

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 13, 2026 7:00 PM

Town Campus Hammonasset Room/Zoom
10 Campus Drive
Madison, CT 06443

Subject to Approval

Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order / Attendance

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chair Emily Rosenthal. Mrs. Rosenthal led the pledge of allegiance.

Present: Galen Cawley, Mary Ann Connelly, Lisa Deane, Maureen Lewis, Cathy Miller, Emily Rosenthal, Jessica Wilen

Also present: Craig A. Cooke, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools; Gail Dahling-Hench, Assistant Superintendent; Anthony Salutari Jr., Daniel Hand High School Principal; Melanie Witcher, Daniel Hand High School Assistant Principal; Kathryn Hart, Polson Middle School Principal; Martha Curran, Polson Middle School Assistant Principal; Becky Frost, Neck River Elementary School Principal; Kelly Spooner, Brown Elementary School Principal

II. Action Item: Motion to accept the resignation of Board of Education member Diane Infantine-Vyce.

MOTION: by Miller, seconded by Deane to accept the resignation of Board of Education member Diane Infantine-Vyce.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Deane, Lewis, Miller, Rosenthal, Wilen

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

III. School / Community Session

No members of the public spoke.

IV. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report

Katherine Rizzo and Ethan Scheps

Kate shared that the recent club fair was a big success, fall sports teams are doing well, students have hit the midpoint of the first trimester, and parent teacher conferences are next week. Ethan shared that a Class of '99 graduate visited on Friday and gave students a presentation on his career trajectory, the football game on Friday was dedicated to Coach Ciotti who is battling cancer, the Hats for Hope fundraiser was a big success last month, and the PSAT for sophomores and juniors is this week.

V. Superintendent's Report

Craig A. Cooke, Ph.D.

- 2025-2026 Academic Report – Dr. Cooke and the building administration presented the 2025-2026 academic results. The presentation can be seen in full on the meeting recording posted on the District website.
- Oct. 1 Enrollment Report – Dr. Cooke shared the official Oct. 1 enrollment report. This is the same report that is sent to the State.

VI. Board Members' Comments

Members commended the administrative team on the academic results.

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

No members of the public spoke.

VIII. Consent Agenda (Ref. Bylaw #9540.2)

- Line Item Transfers as of September 30, 2026
- Budget Expenditures as of September 30, 2026
- September Personnel Report

IX. Action Item: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

MOTION: by Wilen, seconded by Miller to approve the Consent Agenda.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Deane, Lewis, Miller, Rosenthal, Wilen

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

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

Curriculum and Student Development

Members: Catherine Miller, Chair; Mary Ann Connelly, Jessica Wilen

Mrs. Miller gave a report on the meeting that took place earlier in the evening. The Instructional Coaches gave a presentation on the MPS Instructional Strategies Playbook.

Facilities Committee

Members: Lisa Deane, Chair; Kevin Fogarty

No report.

Finance Committee

Members: Galen Cawley, Chair, Kevin Fogarty, Jessica Wilen

No report.

Personnel Committee

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

No report.

Policy Committee

Members: Maureen Lewis, Galen Cawley

No report.

LEARN Liaison

Galen Cawley

Mr. Cawley gave a report on the most recent LEARN meeting. He said the group listed to a presentation from the Guilford superintendent.

XI. Action Item: Motion to appoint Jessica Wilen to the position of Board Parliamentarian.

MOTION: by Lewis, seconded by Connelly to appoint Jessica Wilen to the position of Board Parliamentarian.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Deane, Lewis, Miller, Rosenthal, Wilen

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XII. Action Item: Motion to approve a donation from the Neck River PTO to Neck River Elementary in the amount of \$6,583 for subscriptions.

MOTION: by Deane, seconded by Wilen to a donation from the Neck River PTO to Neck River Elementary in the amount of \$6,583 for subscriptions.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Deane, Lewis, Miller, Rosenthal, Wilen

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XIII. Action Item: Motion to approve a donation from the Neck River PTO to Neck River Elementary in the amount of \$5,000 for field trips.

MOTION: by Miller, seconded by Connelly to approve a donation from the Neck River PTO to Neck River Elementary in the amount of \$5,000 for field trips.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Deane, Lewis, Miller, Rosenthal, Wilen

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XIV. Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2026 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Wilen, seconded by Miller to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2026 Board of Education Meeting.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Deane, Lewis, Miller, Rosenthal, Wilen

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XV. Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the September 29, 2026 Board of Education Retreat (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Miller, seconded by Wilen to approve the minutes of the September 29, 2026 Board of Education Retreat.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Deane, Lewis, Miller, Rosenthal, Wilen

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XVI. Future Agenda Items

XVII. Adjournment

MOTION: by Connelly, seconded by Deane to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Deane, Lewis, Miller, Rosenthal, Wilen

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

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 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.