SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Madison Public Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
June 7, 2022
7:30 PM
Daniel Hand High School Library

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 Seth Klaskin. Mr. Klaskin led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence to memorialize the passing of a recent DHHS graduate from 2021, Eliza Beccia, who succumbed to injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident.

   Present: Seth Klaskin, Galen Cawley, Diane Infantine-Vyce, Emily Rosenthal, Steve Pynn, Jen Gordon, Maureen Lewis, Cathy Miller.

   Also present: Craig Cooke, Ph.D., Superintendent; Gail Dahling-Hench, Assistant Superintendent

2. School / Community Session

   Matthew Guarnieri, President, Italian/American Defense League was in attendance this evening advocating for the indication of Columbus Day on the school calendar.

3. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report
   Isabelle Vagell and Lucy Fritzinger

   Isabelle reported last Saturday was the sr. prom – weather was perfect and it was a beautiful night. Yesterday and today were the last regular classes for seniors. Senior exams continue this week for those who are not yet finished. Paul Curran, yearbook coordinator, was celebrated today. Yearbooks were handed out and superlatives read. Caps & gowns will be handed out Friday, graduation rehearsal Monday and Sr. brunch Thursday.

   Lucy reported the jr. class is looking forward to becoming seniors! Underclassmen exams happening next Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Baseball team playing at this moment for the state championship at Dunkin Donuts Part. Class officer essay submission & elections last week – congratulations to all who were chosen!

4. Superintendent's Report
   Craig A. Cooke, Ph.D.

4.1. Recognize Board of Education Student Representatives
Isabelle Vagell and Lucy Fritzinger

Dr. Cooke addressed the student reps. Thank you to Isabelle for serving as the Board rep while keeping a heavy academic schedule and for being upbeat and positive during challenging times. Thank you to Lucy also for her commitment to the Board and we look forward to you returning next year.

Board members expressed their appreciation and thanked Isabelle and Lucy for their positivity, their perspective and quality of their reports.

4.2. Introduce 2022-2023 Board of Education Representatives
Lucy Fritzinger and Eli Ackerman

Dr. Cooke and Chair Klaskin welcomed Eli Ackerman. Chair Klaskin, who was part of the selection process, noted there was a good amount of competition and Eli rose to the top with a very impressive application.

4.3. VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award - Christopher Pagliuco

Larry Brundrett, Commander of VFW Post 2096, Madison, presented Christopher Pagliuco with two awards – the Madison VFW2096 Teacher of the Year award and the VFW Department of CT District 2 Teacher of the Year award. Mr. Brundrett also noted that Charles McIntyre, DHHS Sr., was the recipient of the award addressing the topic Where Do We Go from Here? and Polson students Olivia Howard, Margaret Kennedy and Grace Ackerman were the recipients of the award addressing the topic How Can I be a Good American.

4.4. Chartwells Contract

Dr. Cooke noted there is an addendum to the Chartwells contract for approval this evening.

4.5. Safety and Security Update

Dr. Cooke spoke to his positive impression of staff, particularly safety and security staff who are available to our students at all times. Safety and Security is of the utmost importance and while a great deal of work has been done over the past 10 years, we continue moving forward. Funding is included in the CIP and is also included in our budget. We have increased security staff, added air conditioning in classrooms, added keyless entry. We have also looked at all entrance points and changed security locations & desks where visitors come in. ALICE training is resuming after being on hold during COVID. Social/emotional efforts have increased and the district has implemented the DESSA screening tool, K-8. The district also uses a program that monitors student computer use on our network which is reported to the principals around the clock. We have met with the Madison Police Department and Scott Cochran of Madison Youth and Family Services and are very appreciative of our partnership with them.

5. Board Members' Comments

   Board comments can be heard in their entirety by viewing the meeting on You Tube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8BpzuKxOAzU&t=1863s

6. Audience Response to Information Presented (Ref. Bylaw #9540.10) - None

7. Board of Selectmen Liaison
   Scott Murphy

   Mr. Murphy was not in attendance this evening. Chair Klaskin reported on his behalf, noting the sale of Academy School is now complete.

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

   8.1. Line Item Transfers as of June 7, 2022

   8.2. Budget Expenditures as of June 3, 2022

9. Action Item: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

   MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to approve the Consent Agenda.
   AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal
   NAYS: None
   ABSTAIN: None
   MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

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

    10.1. Curriculum and Student Development Committee
    Members: Steven Pynn, Chair; Catherine Miller, Jen Gordon

    Mr. Pynn reported the committee met this evening. Recent legislation requires all boards of education to adopt one of five model curricula ELA for grades PK-3 by July 1, 2023 or submit an application to have their own curriculum as one of the models. Madison has chosen to submit its curriculum for review as a model and continue its use. Assistant Superintendent Gail Dahling-Hench spoke to the current curriculum, stating it is comprehensive and teachers have adapted and shaped it. The short submission timeframe was not an issue because of just how extensive and comprehensive the curriculum is. ELA coaches and coordinators assisted with the presentation which outlined the adjustments and changes that have occurred to improve the coordination of reading and writing and a focus on profile of a graduate skills. The board unanimously endorsed the adoption of the ELA curriculum and the submission to the State Department of Education as a model curriculum.

