

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

**Madison Public Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
October 12, 2021
7:30 PM
Polson Library & Remote**

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 Galen Cawley at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Cawley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: In-person: Galen Cawley, Emily Rosenthal, Katie Stein. Remotely: Diane Infantine-Vyce, Christine Maisano, Cathy Miller.

Also present: In-person: Craig Cooke, Ph.D., Superintendent; Gail Dahling-Hench, Assistant Superintendent; Bill McMinn, Facilities Director, Charles Warrington, Colliers International, Remotely: Dan Hansen, Educational Consultant, Scott Murphy, Board of Selectmen, Lucy Fritzing, Student Rep.

2. School / Community Session

Two members of the public spoke regarding the quarantine policy for unvaccinated individuals.

3. Board of Education Student Representative Report

Isabelle Vagell and Lucy Fritzing

Lucy reported school is truly moving back to normalcy. This Friday is the midpoint of Trimester 1. Tomorrow there will be a 60-minute pause, with the first 30 minutes being a Safe A Life Tour, and the remaining time, Wellness Wednesday. The tour addresses impaired & distracted driving, and is sponsored by the CT Department of Transportation. A simulation will be set up during free periods on Friday from 9-1, as well. Students have requested that October 27 Wellness Wednesday be moved to Friday, October 29 to show off Halloween costumes. Fall sports are in full swing and Lucy expressed her appreciation to have fans attending games in person.

Isabelle was not in attendance this evening.

4. Superintendent's Report

Craig A. Cooke, Ph.D.

Dr. Cooke thanked the PTO's and other organizations for opening their doors to present the school renewal plans. To date, presentations have been made at Polson and Jeffrey, the Newcomer's Club, the Economic Development Commission, realtors, and sr. citizens. The website has been updated with the latest information. Dr. Cooke touched upon fan behavior at sporting events, noting we are working with students to address what is expected. Dr. Cooke thanked the Hand administration for their work. Yesterday's professional development covered a vast array of activities. Work on morphology and

Fundations continue. Both elementary schools were able to work together by grade level. Also worked on Portrait of a Graduate and wellness standards.

Our next Board meeting is on October 26 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Polson Auditorium, when we will give a presentation on the School Referendum Project, as well as a second reading of the Educational Specs. Invitations have been extended to the Boards of Selectmen and Finance and we are looking forward to a large crowd.

Dan Hansen, Bill McMinn and Chuck Warrington of Colliers are present tonight to join in the discussion regarding the Educational Specs. Chuck Warrington walked through the Project Budget document, which details all costs associated with the building project, as well as the estimated district share calculation.

Dr. Cooke spoke to the policy process, noting we are proposing to waive the readings of policies this evening due to minor language changes as a result of COVID-related issues, time sensitive issues and updates in statutory definitions.

5. Board Member Comments

Chair Cawley noted comments have been dispersed throughout tonight's presentation. Dr. Infantine-Vyce asked Mrs. Consiglio, who spoke during public comment, to please email the board the information presented.

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

Two comments read from the Chat box, otherwise, no public comment.

7. Board of Selectmen Liaison

Scott Murphy

Mr. Murphy reported the Board of Selectmen met this morning where it was announced Sheri Cote has been appointed the new Economic Development Director, who we are sharing with Guilford. The Board discussed the future of the Academy School building, which we are hoping to bring to referendum in February. The Board also approved moving forward to obtain a larger fire boat (located at West Wharf) and move the fencing. As a result of First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons receiving complaints regarding noise, the Board will be looking into a noise ordinance.

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

MOTION: by Stein, seconded by Rosenthal to approve the Consent Agenda.

AYES: Cawley, Infantine-Vyce, Maisano, Miller, Rosenthal, Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

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

10.1. Curriculum and Student Development

Members: Diane Infantine-Vyce, Chair; Greg DeSantis, Catherine Miller

The committee has not met – next meeting scheduled for October 19.

10.2. Communications Committee

Members: Tom Pellegrino, Chair; Diane Infantine-Vyce, Greg DeSantis

The committee has not met.

