

Board of Education Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, October 8, 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 Board of Education was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Vice-Chairman Galen Cawley. Mr. Cawley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Also present: Craig Cooke, Ph.D., Superintendent; Gail Dahling-Hench, Assistant Superintendent; Peter Anderson, Facilities Director; Ben Whittaker, Construction Manager; Heather Dobson, Human Resources Director

### **II. School / Community Session**

The following member(s) of the public spoke: Tiffany Magee, 96 Sandlewood Drive. Comments can be heard in full on the meeting recording posted on the District website.

### **III. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report**

*Brooke Anderson and Grace Ackerman*

Brooke reported that the PSAT went well, athletic teams continue to perform well across the Board and DHHS recently received a sportsmanship award, and the midpoint of trimester one is just around the corner. This month the school will recognize mental health awareness with an in-school event, students from the German exchange program arrive, and parent-teacher conferences will be held. Brooke also mentioned that Daniel Hand High School is now a 2024 National Blue Ribbon School. Grace was unable to attend the meeting.

### **IV. Superintendent's Report**

*Craig A. Cooke, Ph.D.*

- October 1 Enrollment Report – Dr. Cooke shared the Oct. 1, 2024 enrollment report and said the Districts current numbers are in line with our enrollment projections.
- 2025-2026 Calendar – the Board approved two calendars (24-25, 25-26) last year. However, LEARN has now proposed a different spring break 2026 than the Board initially adopted. Dr. Cooke said the District will need to align with LEARN's calendar so the 25-26 calendar may need to be altered.
- Polson Project Updates – Mr. Anderson and Mr. Whittaker gave a report on the status of the Polson project. The report can be heard in full on the meeting recording.

## V. Board Members' Comments

No Board member comments.

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

No members of the public spoke.

The Board made a motion to open the agenda and renumber Action Item XVI to item VIB.

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Rosenthal to open the agenda and renumber Action Item XVI to item VIB.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 8 – 0

## VI B. Action Item: Discuss and take action on the Madison Education Association collective bargaining agreement (7/1/25–6/30/29) (Discussion proposed for Executive Session)

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Pynn to enter into Executive Session at 8:41 p.m. to discuss the Madison Education Association collective bargaining agreement and invite in Superintendent of Schools Dr. Craig Cooke and Human Resources Director Heather Dobson.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 8 – 0

MOTION: by Miller, seconded by Connelly to return to regular session at 8:55 p.m.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 8 – 0

Action Item: Motion to approve the Madison Education Association collective bargaining agreement (7/1/25–6/30/29).

MOTION: by Pynn, seconded by Miller to approve the Madison Education Association collective bargaining agreement (7/1/25–6/30/29).

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 8 – 0

#### VII. Consent Agenda (Ref. Bylaw #9540.2)

- Line Item Transfers as of Oct. 1, 2024
- Budget Expenditures as of Oct. 1, 2024
- September 2024 Personnel Report

#### VIII. Action Item: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to approve the consent agenda.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Maisano, Miller, 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*

Mr. Pynn gave a report on the meeting that took place earlier in the evening. The committee heard presentations on Data Visualization and on the upcoming NEASC visit.

##### Facilities Committee

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

Mrs. Rosenthal gave a report on the meeting that took place earlier in the evening. The committee went on a tour of Brown School to see the renovations.

##### Finance Committee

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

Mr. Cawley gave a report on the meeting that took place last month. He said the committee discussed the budget calendar and 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*

Dr. Infantine-Vyce gave a report on the policies on the agenda for rescission or a first reading this evening.

Policy for Rescission, Waive Second Reading:

- 6080.21 Bilingual Instruction
- 6080.21.1 English Learner Students
- 6080.24.2 Magnet Schools
- 6080.25 Early Childhood Education
- 6080.25.2 School Readiness
- 6110.2 Classroom Observations
- 6130.7 Animal Dissection-Dissection Alternatives
- 6141.312 Migrant Students
- 6146.1 Student Assessment
- 6161.3 Comparability of Services

Policy for Review, First 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 reported that LEARN met for the first time this year in September. The opening meeting included a guest speaker and presentation of the Teacher and Para of the Year from the Marine Science Magnet School.

X. Discuss the proposed administrative regulation for policy #5090.9 Use of Private Technological Devices by Students

The Board discussed comments made at the Cell Phone Public Input session earlier that evening. The discussion can be heard in full on the meeting recording.

XI. Action Item: Motion to waive the second reading and rescind the following policies: 6080.21 Bilingual Instruction, 6080.21.1 English Learner Students, 6080.24.2 Magnet Schools, 6080.25 Early Childhood Education, 6080.25.2 School Readiness, 6110.2 Classroom Observations, 6130.7 Animal Dissection-Dissection Alternatives, 6141.312 Migrant Students, 6146.1 Student Assessment, 6161.3 Comparability of Services.

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Rosenthal to waive the second reading and rescind the following policies: 6080.21 Bilingual Instruction, 6080.21.1 English Learner Students, 6080.24.2 Magnet Schools, 6080.25

Early Childhood Education, 6080.25.2 School Readiness, 6110.2 Classroom Observations, 6130.7 Animal Dissection-Dissection Alternatives, 6141.312 Migrant Students, 6146.1 Student Assessment, 6161.3 Comparability of Services.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 8 – 0

XII. Action Item: Motion to approve a donation from the Jeffrey PTO to Jeffrey Elementary School in the amount of \$10,000 to support field trips and subscriptions.

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to approve a donation from the Jeffrey PTO to Jeffrey Elementary School in the amount of \$10,000 to support field trips and subscriptions.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 8 – 0

XIII. Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2024 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Pynn to approve the minutes of the September 3, 2024 Board of Education Meeting.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN: Infantine-Vyce

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0 – 1

XIV. Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2024 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Pynn, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to approve the minutes of the September 17, 2024 Board of Education Meeting.

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

NAYS:  
ABSTAIN:  
MOTION CARRIED: 8 – 0

XV. Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2024 Board of Education Retreat (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Rosenthal to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2024 Board of Education Retreat.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Pynn, Rosenthal  
NAYS:  
ABSTAIN: Maisano, Miller  
MOTION CARRIED: 6 – 0 – 2

XVI. Future Agenda Items

XVII. Adjournment

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Miller to adjourn at 9:40 p.m.

AYES: Cawley, Connelly, Infantine-Vyce, Klaskin, Maisano, Miller, 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](mailto:ferranted@madisonct.org) at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting.