Madison Public Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Tuesday September 6, 2022 7:30 PM
Town Campus Hammonasset Room/Zoom
10 Campus Drive, Madison, CT 06443

Subject to Approval

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.

   Present: Galen Cawley, Diane Infantine-Vyce, Seth Klaskin, Emily Rosenthal, Steve Pynn, Jen Gordon, Maureen Lewis (by Zoom).

   Also present: Craig Cooke, Ph.D., Superintendent; Gail Dahling-Hench, Assistant Superintendent, Frank Henderson, Brown Principal; Becky Frost, Jeffrey Principal; Kelly Spooner, Ryerson Principal.

2. School / Community Session
   Public Participation

   No public participation, in person or online.

3. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report
   Lucy Fritzinger and Eli Ackerman

   Lucy reported on the first week of school, noting Back to School night is this Thursday, September 8. Fall sports are underway and scrimmages have taken place. Boys and Girls Cross Country and Girls Volleyball season openers are also this Thursday. SCC Captain's meeting will be taking place this week at Hillhouse and Sr. leadership meeting is scheduled for this Friday – will be prepping for Spirit Day on September 23. The college application process has already begun for senior students.

   Eli reported tomorrow is the first Wellness Wednesday of the year. PAW and Advisory Groups have met to discuss lockdowns and fire drills. Advisory will begin next week which will be part of Wellness Wednesdays (30 minutes allotted for Advisory; 30 minutes for Wellness). Underclassmen picture day is next Wednesday, September 14.

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

Unified Sports Recognition

Last year, Ryerson was recognized as ESPN's Unified School of the Year and we just received word that Jeffrey has received the Unified Champion National Banner School award. Unified Sports joins people with and without disabilities who train and play sports together and staff members volunteer their time to make this a reality.

- Becky Frost introduced Jeffrey coaches Lisa Aronson and Christine Crouch and student athletes: Michael Rich, Sam Cislo, Oscar Lane, Sawyer Lane, Mackenzie Ferrera and Alex Gere.
- Kelly Spooner introduced Ryerson coaches Andrea Creaser and Colleen Burkle and student athletes: Harper Scheps, Violet Walde and Sarah Rosenthal.
- Frank Henderson introduced coach Kerry Tucker and student athlete Gabriel Gonzalez.

The principals spoke to the culminating event of the school year and thanked Sherry Farmer, K-3 Special Education Coordinator and Dr. Elizabeth Battaglia, Sped Director, for their tireless support. Congratulations to all coaches and players!

Report on Opening of 2022-2023 School Year

Dr. Cooke reported a strong start to the school year with only a few minor issues. There are currently a couple of teacher openings and 17 paraprofessional openings. Meetings with administrators will take place tomorrow to discuss this further. Enrollment as of today is 2,432 which is in line with projections.

Dr. Cooke noted administration is planning Friday, June 16, 2023 as the date of Graduation.

State of CT Civil Rights Compliance Review Report

The civil rights investigation is closed and there is nothing more to do. The following recommendations were given:

- Continue providing professional development to faculty and staff on cultural sensitivity and culturally responsive education;
- Continue implementing different strategies to help educate students about Title IX and the role of the Title IX Coordinator; and
- Continue providing professional development to update faculty and staff on non-discrimination policies and practices, Title IX and Section 504.

Dr. Cooke thanked Mr. Salutari, noting the request for information was immense. The State of CT was very complimentary of Mr. Salutari as well.

Personnel Report – Recruitment Plan

Each year in September the Board is provided with a personnel report in terms or our new teachers, as well as all new hires. Dr. Cooke spoke to the district's Minority Recruitment Plan and the various ways in which we make efforts to attract new teachers with focus on a more diverse workforce. Dr. Cooke noted the teacher shortage has been challenging and is a problem not only in the State, but throughout the nation.

5. Board Members' Comments

Chair Klaskin spoke to Convocation, noting it was a very successful, high-energy event. Will explore the possibility of lunch (as opposed to breakfast) next year. Chair Klaskin reminded board members to please sign up for the CABE conference if not already done so.

