

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

**Madison Public Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
August 13, 2019
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 Chair Katie Stein at 7:35 p.m. Chairman Stein led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Kirk Barneby, Greg DeSantis, Seth Klaskin, Happy Marino, Tom Pellegrino, Emily Rosenthal, Katie Stein.

Also present: Thomas Scarice, Superintendent of Schools; Gail Dahling-Hench, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Mary Barneby, Jennifer McFadden, Dave Buller, DHHS Math Teacher, Students: Eleanor McArdle, Grace McFadden, Kaitlyn Sandor.

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

2.1. Recognition - Cyber Security Competition Award

Superintendent Scarice provided background information regarding the “Girls Go CyberStart” program. In 2018, more than 6,600 high school girls participated in the program. This year, the number nearly doubled as over 11,000 female high school students registered nationally to compete across 27 states. Connecticut had a total of 755 girls participate and finished in the top 5 out of 27 participating states.

The 2018-2019 nationwide “Girls Go CyberStart” wrapped up the annual competition in June. Daniel Hand High School had a team of 8 girls who worked from mid-April until the end of May on a series of challenges in the burgeoning and complex field of cybersecurity. The team was not only applying knowledge they had of computers, but the competition forced them to learn new concepts as the challenges got increasingly more complex. Remarkably, four of our students qualified for the final round, which is a three day intensive race to solve more challenges while competing against other teams around the country.

The DHHS team, consisting of Kaitlyn Sandor, Grace McFadden, Chloe Veth and Eleanor McArdle, finished first in Connecticut and 30th in the country!!! Each participant won \$100, along with the same cash prize for DHHS. Three of the participants were also awarded a \$500 scholarship.

2.2. Public Participation - None

3. Superintendent's Report Thomas R. Scarice

3.1. Reconfiguration Update

Two years ago, the Board took action to close Island Avenue School and we are now at the end of the reconfiguration process. More than 3,000 boxes have been moved across the district, and all elementary school classrooms have been painted and carpeting installed. Polson has been reorganized to accommodate the incoming 6th grade class. Superintendent Scarice commended Bill McMinn and the Facilities team, noting we are on schedule.

At the high school, the track is complete and the storage units are near completion. A RFP has gone out for the solar carports. Room 510 at Hand has been completely redone to accommodate the arts & music program. Equipment has been added to the Ryerson playground for ADA accessibility. Superintendent Scarice showed the Board pictures of the playground at Brown, which is ready for use. Security initiatives are underway; updates will be forthcoming.

3.2. Enrollment Update

Superintendent Scarice reported that with the newly-established North/South lines within the Town, Kindergarten enrollment was tilting more toward Ryerson than Jeffrey. As a result, one Kindergarten section has been moved to Ryerson to maintain equity of class sizes. Current Kindergarten enrollment is 154, slightly under the projected 160 students. There is no disruption to staffing and only a minimal change to classrooms, and all class sizes are within Board-established guidelines.

3.3. Code of Conduct

Each summer the administrative team reviews the student Code of Conduct and if changes are recommended, the Code is brought to the full Board for action. There are no substantive changes recommended at this point in time.

Additionally, Superintendent Scarice reported on the newly-created Communication Specialist position. Zoe Roos has started and has already been assigned a number of priorities. Expectations include a story per week, per school to report to the public, as well as Board happenings, security initiatives, the budget, seasonal information, graduation, K-5 report cards, etc. The Facebook page will very active as well and will link to the district website.

4. Board Members' Comments – No comments.

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

5.1. Curriculum and Student Development

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

No report provided

5.2. Communications Committee

Members: Emily Rosenthal Chair; Greg DeSantis, Kirk Barneby

No report provided (refer to Superintendent's comments above)

5.3. Facilities Committee

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

Mr. Klaskin reported the committee met on August 5 with Bill Stableford & Dick Passero from the Academy Committee and discussed where potential facilities projects will fit into community priorities. Mr. Stableford commented that the Academy Committee does not wish to compete with the school facilities projects. They presented their final report to the public; their funding request will be made through Beach & Rec.

