

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Tuesday, April 23, 2013 7:30 PM

Town Campus Hammonasset Room, 10 Campus Drive , Madison, CT 06443

I. Call to Order / Attendance

II. School / Community Session - 7:30 p.m.

II.A. Public Participation

III. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report

Speaker(s): Jane Butler and John Ovian

IV. Superintendent's Report

Speaker(s): Thomas R. Scarice

IV.A. Presentation: Grades K-4 Mathematics Program

IV.B. Update: Teacher Evaluation Plan

IV.C. Update: 2013-2014 Enrollment

V. Board Members' Comments

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

VI.A. Planning Committee

Speaker(s): Members: Jean Fitzgerald, Chair; Bill Clorite; Pam Meier

VI.B. Personnel Committee

Speaker(s): Members: John Dean, Chair; Cindy Wood, Vice Chair, Robert Ruggiero

VI.C. Policy Committee

Speaker(s): Members: Seth Klaskin, Chair; Ryan Suerth; Cindy Wood

VI.D. Finance Committee

Speaker(s): Members: Bill Clorite, Chair; Jean Fitzgerald; Cindy Wood

VI.E. LEARN Liaison

Speaker(s): Liaison: Robert Ruggiero

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

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

VIII.A. Bills Payable: \$794.99 - 2011-2012 Budget and \$715,096.09 - 2012-2013 Budget

VIII.B. Line Transfers: \$170,023.53

VIII.C. Donation: \$1,500 from J. Milton Jeffrey School PTO to fund field trips for students in Grade K

IX. Action Item: Minutes of the April 2, 2013 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

X. Old Business

XI. New Business

XII. Future Agenda Items

XIII. Meetings of Importance

XIV. Adjournment

**Madison Public Schools
Board of Education Meeting
April 2, 2013
Town Campus Hammonasset Room**

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order / Attendance

The public meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Ms. Debra Frey at 5:55 p.m. Chairman Frey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: John Dean; Seth Klaskin; Pamela Meier; Debra Frey; Ryan Suerth; Cindy Wood.

Also Present: Thomas Scarice, Superintendent of Schools, Anita L. Rutlin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment and Cindy Twists, Director of Special Education.

2. Executive Session

MOTION: by Dean seconded by Wood to enter Executive Session to discuss the appointment of the Daniel Hand High School Principal 5:57 p.m.
AYES: Dean, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Suerth, Wood
NAYS: None
MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

7:16 pm Ryan Suerth exited the meeting.

7:22 pm Robert Ruggiero entered the meeting

7:40 pm Ryan Suerth reenters the meeting.

2.1 Discussion: Candidate for the position of Daniel Hand High School Principal.

MOTION: by Dean seconded by Klaskin to adjourn Executive Session at 7:41 p.m.
AYES: Dean, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Ruggiero, Suerth, Wood
NAYS: None
MOTION CARRIED 7-0

3. School / Community Session

3.1. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

4. Student Representatives' Report

Presenters: Jane Butler and John Ovian, Daniel Hand High School Student

Mr. Ovian reported that the acceptance letters for seniors are starting to come in. Also, decisions are being made in regard to financial aid.

Ms. Butler stated that the students have finished their second trimester and that report cards will be going out April 3, 2013.

Ms. Butler reported that spring sports are getting underway.

Ms. Butler also noted that the Disney trip was a great success.

Superintendent Scarice reported that he has asked Josh Stokes, winner of the CSPAN StudentCam Competition to do a student documentary interviewing students from Pre-K to seniors asking them “What makes a great teacher?”

Mr. Ovian stated that is a great idea and that Josh does incredible work.

Ms. Rutlin stated that the AP preregistration is scheduled for April 10th and that the college fair is scheduled for April 25th.

5. Action: Item: Appointment of the Daniel Hand High School Principal

MOTION: by Wood seconded by Meier to appoint Anthony Salutari as the new Daniel Hand High School Principal. Effective date will be July 1, 2013.
AYES: Dean, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Suerth, Wood, Ruggiero.
NAYS: None
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Ms. Wood reported that during her meeting with Mr. Salutari earlier in the evening she was very impressed with him. Also, Ms. Wood said that he met all of the qualifications on her wish list for a new high school principal

Ms. Frey stated that she was excited about the appointment of the new Daniel Hand High School principal.