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

7. Board of Selectmen Liaison
Scott Murphy

Mr. Murphy is not in attendance this evening.

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

8.1. Line Item Transfers as of September 6, 2022
8.2. Budget Expenditures as of September 6, 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, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

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

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

The committee met this evening and was given a presentation on Profile of a Graduate (POG) Rubrics and Global Thinking Units. The presentation focused on curriculum work done over the summer which involved 90+ educators over several weeks. The presentation outlined capacities and rubrics, with particular focus on academic capacities and social emotional capacities. Global Thinking Units were reviewed, as well as curriculum revision adoptions of ELA, grades 4, 5 and 7. A recurrent theme during the presentations was the excitement and investment of the faculty in their involvement in the development of curriculum.

10.2. Facilities Committee
Members: Emily Rosenthal, Chair, Steven Pynn, Galen Cawley

The committee met this evening and reviewed the further changes that were made to the CIP during two special committee meetings:

- Moved athletic lights out to 2031

- Spread out Polson ADA and hardware over 5 years
- Total is now $18 million over the next 5 years

The committee voted to approve this revision and to bring to the Board tonight for a vote. A discussion ensued regarding options should the Board Town come back requesting further cuts.

Bill McMinn has put out a RFP for the mechanical systems at Polson ($20 million project). Looking for expertise with HVAC. Four firms replied, 3 of which will be interviewed next week. The firm with the significantly higher quote will not be interviewed. Colliers has a mechanical engineer helping with the process. There will be future RFPs for Polson lockers, DHHS stage lighting and Brown school east wing/K/1 wing. Expertise with HVAC is preferred. Motion made and unanimously approved to designate the Facilities Committee chair to represent the committee with RFP selection interviews. The New School Committee is currently interviewing construction managers.

10.3. Finance Committee

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

The committee has not met. Next meeting is September 20, 2022.

10.4. Personnel Committee

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

Maureen Lewis reported MAESS negotiations are ongoing.

10.5. Policy Committee

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

The committee has not met. Next meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2022. Dr. Infantine-Vyce reviewed the policies for a first reading tonight and provided the history of the proposed changes to the School Calendar policy regarding the indication of specific holiday names as opposed to the indication of "no school". Dr. Infantine-Vyce read from the Connecticut Statute which addresses this issue, which will be distributed to all board members. Following are the policies for a first reading:

- #6030 - School Calendar
- #1150 - Prohibition Against Nicotine and Cannabis Use
- #5120.3.3. - Administration of Student Medications in the Schools (formerly Administering Medication)
- #9460 - Advisory Committees

10.6. LEARN Liaison

Mary Ann Connelly

No report – Mary Ann not in attendance this evening.

10.7. Town American Rescue Plan Funding Committee
Emily Rosenthal

No report as the committee has not met. Next meeting scheduled for September 8, 2022.

10.8. Town Marijuana Advisory Committee
Mary Ann Connelly

No report.

11. Action Item: Motion to approve the use of the baseball field (closest to school) at Brown School for a new Kindergarten/1st grade playground at Brown School.

MOTION: by Gordon, seconded by Infantine-Vyce_ to approve the use of the baseball field (closest to school) at Brown School for a new Kindergarten/1st grade playground at Brown School.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

12. Action Item: Motion to support the Town of Madison's potential donation to the Madison Land Trust of a portion of land adjacent to the new school and Daniel Hand High School.

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Gordon to support the Town of Madison's potential donation to the Madison Land Trust of a portion of land adjacent to the new school and Daniel Hand High School.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

13. Action Item: Motion to approve the Town of Madison's Emergency Management Plan to build a storage building adjacent to the Facilities Department building.

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Gordon to approve the Town of Madison's Emergency Management Plan to build a storage building adjacent to the Facilities Department building.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

14. Action Item: Motion to approve the revised CIP Plan

MOTION: by Cawley, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to approve the revised CIP Plan.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

15. Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2022 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Gordon, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2022 Board of Education Meeting.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

16. Old Business

17. Future Agenda Items

18. Meetings / Dates of Importance (see attached)

19. Adjournment

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Gordon to adjourn the meeting at 8:54 p.m.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

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