

Subject to Approval

Meeting Minutes

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, Diane Infantine-Vyce, Seth Klaskin, Maureen Lewis, Cathy Miller, Steven Pynn, Emily Rosenthal.

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

2. School / Community Session

Eva Van Camp
29 Bridle Path Lane

Captain Van Camp addressed the Board requesting a waiver for reduced tuition so that her children can remain in the Madison Public Schools. She is currently the Commander of the United States Coast Guard, Sector Long Island Sound and will be transferred to the Coast Guard Academy in New London in the summer of 2023. She will be required to live on campus when the relocation takes place. Captain Van Camp spoke highly of the school district, to the positive experiences her children have had and their desire to remain in their schools (Polson and Ryerson).

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

Eli reported Trimester 1 just finished and the consensus is that exams went well. The fall play just wrapped up and the Jazz, Band and Chamber ensemble concerts are coming up. Blood drive scheduled for December 20. Lucy reported next week is spirit week, with a pep rally on Friday, December 23 (1/2 day). Winter sports have begun; girls basketball had an away game today. Boys basketball has their State championship ring ceremony next Friday right before their home game against Guilford.

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

Dr. Cooke and Assistant Superintendent Gail Dahling-Hench presented a draft GANTT chart which is being used as a planning and tracking tool for the new school building project. Dr. Cooke presented the proposed 2023-2024 school year calendar, noting teachers will start on August 24 and students will start on August 29 with the last day scheduled for June 10 (182 school days and 6 PD days). This calendar has been shared with school administration, the PRC (Parent Representative Council) and the MEA. A parent request to have the day after

Halloween as a PD day will not take place, in order to maintain the Board's policy and practice of trying to schedule as many uninterrupted school weeks during the fall as possible. A number of students from Polson Middle School wrote letters requesting April 8, 2024 as a day off of school in order to travel to view the solar eclipse. Staff members requested that day be part of the April break, which is, in fact, scheduled for April 8-12, 2024. The Accountability Report was recently released and will be presented at the February. 7, 2023 meeting. DHHS, Ryerson and Jeffrey were named schools of distinction. Dr. Cooke noted there are 126 schools of distinction in Connecticut, three of which are in Madison.

5. Board Members' Comments - none
6. Audience Response to Information Presented (Ref. Bylaw #9540.10) - none
7. Board of Selectmen Liaison
Scott Murphy
(Note: Mr. Murphy arrived at approximately 8:10 p.m.)

Mr. Murphy reported the Board of Selectmen met on November 29 and December 6. The Ad-Hoc ARP Funding Committee will be sunset and the remaining funds will be reconciled with the Board of Selectmen. The newly-passed Town Charter was discussed; 20 Boards and Commissions will now become 9. The Town attorney will conduct an overview on FOIA. Marijuana is a hot topic; there is a moratorium coming up December 31 which will be deferred in order for further public discussions to take place. Tennis courts and the dog park were also discussed. Bill McMinn spoke about the Brown School renovations. Chief Drumm and Scott Cochran gave a presentation regarding the successful pilot of the addition of a social worker present with a police officer when responding to a call. This has taken place over the past two months and the Board of Selectmen is likely to recommend this for the Police Department payroll. A DHHS senior attended tonight's MYFS meeting and spoke to the "Ted Talk" project she is working on in conjunction with Principal Salutari.

8. Consent Agenda (Ref. Bylaw #9540.2 and #9540.8)
 - 8.1. Line Item Transfers as of December 13, 2022
 - 8.2. Budget Expenditures as of December 13, 2022
9. Action Item: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

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

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

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 updates regarding Wellness Curriculum and Counseling by Sarah Sandora and Jen Hawley. Tonight's agenda was amended due to the need for the Advisory Update to move to the January 10 Curriculum meeting. Mr. Pynn noted that student wellness has been a very high priority for the Board and involves many aspects beyond curriculum.

10.2. Facilities Committee

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

The Facilities Committee has not met. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 20 at 4:30 and will be by Zoom only.

10.3. Finance Committee

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

Galen Cawley reported the Finance Committee met briefly today and raised the topic of the budget calendar for 2024. No public comment and the meeting was adjourned.

10.4. Personnel Committee

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

Maureen Lewis reported the Personnel Committee met and are continuing negotiations with the nurse's union.

10.5. Policy Committee

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

Dr. Infantine-Vyce reviewed the policies proposed for rescission, noting these policies either overlap with existing policies or they are not mandatory or no longer necessary. A first reading is intended for this evening, with a waiver of the second reading and approval for rescission. After reviewing Policy #9220.5 Unexpired Term Fulfillment / Vacancies, it was decided to retain the current version, as it is more accurately aligned with the Madison Town Charter. Dr. Infantine-Vyce also reviewed the three policies scheduled for a first reading tonight: #7551 Naming/Renaming of School Buildings, Components of Buildings and/or School Grounds; #9220.2 Board Member Oath of Office; #9325.43 Attendance at Meetings via Electronic Communications.

10.6. LEARN Liaison

Mary Ann Connelly

No report.

10.7. Town American Rescue Plan Funding Committee

Emily Rosenthal

Per Scott Murphy's report this evening, this committee will be sunset.

10.8. Town Marijuana Advisory Committee

Mary Ann Connelly

The committee has not met.

11. Action Item: Motion to approve the 2023-2024 Calendar

MOTION: by Miller, seconded by Rosenthal to approve the 2023-2024 School Year Calendar.

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

NAYS: Connelly

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-1

12. Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the November 29, 2022 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Gordon, seconded by Lewis to approve the minutes of the November 29, 2022 Board of Education meeting.

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

13. Action Item: Motion to approve the donation of \$3,000 to Jeffrey Elementary School from the Jeffrey PTO to fund buses for field trips.

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Gordon to approve the donation of \$3,000 to Jeffrey Elementary School from the Jeffrey PTO to fund buses for field trips.

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

Additional Action Item:

14. Motion to waive the second reading of the policies for rescission and approve the rescissions of the following policies: #5050 School Attendance Objectives; #5050.1 Compulsory Attendance; #5050.2 Entrance Age Requirements; #5060 Registration for School; #9200 School Board Legal Status; #9220 Board Membership Elections/Appointment; #9220.1 Board Qualifications; #9220.7 Board Election Campaigns; #9240 Treasurer; #9350 Control of Funds; #9353 Bonding of Officers; #9430 Appointed Board Officials; #9540.6 Suspension of Rules of Order; #9560 School Board Work Sessions and Retreats.

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Lewis to waive the second reading of the following policies: #5050 School Attendance Objectives; #5050.1 Compulsory Attendance; #5050.2 Entrance Age Requirements; #5060 Registration for School; #9200 School Board Legal Status; #9220 Board Membership Elections/Appointment; #9220.1 Board Qualifications; #9220.7 Board Election Campaigns; #9240 Treasurer; #9350 Control of Funds; #9353 Bonding of Officers; #9430 Appointed Board Officials; #9540.6 Suspension of

Rules of Order; #9560 School Board Work Sessions and Retreats.

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

15. Discussion of Student Tuition Matter (proposed for Executive Session)

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Gordon to enter into Executive Session to discuss a student tuition matter and to invite Dr. Cooke.

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

16. Action Item: Motion to conclude Executive Session

MOTION: by Connelly, seconded by Pynn to conclude Executive Session at 8:53 p.m.

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

17. Action Item on Student Tuition Matter

MOTION: by Connelly, seconded by Miller to accept the Superintendent's recommendation on a student tuition matter.

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

18. Future Agenda Items

19. Meetings / Dates of Importance (see attached)

20. Adjournment

MOTION: by Gordon, seconded by Pynn to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

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.