

Madison Public Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
Tuesday October 11, 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 at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Klaskin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Galen Cawley, Mary Ann Connelly, Jen Gordon (Zoom), Diane Infantine-Vyce, Seth Klaskin, Maureen Lewis (Zoom), Cathy Miller, Steven Pynn, Emily Rosenthal.

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

Action Item: Motion to move Item 7, Board of Selectmen Liaison, to Item 4.

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Miller to move Agenda Item 7 to Agenda Item 4.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

2. School / Community Session – No members of the public present.

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

Lucy was not in attendance this evening. Eli provided the following – Sr. Picnic took place 2 weeks ago – day started with a sr. breakfast and wake-up call followed by a pep rally and pizza truck lunch. Back to School night well attended. Advisory groups meet tomorrow and Homecoming is this week. New system for the Sr. parking lot – students are assigned numbers. Class of 2024 pancake breakfast a success.

4. Board of Selectmen Liaison
Scott Murphy

Mr. Murphy reported the Board of Selectmen met this morning. Planning & Zoning discussed affordable housing. Discussed marijuana; budget referendum question (not this November,

following referendum) focusing on allowing commercial or retail space. Beach & Rec gave an end of summer update. Dog park is a go. Academy playground is a topic of discussion. Bauer Park Harvest Festival and Pollinator Festival this weekend. Polson locker replacement approved 5-0. Town Facilities Committee charge was approved 5-0 which would include a Board of Education representative. Sr. Tax Relief was discussed as well as the next steps regarding sea level rise and what this means for our coastal residents.

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

Presentation: Profile of a Graduate Rubric

Jen Aguzzi, World Language Coordinator at Daniel Hand High School presented, with the assistance of Stacey Daly, Math Specialist, Grades 4-6 and Michael Kiefer, Technology Instructional Specialist, Grades 6-12 who spoke to the Independent Project. A suggestion was made to have a student(s) participate in a future Board of Education Meeting to report on their independent project. The presentation and Board member questions can be viewed in their entirety on the meeting recording posted on the district website.

Open Choice Program Discussion

Dr. Cooke noted this is on tonight's agenda strictly to begin the discussion and for the board's support to begin the process. Discussions have occurred with the Diversity and Equity Inclusion Committee, as well as the administrative group, both of which are enthusiastic about the program. It would be at least two years before students actually enter the district. Participation requires legislative approval. Guilford was approved this past year but do not have students this year. This would require that we become part of the ACES area for this program, but would remain with LEARN for all else. Dr. Infantine-Vyce expressed concerns: Policy 5030.2, Interdistrict School Attendance Areas would require updating, how the district would handle another potential public health issue, the cost per student to the district, and transportation home from after school activities. A discussion ensued. Dr. Cooke will have further discussions with superintendents of districts that have participated in Open Choice and report back to the Board.

Board Retreat Follow-Up

Dr. Cooke thanked the board for their participation in the September 27, 2022 Board Retreat. The retreat focused on 3 main areas – academics, projections (including budgeting and enrollment) and social emotional supports. Basic minutes of this meeting are included in tonight's board package; the Executive Committee will be meeting to discuss next steps.

October 1, 2022 Enrollment Report

Dr. Cooke noted the report shows increase in grades K-3 and smaller numbers at the high school.

6. Board Members' Comments

Dr. Infantine-Vyce attended a CABA webinar, Parliamentary Procedure, and provided a summary of what was covered (all based on Robert's Rules of Order). Policy 9500, School Board Meetings, will require revision (as previously suggested by Shipman & Goodwin). Maureen Lewis commented on the retreat, noting how valuable and professionally organized the meeting was and thanked those who organized it.

Chair Klaskin suggested the Chair of the Facilities Committee (or designee) serve as the voting member on the Town Ad Hoc Facilities Committee. Our final CIP plan has been favorably received by the Board of Selectmen but still needs to be approved by the CIP Committee. Chair Klaskin thanked all who worked to revise this plan multiple times.

7. Audience Response to Information Presented (Ref. Bylaw #9540.10) - No members of the public present.

Note: Mary Ann Connelly left the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

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

8.1. Line Item Transfers as of October 11, 2022

8.2. Budget Expenditures as of October 11, 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

Members: Steve Pynn, Chair; Catherine Miller, Jen Gordon

Mr. Pynn reported the committee met this evening and was given two presentations – K-6 Math and World Literature and Humanities. Carol Sullivan, Stacey Daly and Jen Maxwell highlighted the revisions that were made to the Math Guiding Document, based on teacher observations of where there was need for improvement. Stephanie Fumiatti gave a presentation regarding World Literature and Humanities, highlighting the revisions that have been made.

10.2. Facilities Committee

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

Mrs. Rosenthal reported the committee met this evening. BL Companies was chosen for the Polson Mechanical Improvements and Justin Kababik, Project Manager, provided an update of what has been done and what is scheduled. A report was given regarding the new school, as well as the Brown School improvements, and it is anticipated there will be updates with the full board November 15. Polson Locker replacement was approved by the Board of Selectmen at their meeting this morning. A bid was received today for the high school stage lighting which Bill McMinn and Blair Richardson of Colliers will review. The Board of Selectmen voted today to create a new Town Facilities Committee which would include a member of the Boards of Finance, Selectmen and Education. It was recommended that the Chair of the Board of Education Facilities Committee, or designee, serve in that role. Status of car charging stations – it is likely one will be placed at Town Campus and one at the Sr. Center.

10.3. Finance Committee

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

Mr. Cawley reported the Finance Committee met on September 20. Stacy Nobitz reported the close of the fiscal year end 2022 will result in approximately \$156K being returned to the town. The committee reviewed a draft of the budget calendar for 2022-23 and discussed the pros and cons of budget guidelines and objectives (and decided to continue using both). Dr. Cooke reported on the status of funding the armed school security specialists in the 2022-23 budget, which is less than the \$156K being returned to the town. Administration is looking into possible grants for funding. Initial plans are to include the funding until 2025.

10.4. Personnel Committee

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

Mrs. Lewis reported the MAESS Union has reached a tentative agreement for the new contract. The Union will hold the ratification vote on October 17, and the new contract will be an action item at the next Board of Education meeting. The nurses within that union have separated and formed a new unit within that union. Those negotiations will be forthcoming.

10.5. Policy Committee

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

Dr. Infantine-Vyce reviewed the policies on tonight's agenda, noting that the School Calendar Policy, #6030, will be removed from the motion for approval and will return to the Policy Committee for further discussion (next meeting October 25). Going forward, the committee would like to waive a second reading of policies proposed for rescission, noting that if any board member(s) would like further review of a one of those policies, it can be returned to committee.

10.6. LEARN Liaison

Mary Ann Connelly

Mr. Klaskin reported in Mrs. Connelly's absence – LEARN will meet this Thursday.

10.7. Town American Rescue Plan Funding Committee

Emily Rosenthal

Mrs. Rosenthal reported the committee is meeting Thursday.

10.8. Town Marijuana Advisory Committee

Mary Ann Connelly

Mr. Klaskin reported in Mrs. Connelly's absence –the committee has not met.

Action Item: Motion to remove Policy #6030, School Calendar and return it to the Policy Committee for further discussion and potential revision.

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Cawley to remove Policy #6030, School Calendar and return it to the

Policy Committee for further discussion and potential revision.

AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

11. Action Item: Motion to approve Policies #1150, Prohibition Against Smoking, Possession & Use of Tobacco, Cannabis & Alcohol; #5120.3.3, Administration of Student Medications in the Schools and #9460, Advisory Committees.

MOTION: by Miller, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to approve the following policies:

- #1150, Prohibition Against Smoking, Possession & Use of Tobacco, Cannabis & Alcohol
- #5120.3.3, Administration of Student Medications in the Schools
- #9460, Advisory Committees

AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

12. Action Item: Motion to approve Grades 4, 5 and 7 ELA Curriculum Units

MOTION: by Miller, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to approve Grades 4, 5 and 7 ELA Curriculum Units.

AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

13. Action Item: Motion to approve minutes of the September 6, 2022 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Miller, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to approve minutes of the September 6, 2022 Board of Education Meeting.

AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

14. Action Item: Motion to approve minutes of the September 20, 2022 Board of Education meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Rosenthal to approve minutes of the September 20, 2022 Board of Education Meeting.

AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin,
Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

15. Action Item: Motion to approve minutes of the September 27, 2022 Board of Education Retreat (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9) and renumber the remaining agenda items accordingly.

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Rosenthal to approve minutes of the September 20, 2022 Board of Education Meeting.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

16. Old Business

17. Future Agenda Items

18. Meetings / Dates of Importance (see attached)

19. Action Item: Motion to enter into Executive Session- Discussion Concerning Administrative Assignments

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Miller to enter into Executive Session - Discussion Concerning Administrative Assignments.
AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

20. Action Item: Motion to conclude Executive Session

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Miller to conclude Executive Session at 10:03 p.m.
AYES: Cawley, Gordon, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Pynn, Rosenthal
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

20. Adjournment

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Rosenthal to adjourn the meeting at 10:03 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 the Town ADA/Human Resources Director, Debra Ferrante, at 203-245-6310 or by email at ferranted@madisonct.org at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting.