

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 22, 2024 7:30 PM

Meeting Room A, Town Campus / 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 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Seth Klaskin. Mr. Klaskin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Galen Cawley, Mary Ann Connelly (on Zoom), Seth Klaskin, Christine Maisano (on Zoom), Cathy Miller, Steven Pynn, Emily Rosenthal

Also present: Craig Cooke, Ph.D., Superintendent; Gail Dahling-Hench, Assistant Superintendent; Peter Anderson, Facilities Director; Alina Britchi, DHHS Teacher; Anthony Salutari, DHHS Principal; Melanie Whitcher, DHHS Assistant Principal; Students

II. School / Community Session

No members of the public spoke.

III. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report

Brooke Anderson and Grace Ackerman

Grace shared that parent/teacher conferences took place recently and were well attended, DHHS recently marked Mental Health Awareness Day, and the PSAT went very well. Brooke shared that sports are now into the championship season, fan attendance and behavior continues to be very good, Halloween and Homecoming are around the corner, and Trimester 1 exams will take place before Thanksgiving break.

IV. Superintendent's Report

Craig A. Cooke, Ph.D.

- Student Recognition - DHHS UConn ECE Cardboard Boat Race Champions: 2024 UConn ECE Cardboard Boat Race Champions attended the Board of Education meeting along with their teacher, Mrs. Britchi, to be recognized for their accomplishment and share with the Board what they learned from the experience. The race is an annual event for students in ECE courses across the state who are challenged to design and build boats out of only cardboard and duct tape and then race them against other schools at an event at Avery Point in Groton.
- 2025-2026 Budget Calendar & Guidelines – Dr. Cooke shared that the 2025-2026 Budget calendar is ready for Board approval. He reviewed the budget guidelines with the Board and reiterated that all departments and schools are being cognizant of the financial impacts of the reorganization when crafting their respective budgets.

- Ryerson & Jeffrey & TCLC Building Update – Following the reconfiguration, Dr. Cooke said the plan is to turn Ryerson, Jeffrey, and TCLC back over to the Town for disposal or alternative use. The Board will be asked to formally vote to turn the buildings over at a later date.
- CABA Board of Distinction Award – The Board has been recognized by CABA as a 2024 Board of Distinction.

V. Board Members' Comments

Mrs. Rosenthal remarked that it is always nice to have student speakers at the meeting. Mr. Klaskin congratulated the Board on the CABA award and congratulated Daniel Hand High School on being named a National Blue Ribbon School.

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

No members of the public spoke.

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

Curriculum and Student Development

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

No report.

Facilities Committee

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

No report.

Finance Committee

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

Mr. Cawley gave a report on the meeting that took place earlier in the evening which included a review of the budget calendar and guidelines as well as an update on end-of-year funds.

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 following policies:

Policies for Review, Second Reading:

- 5070 Promotion/Acceleration/Retention
- 5120.4.2.4 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 – Prohibitions of Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment
- 4116.1 Sexual Harassment

LEARN Liaison

Mary Ann Connelly

Mrs. Connelly gave a report on the latest LEARN meeting. She shared a large focus of the last meeting was the Multilingual Learner Bill of Rights.

VIII. Action Item: Motion to approve the 2025-2026 Budget Calendar

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Cawley to approve the 2025-2026 Budget Calendar.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

IX. Action Item: Motion to approve the following policies: 5070 Promotion/Acceleration/Retention, 5120.4.2.4 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 – Prohibitions of Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment, 4116.1 Sexual Harassment

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Pynn to approve the following policies: 5070 Promotion/Acceleration/Retention, 5120.4.2.4 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 – Prohibitions of Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment, 4116.1 Sexual Harassment

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

X. Action Item: Motion to approve a donation from the Madison Foundation to Daniel Hand High School in the amount of \$3,000 for a 3D printer.

MOTION: by Miller, seconded by Connelly to approve a donation from the Madison Foundation to Daniel Hand High School in the amount of \$3,000 for a 3D printer.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XI. Action Item: Motion to approve a donation from the Madison Foundation to the GAINS Club at Daniel Hand High School in the amount of \$3,600 to support students attending a 3-day STEM conference.

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Miller to approve a donation from the Madison Foundation to the GAINS Club at Daniel Hand High School in the amount of \$3,600 to support students attending a 3-day STEM conference.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XII. Action Item: Motion to approve a donation from Blue Delta Energy to Daniel Hand High School in the amount of \$2,600 to support Luke Jacobsen's 3D printer project.

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Cawley to approve a donation from Blue Delta Energy to Daniel Hand High School in the amount of \$2,600 to support Luke Jacobsen's 3D printer project.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XIII. Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2024 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Pynn, seconded by Rosenthal to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2024 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9).

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XIV. Future Agenda Items

XV. Adjournment

MOTION: by Miller, seconded by Rosenthal to adjourn at 8:09 p.m.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:
MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

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