Superintendent Scarice stated that the process of hiring the new principal was a very competitive process. He also, stated that it is our gain being able to hire an excellent administrator with 9 years’ experience.

Mr. Salutari stated he enjoyed the interview process and he is looking forward to starting as principal at Daniel Hand High School.

6. Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Scarice reported that that will be an out of state trip April 24, 2013 for the Daniel Hand High School students. There will be approximately 70 students participating. Students will be attending the BB King Blue Club and Grill and The Bernard B. Jacobs Theater in NYC. Students will have the opportunity to watch a Broadway show where the pit musicians are also the actors.

Superintendent Scarice also mentioned the upcoming Superintendent’s Book Discussion to be held May 1, 2013 at 7:00 PM at the Scranton Library. They will be discussing the book Breaking Free Myths About Teachers and Learning by Allison Zmuda. On May 13, 2013 Allison Zmuda will be at the Scranton Library for a “Meet the Author” event.

6.1. 2013-2014 Kindergarten Registration

Superintendent Scarice reported that there are currently 119 students registered for kindergarten for the 2013/2014 school year. More registrations are expected.

6.2. Teacher Evaluation Plan Pilot Update

Superintendent Scarice stated a meeting to debrief the teacher evaluation pilot, which was held by an independent facilitator, was overwhelmingly positive. May 3rd is the final date to submit the plan to the State Department of Education. Superintendent Scarice stated that he expects to present the plan to the Board at the April 23rd meeting. He also stated that there may need to be a special meeting held prior to May 3rd deadline to review the plan.

Mr. Ruggiero mentioned the scandal that occurred in Atlanta regarding the test scores and the cheating that occurred two years ago and stated that these kinds of occurrences are a threat to public schools.

Superintendent Scarice stated that he believes this Teacher Evaluation Plan will be the right plan for Madison.

7. Board Members' Comments

No comments were offered.

8. Reports from Board Committees / Liaison

8.1. Planning Committee

Members: Jean Fitzgerald, Chair
Bill Clorite
Pam Meier

The next scheduled Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2013.

8.2. Personnel Committee

Members: John Dean, Chair
Cindy Wood, Vice Chair
Robert Ruggiero

Mr. Dean stated that the committee has been very busy. Last week the committee met with NAGE regarding the cafeteria workers. The next negotiation meeting with this group is scheduled for April 11, 2013. He also reported that negotiations for M.A.E.S.S. are scheduled to begin on April 4, 2013. Mr. Dean also announced the Union Teamster contracts have been finalized through June 2015.

Ms. Frey thanked the Personnel Committee for the all of their efforts during the past year.

8.3. Policy Committee

Members: Seth Klaskin, Chair
Ryan Suerth
Cindy Wood

Atty. Klaskin stated that the committee met prior to the Board meeting and will reconvene after the meeting to discuss the school year calendar. The committee discussed ways to address the effects of unscheduled school closings on the school calendar. He also stated that, in accordance with the law, the Board has reduced the instructional days from 183 to 180.

Atty. Klaskin stated that the last day of school for students is June 25, 2013.

Atty. Klaskin stated that Board members have received input from the community regarding cutting days from this past February vacation as well as cutting days from April vacation. The committee agreed that with the calendar being approved two years in advance it would be unfair to students and faculty to cut days from already planned vacations.

Atty. Klaskin stated that having classes run through the last week of June would make it difficult for seniors to attend their college orientations which many of them now occur the last week of June. Atty. Klaskin also stated that it was recommended to the Board that the Commencement Ceremony date be set for June 21, 2013.

8.4. Finance Committee

Members: Bill Clorite, Chair
Jean Fitzgerald
Cindy Wood

The next scheduled Finance meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2013.

8.5. Ad-Hoc Community Relations Committee

Members: Ryan Suerth, Chair
Pam Meier
Cindy Wood

Mr. Suerth reported that the Ad Hoc Community Relations Committee met on March 28, 2013. The Committee was appointed by Chairman Frey approximately 1 ½ years ago to improve community relations. Mr. Suerth discussed that the *Board Bridge* newsletter had only gone out once since. He also stated that the community should be aware of what goes on during board meetings as well as in the schools.