Mr. Klaskin provided updates regarding summer projects (as reported previously this evening). Reprioritizing of the Board of Education CIP request, in light of the committee's vote to recommend a 4-school model, was also discussed.

5.4. Finance Committee

Members: Kirk Barneby, Chair, Galen Cawley, Tom Pellegrino

No report provided.

5.5. Personnel Committee

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

MAESS negotiations resume tomorrow evening.

5.6. Policy Committee

Members: Greg DeSantis Chair; Violet McNerney, Seth Klaskin

The "Non-Resident Admission and Tuition Fees" policy was reviewed and approved unanimously by the committee in July. It is now before the BOE for a first reading.

Board policy #9450, "Board Committees" was reviewed as required by the Policy Committee in July. The amended version was approved unanimously by the committee and is now before the BOE for a first reading. The most notable amendment is the addition of the Facilities Committee to the list of standing committees, with regular duties now listed within the policy. Additionally, language was added to the Standing Committees section of the document to clarify standing committee expectations.

Policy #5060, "Registration for School" was reviewed by the Policy Committee tonight. The amended version was approved unanimously by the committee and will be brought for a first reading on August 27. The revisions are technical and clarifying about where students are currently registered and by whom.

The Policy Committee agreed to begin a formal cycle of reviewing all policies every five years. As recommended by the administration, each year in the cycle a section (or sections) of all policies will be sent to Shipman and Goodman (or current counsel) for their review. The Policy Committee will examine counsel's review when complete, as well as re-read all relevant policies for that year, and take action as needed.

- In academic year 2019-20 Policies #0-3999 will be reviewed.
- In academic year 2020-21 Policies #4000-4999 will be reviewed.
- In academic year 2021-22 Policies #5000-5999 will be reviewed.
- In academic year 2022-23 Policies #6000-8999 will be reviewed.
- In academic year 2023-24 Policies #9000-9999 will be reviewed.
- The following year, the cycle will begin again.

Finally, the Policy Concept Regarding Threats Against the School Community was discussed. The administration provided an analysis of related policies, handbooks, codes,

and plans that relate in some way to the Concept document. The Policy Committee unanimously recommended that the Curriculum and Student Development Committee review the current curricular and related educational practices for grades 4 through 12 regarding threats against the school community with the goal of establishing curricular responses to the current landscape of school threats, with an emphasis on bullying, cyber-bullying, mental well-being, and threats of physical violence.

5.7. LEARN Liaison
Rotating

No report given.

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

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

7.1. Budget Expenditure as of August 8, 2019

MOTION: by DeSantis, seconded by Barneby to approve the Consent Agenda.

AYES: Barneby, DeSantis, Klaskin, Marino, Pellegrino, Rosenthal, Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

8. Action Item: Minutes of the July 16, 2019 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Marino, seconded by Klaskin to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2019 Board of Education Meeting

AYES: Barneby, Klaskin, Marino, Rosenthal, Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: DeSantis, Pellegrino

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0

9. Action Item: To approve removal of used books & equipment.

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Pellegrino to approve the removal of used books & equipment.

AYES: Barneby, DeSantis, Klaskin, Marino, Pellegrino, Rosenthal, Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

10. Action Item: To approve donation of 5 Classroom Whiteboards to Ryerson Elementary School

MOTION: by DeSantis, seconded by Barneby to approve the donation of 5 Classroom Whiteboard to Ryerson Elementary School.

AYES: Barneby, DeSantis, Klaskin, Marino, Pellegrino,
Rosenthal, Stein
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

11. Old Business

12. Future Agenda Items

13. Meetings / Dates of Importance (see attached)

14. Adjournment

MOTION: by Barneby, seconded by Klaskin to adjourn
the meeting at 8:15 p.m.
AYES: Barneby, DeSantis, Klaskin, Marino, Pellegrino,
Rosenthal, Stein
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

“The Town of Madison does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and the meeting facilities are ADA accessible. Individuals who need assistance are invited to make their needs known by contacting the Town’s ADA/Human Resources Director Debra Milardo at 203-245-5603 or by email to milardod@madisonct.org at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting.”