

Board of Education Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 3, 2023 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 Vice Chairman Galen Cawley at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Cawley led the Pledge of Allegiance

Present: Galen Cawley, Mary Ann Connelly, Diane Infantine-Vyce, Maureen Lewis, Cathy Miller, Steven Pynn, Emily Rosenthal

Also present: Craig Cooke, Ph.D., Superintendent; Gail Dahling-Hench, Assistant Superintendent; Heather Dobson, Director of Human Resources

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 the Senior Picnic and fall pep rally were a big success, students wore green last week in support of Sandy Hook Promise, student ambassadors attended a CIAC conference today to accept a sportsmanship award for the high school, and the Athletic Director has encouraged students to attend all fall sports games, not just football. Brooke reported that the PSAT will be held on October 16-17, students recently participated in an anti-bullying campaign, and we are nearly at the midpoint of trimester 1.

IV. Executive Session

Action Item: Motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss the proposed Association of Madison Administrators collective bargaining agreement

MOTION: by Pynn, seconded by Lewis to enter into Executive Session to discuss the proposed Association of Madison Administrators collective bargaining agreement.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

Action Item: Motion to return to Regular Session

MOTION: by Miller, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to return to Regular Session.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

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

Dr. Cooke shared that information on the changing Kindergarten entrance age requirement would go out to the public this week and he and the Assistant Superintendent recently participated in a webinar on the Reading Waiver application and were disappointed with the State's lack of new information. He also reported on the following:

- Personnel Report – each fall the Board receives a copy of the District's Minority Recruitment report. Dr. Cooke shared the report with the Board.
- Graduation Date – June 13, 2024 will be the Class of 2024 graduation date. Dr. Cooke said a number of factors play into selecting the date including access to the town green, equipment rentals, estimating the number of snow days the District might have this winter, etc.
- October 1 Enrollment Report – the State uses October 1 as its standard enrollment capture date. Dr. Cooke shared the District's enrollment numbers as of October 1, 2023 and reminded the board that it regularly receives enrollment updates throughout the year.
- New School Naming Committee – Dr. Cooke said while he understands the Board would like to consider possibly renaming Brown school in addition to naming the new building, he would like to see members appointed to the New Elementary School Naming Committee tonight. He said the Board can still consider renaming Brown but the New Elementary School Naming Committee needs to move forward so it can make its deadline.

VI. Board Members' Comments

Dr. Infantine-Vyce said she would like to see a committee to consider renaming Brown School formed sooner rather than later and follow the same process as the New Elementary School Naming Committee.

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

No members of the public spoke.

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

- Line Item Transfers as of Sept. 29, 2023
- Budget Expenditures as of Sept. 29, 2023
- September Personnel Report

IX. Action Item: Motion to approve the Consent Agenda

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Rosenthal to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

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

Curriculum and Student Development

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

Mr. Pynn reported that committee met this evening. The committee listened two presentations on Artificial Intelligence – one from the high school and one from a Grade 8 team. He said the presentations focused on how teachers and students are currently using AI and on how it is being used in the classroom.

Facilities Committee

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

Mrs. Rosenthal reported that the committee met this evening and reviewed the following: revisions to the CIP plan, HVAC projects at both Polson and Hand, Brown School improvements, completed summer projects including the tennis courts and wayfinding signage, and plans for a storage shed.

Finance Committee

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

Mr. Cawley said the committee met in September and reviewed the proposed budget calendar. He shared some key dates and a framework for the budget process.

Personnel Committee

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

Mrs. Lewis shared the committee has reached an agreement with the Association of Madison Administrators that is now on the Board agenda for a vote later in the evening.

Policy Committee

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

Dr. Infantine-Vyce gave an update on the logo policy work and reviewed the following policies on the agenda this evening for a first reading:

Policies for Rescission, First Reading:

- 9220.6 - Board Candidates
- 9500 - School Board Meetings
- 9540.4 - Rules of Order
- 9400 - Organization of the School Board

- 9410 - Board Organizational Meeting

Policies for Review, First Reading:

- 1370 - Non-Discrimination
- 4118.1 - Non-Discrimination
- 5020.1 - Non-Discrimination
- 4030.5 - FMLA
- 4160 - Student Activity/Transportation Vehicles
- 4111.1 - Security Check/Fingerprinting
- 4112.8/4212.8 - Nepotism

LEARN Liaison

Mary Ann Connelly

Mrs. Connelly shared that she attended a meeting last month and shared several updates including Marine Science Magnet High School in Groton recently being named a National Blue Ribbon School.

XI. Action Item: Motion to approve the Association of Madison Administrators collective bargaining agreement (7/1/24 -6/30/27)

MOTION: by Lewis, seconded by Pynn to approve the proposed Association of Madison Administrators collective bargaining agreement (7/1/24 -6/30/27).

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XII. Discuss possible renaming of Brown School.

The Board discussed possibly renaming Brown school once it changes from an intermediate school to an elementary school. The Board decided to gather more information on the name of the school and its history before taking any formal action on a committee.

XIII. Action Item: Motion to appoint members to the Ad-Hoc New Elementary School Naming Committee: Craig Cooke, Seth Klaskin, Cathy Miller, Rebecca Frost, Deborah Thomas, Alicia Dunbar, Jessica Joseff, Jim Kenney, Amelia Marcous.

MOTION: by Lewis, seconded by Connelly to appoint members to the Ad-Hoc New Elementary School Naming Committee.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XIV. Action Item: Motion to adopt the following courses: Grade 6 Chorus, Music Technology, PreK ELA, and American Sign Language.

MOTION: by Connelly, seconded by Pynn to adopt the following courses: Grade 6 Chorus, Music Technology, PreK ELA, and American Sign Language.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XV. Action Item: Motion to approve the disposal of used books and equipment.

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to approve the disposal of used books and equipment.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XVI. Action Item: Motion to approve a donation from the Ryerson PTO in the amount of \$5,485 to Ryerson Elementary School for In-House Field Experiences.

MOTION: by Miller, seconded by Rosenthal to approve a donation from the Ryerson PTO in the amount of \$5,485 to Ryerson Elementary School for In-House Field Experiences.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XVII. Action Item: Motion to approve a donation from the Tiger Pride Football Association in the amount of \$8,150 to the Hand Football Team for Retro Football Jerseys and Pants. The donation is made in honor of Tiger Football Alumni.

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Rosenthal to approve a donation from the Tiger Pride Football Association in the amount of \$8,150 to the Hand Football Team for Retro Football Jerseys and Pants. The donation is made in honor of Tiger Football Alumni.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XVIII. Action item: Motion to approve a donation from the DHHS Fencing Boosters in the amount of \$6000 to the DHHS Fencing Team for the purchase of wireless Piste boxes and relays.

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Pynn to approve a donation from the DHHS Fencing Boosters in the amount of \$6000 to the DHHS Fencing Team for the purchase of wireless Piste boxes and relays.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XIX. Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the September 5, 2023 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Miller to approve the minutes of the September 5, 2023 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XX. Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2023 Board of Education meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Miller to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2023 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XXI. Action Item: Motion to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2023 Board of Education Retreat (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Rosenthal, seconded by Lewis to approve the minutes of the September 26, 2023 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 0

XXII. Future Agenda Items

XXIII. Meetings / Dates of Importance (see attached)

XXIV. Adjournment

MOTION: by Infantine-Vyce, seconded by Lewis to adjourn at 9:05 p.m.

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

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7 – 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.