeting.

6.7. LEARN Liaison
Rotating

Ms. Rosenthal reported on the following:

The LEARN Board of Directors met on October 11, 2018. LEARN Director of the Office of Innovation and Development Jack Cross presented on LEARN's efforts at innovation and regionalism, including stakeholder engagement, marketing and communications, partnerships, and the Ocean Avenue Learning Academy. The Executive Director provided administrative updates, as well as pending policy changes due to legislation. A legislative task force has been established to review the current fingerprinting processes and its implications for local school districts and RESCs. The Regional Transportation Study is ongoing. Future suggested topics for the roundtable discussion included: how districts are currently sharing services, Pre-K for all 4 year-olds, and possibly including 3-year olds. The LEARN Board of Directors will next meet on November 8th.

6.8. Tri-Board Working Group for Board of Education Facilities

Mr. Barneby gave an update during Superintendent Scarice's report earlier in the evening.

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: 2017-2018 - \$29,033.40; 2018-2019 - \$764,205.53

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

AYES: Barneby; Cawley; DeSantis; Marino; McNerney; Pellegrino; Rosenthal

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

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

MOTION: by Marino seconded by Rosenthal to table the approval of the minutes of the October 9, 2018 Board of Education Meeting until the November 13th BOE meeting.

AYES: Barneby; Cawley; DeSantis; Marino; McNerney; Pellegrino; Rosenthal

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Approval of the October 9, 2018 BOE minutes has been tabled until the November 13, 2018 BOE meeting pending review of October 9th video of the meeting regarding possible action item.

- 10. Action Item:** To approve Daniel Hand High School Cafeteria AV Improvements to be contracted to HB Communication, Inc. of North Haven Connecticut Department of Administrative Services state contract #16PSX0190.

MOTION: by McNerney seconded by Rosenthal to approve Daniel Hand High School Cafeteria AV Improvements to be contracted to HB Communication, Inc. of North Haven Connecticut Department of Administrative Services state contract #16PSX0190

AYES: Barneby; Cawley; DeSantis;

Marino; McNerney; Pellegrino; Rosenthal

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

- 11. Action Item:** To approve moving services needed for the 2019-2020 school year to be contracted with William B. Myer, INC to provide moving services plus supplies under the Connecticut Department of Administrative Services state contract #14PSX0161.

MOTION: by Rosenthal seconded by Marino to approve moving services needed for the 2019-2020 school year to be contracted with William B. Myer, INC to provide moving services plus supplies under the Connecticut Department of Administrative Services state contract #14PSX0161

AYES: Barneby; Cawley; DeSantis;

Marino; McNerney; Pellegrino; Rosenthal

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

- 12. Action Item:** To approve elementary school furniture for the 2019-2020 school year to be contracted under the State of Connecticut Department of Administrative Services contracts #16PSX0190 and/or 15PSX0041. The furniture committee will review and select companies for price, service and quality.

MOTION: by Barneby seconded by Marino to approve elementary school furniture for the 2019-2020 school year to be contracted under the State of Connecticut Department of Administrative Services contracts #16PSX0190 and/or 15PSX0041. The furniture committee will review and select companies for price, service and quality

AYES: Barneby; Cawley; DeSantis;

Marino; McNerney; Pellegrino; Rosenthal

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

13. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

14. Future Agenda Items

Mr. Pellegrino asked that further discussion take place during the next BOE meeting regarding funds for a 2018-2019 SRO at DHHS.

15. Meetings / Dates of Importance (see attached)

16. Action Item: To enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel matters.

MOTION: by Barneby seconded by Rosenthal to enter into Executive Session to discuss Personnel matters at 8:48 p.m.

AYES: Barneby; Cawley; DeSantis; Marino; McNerney; Pellegrino; Rosenthal

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Greg DeSantis exited the meeting at 8:48 PM

17. Adjournment

MOTION: by Pellegrino seconded by McNerney to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

AYES: Barneby; Cawley; Marino; McNerney; Pellegrino; Rosenthal

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Approved at the November 13, 2018 BOE Meeting.

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