10.3. Facilities Committee

Members: Emily Rosenthal, Chair, Christine Maisano, Katie Stein

The Facilities Committee met this evening. Mr. McMinn provided an update regarding the high school HVAC system as well as the solar project, which has been completed. Working on CIP/Planned and Cycled Maintenance projects at Polson (entry area, hallways, security) and Brown (front entry, courtyard, improving safety, appearance and ADA compliance). With regard to the new school, testing is currently taking place on the property and we are working with water companies.

10.4. Finance Committee

Members: Katie Stein, Chair, Christine Maisano, Tom Pellegrino

The Finance Committee has not met, scheduled to meet on October 26.

10.5. Personnel Committee

Members: Violet McNerney, Chair, Diane Infantine-Vyce, Catherine Miller

Dr. McNerney is not present this evening. Chair Cawley expressed his appreciation regarding teachers' negotiations and noted that NAGE negotiations are continuing on November 3.

10.6. Policy Committee

Members: Greg DeSantis, Chair; Violet McNerney, Emily Rosenthal

The Policy Committee has not met – next meeting is scheduled for October 26. There are policies on tonight's agenda for a first reading, a third reading and several which we are proposing to waive readings and adopt because of minor language adjustments.

10.7. LEARN Liaison

Katie Stein

Meeting scheduled for this Thursday, October 14. Dr. Cooke will be presenting.

11. Action Item: Motion to approve Policy #3020.7 Budget Procedures and Line Item Transfers

MOTION: by Stein, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to approve Policy #3020.7 Budget Procedures and Line Item Transfers

AYES: Cawley, Infantine-Vyce, Maisano, Miller, Rosenthal, Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

12. Action Item: Motion to waive the readings of the following policies:

#1330 Use of School Facilities

#1360 School Volunteers, Student Interns and Other Non-Employees

#1160 Possession of Deadly Weapons and Firearms

#1370, #4118.1, #5020.1 Non-Discrimination Policies
#2240 Retention of Electronic Records and Information
#4116.1, #5120.4.2.4 Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Policies
#3541.5 Transportation

Policies are recommended to have readings waived due to minor language adjustments as a result of COVID-related issues, time sensitive issues and updates to statutory definitions.

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Stein to waive readings of the following policies:

#1330 Use of School Facilities
#1360 School Volunteers, Student Interns and Other Non-Employees
#1160 Possession of Deadly Weapons and Firearms
#1370, #4118.1, #5020.1 Non-Discrimination Policies
#2240 Retention of Electronic Records and Information
#4116.1, #5120.4.2.4 Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Policies
#3541.5 Transportation

AYES: Cawley, Infantine-Vyce, Maisano, Miller, Rosenthal, Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

13. Action Item: Motion to approve the following policies:

#1330 Use of School Facilities
#1360 School Volunteers, Student Interns and Other Non-Employees
#1160 Possession of Deadly Weapons and Firearms
#1370, #4118.1, #5020.1 Non-Discrimination Policies
#2240 Retention of Electronic Records and Information
#4116.1, #5120.4.2.4 Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Policies
#3541.5 Transportation

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

#1330 Use of School Facilities
#1360 School Volunteers, Student Interns and Other Non-Employees
#1160 Possession of Deadly Weapons and Firearms
#1370, #4118.1, #5020.1 Non-Discrimination Policies
#2240 Retention of Electronic Records and Information
#4116.1, #5120.4.2.4 Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Policies
#3541.5 Transportation

AYES: Cawley, Infantine-Vyce, Maisano, Miller, Rosenthal, Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

14. Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2021 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Stein, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to approve the minutes of the September 14, 2021 Board of Education Meeting

AYES: Cawley, Infantine-Vyce, Maisano, Miller, Rosenthal, Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

15. Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2021 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Stein to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2021 Board of Education Meeting

AYES: Cawley, Infantine-Vyce, Maisano, Miller, Rosenthal, Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

16. Future Agenda Items

17. Meetings/Dates of Importance

18. Adjournment

MOTION: by Stein, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to adjourn the meeting at 9:23 p.m.

AYES: Cawley, Infantine-Vyce, Maisano, Miller, Rosenthal, Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

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 Milardo at 203-245-5603 or by email to milardod@madisonct.org at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting.