

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Tuesday, September 16, 2025 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 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Seth Klaskin. Mr. Klaskin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Galen Cawley, Mary Ann Connelly, Seth Klaskin, Maureen Lewis, Cathy Miller, Anthony Paolitto, Steven Pynn, Emily Rosenthal

Also present: Dr. Craig Cooke, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools

II. School / Community Session

No members of the public spoke.

III. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report

Grace Ackerman and Katherine Rizzo

Katherine shared that the football team won its first away game, the first home football game is Sept. 19, the DHHS community is encouraging high attendance at all sporting events this year, the school recognized 9/11 with a moment of silence, and the Fall Play will be Dracula. Grace shared that summer freshman orientation, the school community will recognize constitution day on Sept. 17, and the year started with a strict phone policy that does not allow the use of phones during class. The policy has been well received by students and the administration and there has been very high compliance to start the year.

IV. Superintendent's Report

Craig A. Cooke, Ph.D.

- School Traffic – Dr. Cooke shared that overall, we had a very smooth start to the year. Traffic at Neck River has improved significantly and buses are running on time. He thanked the Madison Police for their support with traffic during the first week.
- Polson Project – Dr. Cooke reviewed what is in store for construction at Polson in the coming year. Starting in May 2026, the gym will be taken offline for renovations. He said the building is prepared for this disruption. Work in 2026 will also include the installation of a generator and AC throughout the building.
- Tour of Brown – The Board will have a tour of Brown Elementary in November so that the Board can see all the work that has been done at that building over the last three years. The District is also working on a date for the public to be able to tour Neck River Elementary.

V. Board Members' Comments

Mr. Klaskin encouraged all Board members to attend the CABE convention in November.

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 September 11, 2025
- Budget Expenditures as of September 11, 2025
- Summer 2025 Personnel Report

VIII. Action Item: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

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

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Paolitto, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 8 – 0

IX. 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, Emily Rosenthal

Mr. Cawley reported on the meeting that took place earlier in the evening. The committee reviewed the 26-27 budget calendar.

Personnel Committee

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

Mrs. Lewis said the committee is currently negotiating with the nurses' union.

Policy Committee

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

No report.

LEARN Liaison

Mary Ann Connelly

Mrs. Connelly handed out a summary of the meeting.

X. Action Item: Motion to approve the Standing Committee Membership (Ref. Bylaw #9450) as follows:

- Curriculum & Student Development Committee

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

- Facilities Committee

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

- Finance Committee

Members: Galen Cawley, Chair; Anthony Paolitto, Emily Rosenthal

- Personnel Committee

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

- Policy Committee

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

- LEARN Liaison

Anthony Paolitto

- CIP

Galen Cawley and Emily Rosenthal

MOTION: by Lewis, seconded by Paolitto to approve the Standing Committee Membership.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Paolitto, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 8 – 0

XI. Action Item: Motion to approve the application for the CABE Board of Distinction Award

MOTION: by Miller, seconded by Rosenthal to approve the CABE Board of Distinction Award.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Paolitto, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 8 – 0

XII. Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2025 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Pynn, seconded by Miller to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2025 Board of Education Meeting.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Paolitto, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 8 – 0

XIII. Future Agenda Items

XIV. Adjournment

MOTION: by Lewis, seconded by Cawley to adjourn at 7:29 pm.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Klaskin, Lewis, Miller, Paolitto, Pynn, Rosenthal

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 8 – 0

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