

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 19, 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 Madison Board of Education was called to order by Chairman Seth Klaskin at 7:35 p.m. Mr. Klaskin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Also present: Craig Cooke, Ph.D., Superintendent; Gail Dahling-Hench, Assistant Superintendent; Scott Cochran and Catherine Barden, Madison Youth and Family Services

II. School / Community Session

No members of the public spoke.

III. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report

Eli Ackerman and Brooke Anderson

Eli reported that spring sports have begun, senior class events are being finalized, and March 21 is World Down Syndrome Day. Brooke reported the SAT and NGSS exam would be administered to the junior class on March 20 & 27 and that the VIBE show choir final performance of the year is coming up soon.

IV. Superintendent's Report

Craig A. Cooke, Ph.D.

- Board Member Appreciation Month – March is Board Member Appreciation Month. Dr. Cooke thanked board members for the time and effort they put into this volunteer position.
- New School Construction update – Dr. Cooke reported that construction has begun on the Neck River Elementary School. A groundbreaking ceremony will be held April 3 in the morning. The ceremony will be very small due to current parking constraints on the site.
- Madison Youth & Family Services Presentation – Scott Cochran & Catherine Barden presented the 2023 Madison Student Survey results. The presentation can be seen in its entirety on the Meeting/Minutes section of the District website.

V. Board Members' Comments

Mr. Klaskin said the Board of Finance voted to reduce the Board of Education proposed 2024-2025 budget by \$240,000. Mr. Klaskin said he was disappointed with the decision. Board members engaged in a brief discussion. A full discussion will take place at the April 2 Board of Education meeting.

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 Committee

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

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

Dr. Infantine-Vyce gave a report on the following policies on the agenda for rescission or approval:

Policy for Rescission, Second Reading

- 5100.9.6 Maintenance and Development of Athletic Programs
- 5110.3.1 Police in Schools
- 5142.4 School Resource Officer
- 5120.9.5 Automobile Use and Parking
- 5140 School and Community Service
- 9470 School Attorney / Legal Services
- 9480 Consultants to the Board

Policy for Review, Second Reading

- NEW – 5050 Student Privacy
 - *then Rescind* 5180.2 Research
- 9530 Executive Sessions / Open Meetings
- 9820.1 Board Member Conferences, Conventions, and Workshops
- 9840 Board Member Compensation and Expenses

LEARN Liaison

Mary Ann Connelly

Mrs. Connelly shared that the guest speaker at the last meeting was Stonington Superintendent Mary Anne Butler.

VIII. Discuss adding DemandZERO to a future Board agenda following written requests from three (3) Board members.

Mrs. Connelly expressed an interest in having DemandZERO come and present to the Board of Education. Board members discussed if that would be the most impactful way for the organization to share its message. Board members ultimately decided a community event with other youth organizations would be a better option than a presentation at a Board meeting.

IX. Action Item: Motion to adopt K-12 World Language units.

MOTION: by Pynn, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to adopt the K-12 World Language units.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 8 – 0

X. Action Item: Motion to rescind the following policies: 5100.9.6 Maintenance and Development of Athletic Programs, 5110.3.1 Police in Schools, 5142.4 School Resource Officer, 5120.9.5 Automobile Use and Parking, 5140 School and Community Service, 5180.2 Research, 9470 School Attorney / Legal Services, 9480 Consultants to the Board

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Lewis to rescind the following policies: 5100.9.6 Maintenance and Development of Athletic Programs, 5110.3.1 Police in Schools, 5142.4 School Resource Officer, 5120.9.5 Automobile Use and Parking, 5140 School and Community Service, 5180.2 Research, 9470 School Attorney / Legal Services, 9480 Consultants to the Board.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 8 – 0

XI. Action Item: Motion to approve the following policies: 5050 Student Privacy, 9530 Executive Sessions / Open Meetings, 9820.1 Board Member Conferences, Conventions, and Workshops, 9840 Board Member Compensation and Expenses

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Lewis to approve the following policies: 5050 Student Privacy, 9530 Executive Sessions / Open Meetings, 9820.1 Board Member Conferences, Conventions, and Workshops, 9840 Board Member Compensation and Expenses.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 8 – 0

XII. Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2024 Board of Education Meeting
(Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2024 Board of Education Meeting.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN: Klaskin

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0 – 1

XIII. Future Agenda Items

XIV. Meetings / Dates of Importance (see attached)

XV. Adjournment

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Rosenthal to adjourn at 9:21 p.m.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 8 – 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.