Mr. Suerth had two recommendations regarding the Ad Hoc Committee. The first is to disband the committee and the second is to assign one Board member as the Communications Coordinator to continue getting information out to the community.

Ms. Meier stated that people in the community should know about upcoming events. The communications coordinator would contact the chairperson of each committee to gather information to be reported to the community.

Ms. Wood stated that when the Ad Hoc Committee was formed 1 ½ years ago it was needed to improve communication. Since Superintendent Scarice gets out the community with brown bag lunches, etc. the committee needs to rethink how information is relayed to the public. Ms. Wood noted they need to reach all people that don't attend the lunches or watch the board meeting on television.

Superintendent Scarice stated that a one page newsletter distributed once a month regarding things that are going on would be powerful.

Ms. Meier stated that more information on all of schools would be helpful. Also, the community would like to know what their tax dollars are being used for.

Ms. Frey then stated that the Ad Hoc Committee had fulfilled their charge and the committee would be disbanded. There will be a Board Retreat at a later date to further discuss communication.

8.6. LEARN Liaison

Liaison: Robert Ruggiero

Nothing new to report.

9. Audience Response to Information Presented

There were no audience responses.

10. Consent Agenda

10.1. Bills Payable: \$2,239.70 – 2011/2012 Budget and \$960,347.50 – 2012/2013 Budget

10.2. Line Transfers: \$22,439.29

10.3. Budget Expenditure Report as of March 27, 2013

10.4. Donation: \$1,125 to K.H. Ryerson Elementary School from the K.H. Ryerson Elementary PTO to fund field trips for all classes.

10.5. Donation: \$3,800 to Island Avenue School from Island Avenue School PTO to fund spring field trips.

MOTION: by Dean seconded by Wood to approve the Consent Agenda.
 AYES: Dean, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Ruggiero, Suerth, Wood
 NAYS: None
 MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

11. Action Item: Minutes of the March 14, 2013 Board of Education Special Meeting

MOTION: by Klaskin seconded by Wood to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2013 Board of Education Special Meeting.
 AYES: Dean, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Wood, Ruggiero
 NAYS: None
 ABSTENTIONS: Suerth
 MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

12. Action Item: Minutes of the March 19, 2013 Board of Education Meeting

MOTION: by Klaskin seconded by Wood to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2013 Board of Education Meeting.
 AYES: Dean, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Suerth, Wood
 NAYS: None
 ABSTENTIONS: Fitzgerald and Ruggiero
 MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

13. Schedule the Daniel Hand High School Commencement Ceremony

MOTION: by Klaskin seconded by Wood to schedule the Daniel Hand High School Commencement Ceremony for June 21, 2013.
 AYES: Dean, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Wood, Ruggiero
 ABSTENTIONS: Suerth
 NAYS: None
 MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

14. Old Business

No old business to report.

15. New Business

No new business to report.

16. Future Agenda Items

To have the evaluation of the Superintendent after the next Board Meeting or conduct a Special Meeting.

17. Meetings / Dates of Importance

Meetings / Dates of Importance	Date	Time	Location
Planning Committee Meeting	April 4, 2013	7:30 AM	Conference Room B
Finance Committee Meeting	April 9, 2013	7:30 AM	Conference Room B
April Break	April 15-19, 2013		
Finance Committee Meeting	April 23, 2013	7:30 AM	Conference Room B
Policy Committee Meeting	April 23, 2013	6:30 PM	Conference Room B
Board of Education Meeting	April 23, 2013	7:30 PM	Hammonasett Room
Planning Committee Meeting	April 25, 2013	7:30 AM	Conference Room B

18. Adjournment

MOTION: by Dean seconded by Meier
to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.
AYES: Dean, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Ruggiero,
Suerth, Wood
NAYS: None
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Submitted for approval at 4/23/2013BOE Meeting.
L. Feinn

Meetings / Dates of Importance	Date	Time	Location
Planning Committee Meeting	April 25, 2013	7:30 AM	Conference Room B
Finance Committee Meeting	May 7, 2013	7:30 AM	Conference Room B
Board Of Education Meeting	May 7, 2013	7:30 PM	Hammonasset Room