10.2. Facilities Committee

Members: Emily Rosenthal, Chair, Steven Pynn, Galen Cawley

Mrs. Rosenthal reported the committee met this evening. Justin Hopkins and Allen Tyler of Tecton Architects gave a Power Point presentation which addressed work completed and in progress, as well as the project schedule and next steps for Brown Intermediate School. Mr. McMinn gave updates on the Polson School improvements, Brown and Polson entries, EV Charging Locations and the progress in selecting the architectural firm for the new elementary school. Mr. McMinn also reviewed the 2023/2024 CIP Plan and gave updates on garbage collection and septic pumping bids. The Committee approved the donation of furniture to Food for the Poor. A special Facilities Committee meeting will be scheduled next week to further review the CIP Plan.

10.3. Finance Committee

Members: Galen Cawley, Chair, Diane Infantine-Vyce, Emily Rosenthal

Next meeting is scheduled for June 21 at 5:30 p.m.

10.4. Personnel Committee

Members: Maureen Lewis, Chair; Catherine Miller, Mary Ann Connelly

The committee has not met since the last board meeting. MAESS negotiations continue.

10.5. Policy Committee

Members: Diane Infantine-Vyce, Chair; Maureen Lewis, Jen Gordon

The Policy Committee has not met since the last Board meeting. Dr. Infantine-Vyce reviewed the policies scheduled for a first reading this evening:

- #3260 - Disposal of Obsolete or Surplus Equipment/Materials (formerly Sale & Disposal of Books, Equipment & Supplies)
- #3453 - School Activity Funds
- #4010 - Prohibition on Recommendations for Psychotropic Drugs (formerly Prohibition on Recommended Psychotropic Drugs)
- #4040 - Plan for Minority Educator Recruitment (formerly Minority Recruitment Plan)
- #4112 - Hiring of Personnel
- #4217 - Evaluation, Termination and Non-Renewal of Athletic Coaches (formerly Athletic Coaches)
- #5090.9 - Use of Private Technology Devices by Students (formerly Electronic Communication Devices)
- #4218R - Concussion Management & Training for Athletic Coaches (for information) (formerly #5120.2.1 - Head Injuries)
- #5120.2.1. – Head Injuries (for rescission)

A conversation ensued regarding a policy which addresses concussions not caused by a sporting event and the corresponding procedures.

10.6. LEARN Liaison
Mary Ann Connelly

Mrs. Connelly was not in attendance this evening; Chair Klaskin reported LEARN will be meeting this Thursday.

10.7. Town American Rescue Plan Funding Committee
Emily Rosenthal

Mrs. Rosenthal reported there is a meeting tomorrow at 6:00 p.m. followed by a Public Forum at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom and in person.

10.8. Town Marijuana Advisory Committee
Mary Ann Connelly

Next meeting to be determined.

11. Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the May 24. 2022 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Gordon to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2022 Board of Education meeting.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: Miller
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

12. Action Item: Motion to approve trip to Spain, June 23, 2023 - July 1, 2023

MOTION: by Pynn, seconded by Rosenthal to approve the trip to Spain June 23, 2023 – July 1, 2023.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

13. Action Item: Motion to approve removal of used books and equipment

MOTION: by Miller, seconded by Lewis to approve the removal of used books and equipment.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

14. Action Item: Motion to approve donation of books earned from the Ryerson bookfair from the Ryerson PTO

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Gordon to approve the donation of books earned from the Ryerson bookfair from the Ryerson PTO.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

15. Action Item: Motion to add an action item to the Agenda to approve the donation of furniture to Food for the Poor.

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Lewis to approve the addition of an action item in order to approve the donation of furniture to Food for the Poor.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Cawley to approve the donation of furniture to Food for the Poor.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

16. Action Item: Motion to approve Chartwells contract effective July 1, 2022

MOTION: by Pynn, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to approve the Chartwells contract, effective July 1, 2022.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

17. Old Business

18. Future Agenda Items

19. Meetings / Dates of Importance (see attached)

20. Evaluation of the Superintendent (discussion proposed for Executive Session)

21. Review and possible action on Central Office contracts (discussion proposed for Executive Session)

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Miller to enter into Executive Session to discuss the evaluation of the Superintendent and the Central Office contracts and to invite Dr. Craig Cooke to attend.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

MOTION: by Gordon, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to exit Executive Session at 10:35 p.m.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

MOTION: by Miller, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to approve the Superintendent's contract, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025, and to authorize the Board Chair to finalize terms in accordance with discussions in Executive Session:
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

MOTION: by Pynn, seconded by Rosenthal to approve the Assistant Superintendent's contract, effective July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025, with further discussion needed to finalize terms.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

22. Adjournment

MOTION: by Gordon, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to adjourn the meeting at 10:40 p.m.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

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 Human Resources at 203-245-6310 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting.