

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Tuesday, December 10, 2024 7:30 PM

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

Subject to Approval

Meeting Minutes

Video documentation of these proceedings can be found in the Meetings/Minutes section of the website.

I. Call to Order / Attendance

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 7:31 p.m. by Chairman Seth Klaskin. Mr. Klaskin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Galen Cawley, Mary Ann Connelly, Seth Klaskin, Maureen Lewis, Christine Maisano, Steven Pynn, Emily Rosenthal

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

II. School / Community Session

No members of the public spoke.

III. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report

Brooke Anderson and Grace Ackerman

Grace reported that Trimester 2 began after the Thanksgiving Break, the fall play unfortunately had low attendance, and the winter chorus and jazz concerts are upcoming. Brooke shared that the fall sports season is over but it was successful for Hand teams overall and there will be a holiday spirit week before winter break.

IV. Superintendent's Report

Craig A. Cooke, Ph.D.

- 2025-2026 Calendar – Dr. Cooke shared the revised 2025-20206 calendar. Changes include moving back April break by one week and moving a fall professional development day.
- Future Use of PreK-3 Buildings – the Town asked the Board to set a date that the existing PreK-3 facilities will be turned back to the Town following the reorganization. The proposed date is January 1, 2026.

V. Board Members' Comments

Mr. Klaskin said a few board members attended the National Blue Ribbon School recognition earlier in the day and reminded members that the CABE Area 8 Legislative Breakfast is coming up on Dec. 19.

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

No members of the public spoke.

VII. Consent Agenda (Ref. Bylaw #9540.2)

- Line Item Transfers as of December 5, 2024
- Budget Expenditures as of December 5, 2024
- November 2024 Personnel Report

VIII. Action Item: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

MOTION: by Pynn, seconded by Cawley to approve the Consent Agenda.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Klaskin, Lewis, Maisano, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

Motion to move up current agenda items X and XI and renumber accordingly.

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Pynn *to move up current agenda items X and XI and renumber accordingly.*

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Klaskin, Lewis, Maisano, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

IX. Action Item: Motion to approve the Phase 3 Furniture, Fixtures, Equipment (FFE) and Audio-Visual/IT Package and authorize the project to proceed with state final plan review and subsequent procurement. The Phase 3 package is comprised of plans and the project manual dated 11/27/24 along with supporting state grant process documentation.

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Connelly to approve the Phase 3 Furniture, Fixtures, Equipment (FFE) and Audio-Visual/IT Package and authorize the project to proceed with state final plan review and subsequent procurement.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Klaskin, Lewis, Maisano, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

X. Action Item: Motion to approve the Phase 4 Playground Package and authorize the project to proceed with state final plan review and subsequent procurement. The Phase 4 package is comprised of plans and the project manual dated 11/27/24 along with supporting state grant process documentation.

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Pynn to approve the Phase 4 Playground Package and authorize the project to proceed with state final plan review and subsequent procurement.

AYES: Cawley, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Lewis, Maisano, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

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

Curriculum and Student Development

Members: Steve Pynn, Chair; Catherine Miller, Mary Ann Connelly

Mr. Pynn gave a report on the meeting that took place earlier in the evening. The committee heard presentations from the math department, the art department, and received some general curriculum updates.

Facilities Committee

Members: Emily Rosenthal, Chair, Steven Pynn, Diane Infantine-Vyce

Mrs. Rosenthal gave a report on the meeting that took place earlier in the evening. Facilities Director Peter Anderson gave an update on a number of current projects including the RTU replacements at Hand, the Polson HVAC system, and work at Neck River and Brown School.

Finance Committee

Members: Galen Cawley, Chair, Christine Maisano, Emily Rosenthal

No report.

Personnel Committee

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

No report.

Policy Committee

Members: Diane Infantine-Vyce, Chair; Maureen Lewis, Galen Cawley

Mr. Cawley gave a report on the policies on the agenda for action this evening.

Policies for Rescission, Waive Second Reading:

- 6080.2 English Language Arts Education
- 6080.19.3.4 Role of the School Psychologist
- 6080.19.3.5 Role of School Counselors
- 6080.19.3.6 Role of Instructional Paraprofessionals

- 6080.20 School-Wide Pre-Referral Approaches and Interventions (Scientific Research-Based Interventions or SRBI)
- 6100.14.3 Resource Center / Media Centers / School Library
- 6110.7.2 Graduation Exercises
- 6120 Evaluation of Instructional Programs
- 6152 Grouping for Instruction
- 7110 Educational Facilities Planning and Capital Programming

Policies for Review, Waive Second Reading:

- 6050 Parental Access to Instructional Material

Policies for Review, First Reading:

- 9210 Role of Board and Members

LEARN Liaison
Mary Ann Connelly

No report.

XII. Action Item: Motion to approve returning the Jeffrey Elementary, Ryerson Elementary, and Town Campus Learning Center buildings to the Town of Madison, effective January 1, 2026.

MOTION: by Maisano, seconded by Lewis to approve returning the Jeffrey Elementary, Ryerson Elementary, and Town Campus Learning Center buildings to the Town of Madison, effective January 1, 2026.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Klaskin, Lewis, Maisano, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XIII. Action Item: Motion to approve the revised 2025-2026 Calendar

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Pynn to approve the revised 2025-2026 Calendar.

AYES: Cawley, Klaskin, Lewis, Maisano, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS:

ABSTAIN: Connelly

MOTION CARRIED: 6 – 0 – 1

XIV. Action Item: Motion to waive the second reading and rescind the following policies: 6080.2 English Language Arts Education, 6080.19.3.4 Role of the School Psychologist, 6080.19.3.5 Role of School Counselors, 6080.19.3.6 Role of Instructional Paraprofessionals, 6080.20 School-Wide Pre-Referral Approaches and Interventions (Scientific Research-Based Interventions or SRBI), 6100.14.3

Resource Center / Media Centers / School Library, 6110.7.2 Graduation Exercises, 6120 Evaluation of Instructional Programs, 6152 Grouping for Instruction, 7110 Educational Facilities Planning and Capital Programming

MOTION: by Cawley, seconded by Connelly to waive the second reading and rescind the following policies: 6080.2 English Language Arts Education, 6080.19.3.4 Role of the School Psychologist, 6080.19.3.5 Role of School Counselors, 6080.19.3.6 Role of Instructional Paraprofessionals, 6080.20 School-Wide Pre-Referral Approaches and Interventions (Scientific Research-Based Interventions or SRBI), 6100.14.3 Resource Center / Media Centers / School Library, 6110.7.2 Graduation Exercises, 6120 Evaluation of Instructional Programs, 6152 Grouping for Instruction, 7110 Educational Facilities Planning and Capital Programming.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Klaskin, Lewis, Maisano, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XV. Action Item: Motion to waive the second reading and approve policy 6050 Parental Access to Instructional Material.

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Pynn to waive the second reading and approve policy 6050 Parental Access to Instructional Material.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Klaskin, Lewis, Maisano, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XVI. Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the November 26, 2024 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Cawley to approve the minutes of the November 26, 2024 Board of Education meeting.

AYES: Cawley, Klaskin, Lewis, Maisano, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS:

ABSTAIN: Connelly

MOTION CARRIED: 6 – 0 – 1

XVII. Future Agenda Items

XVIII. Adjournment

MOTION: by Lewis, seconded by Connelly to adjourn at 8:28 p.m.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

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