

## **SUBJECT TO APPROVAL**

**Madison Public Schools  
Board of Education Regular Meeting  
February 11, 2020  
7:30 PM  
Town Campus Hammonasset Room**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

#### **1. Call to Order / Attendance**

The public meeting of the Madison Board of Education was called to order by Chair Katie Stein at 7:32 p.m. Chair Stein led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Kirk Barneby, Galen Cawley, Greg DeSantis, Diane Infantine-Vyce, Violet McNerney, Catherine Miller, Emily Rosenthal, Katie Stein

#### **2. School / Community Session - 7:30 p.m.**

##### **2.1. Recognition**

###### **2.1.1. "Time for Payback" Scholarship Winner - Ameen Parks**

Superintendent Scarice introduced Dave Tommaso, Daniel Hand Math Teacher and Ameen Parks, Daniel Hand Senior. Ameen provided the Board with information regarding the NextGen Personal Finance scholarship contest, "Time for Payback", a game that simulates making choices in college and learning about student loan debt. Students were asked to respond to one of the writing prompts, and Ameen was one of the two winners from the State of CT, resulting in the award of a \$500 scholarship.

###### **2.1.2. National School Counseling Week - February 3-7, 2020**

"School Counselors: Helping Build Better Humans," was celebrated from Feb. 3–7, 2020, to focus public attention on the unique contribution of school counselors across the nation. National School Counseling Week, sponsored by the American School Counseling Association, highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career. National School Counseling Week is always celebrated the first full week in February. All school counselors were invited to tonight's meeting, but were unable to attend.

##### **2.2. Public Participation - none**

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

Jacqueline Sandor and Eric Dillner

Jackie Sandor reported the Children's Charity Club will be selling valentines this Friday. The Indoor Boys Track Team just won the SCC East Sectional Championship.

Eric Dillner reported course selections have been turned in and sr. photos are done. An online social/emotional survey was taken in PAW last week. Boy's hockey beat Guilford 3-1; hoping to win

tomorrow's away game. Superintendent Scarice added Madison also beat Lyman Hall and talked about the spotlight video which focuses on Eric and his sports/work habits.

#### **4. Superintendent's Report**

Thomas R. Scarice

##### **4.1. Daniel Hand High School 2019 School Search Institute Survey: Profiles of Student Life, Attitudes and Behaviors Presentation and Analysis in Collaboration with Catherine Barden, Assistant Director Community Support, Madison Youth and Family Services**

Superintendent Scarice introduced Catherine Barden, Assistant Director of Community Support, Madison Youth & Family Services. Mrs. Barden gave a presentation summarizing the 2019 School Survey Results, topics of which included alcohol, marijuana, prescription drug and vaping use and depression and anxiety. The survey also addressed the 40 Developmental Assets, which Mrs. Barden noted have increased since the last survey.

##### **4.2 Other Matters - none**

#### **5. Board Members' Comments**

Chair Stein reported that she attended the February 10, 2020 Board of Selectmen meeting. The referendum timeline was an agenda item; however, the referendum date is yet to be established. Mrs. Stein stated the Board of Education will move forward with communications regarding the Facilities Renewal Plan based on a fall referendum date (possibly October 6 or November 3). More information will be provided from the Communications Committee.

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

##### **6.1. Curriculum and Student Development**

Galen Cawley, Chair, Greg DeSantis, Catherine Miller

The committee met on February 4, and Mr. Cawley provided an update on the following:

- Training and phonics materials in the elementary schools. Erin Chester gave a detailed look at the extensive amount of work involved with phonics training.
- Examining benchmarks of progress, with improvement noted in English Language Arts, Grades 3 and 4. The committee is analyzing the results of the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and reviewed the accountability index (distributed to all Board members).
- New K-5 report card layout is now online. Assistant Superintendent Dahling-Hench spoke to parent contributions regarding the new components of the report card.
- Reviewed results of the Easy CMB.
- Kindergarten registration is taking place onsite at Jeffrey and Ryerson March 16 & 17.

##### **6.2. Communications Committee**

Emily Rosenthal, Chair, Greg DeSantis, Kirk Barneby

Mrs. Rosenthal reported the committee met this evening, the focus of which was the communication message plan for the Facilities Renewal Plan. Zoe Roos, District Communication Specialist, was in attendance; the group discussed priorities in terms of getting information published and when and worked on a timeline. Ms. Roos will be working on a series of documents

addressing potential questions and what a yes and no vote would mean to the district. Mrs. Rosenthal encouraged board members to send any questions or concerns to Ms. Roos.

**6.3. Facilities Committee**

Tom Pellegrino, Chair, Kirk Barneby, Galen Cawley

No report.

**6.4. Finance Committee**

Kirk Barneby, Chair, Galen Cawley, Tom Pellegrino

No report.

**6.5. Personnel Committee**

Violet McNerney, Chair, Diane Infantine-Vyce, Catherine Miller

No report.

**6.6. Policy Committee**

Greg DeSantis, Chair, Violet McNerney, Emily Rosenthal

Mr. DeSantis reported the Policy Committee met this evening and discussed edits to Policy #1140, Distribution of Materials, which will be brought forward for a first reading at the March 10 Board meeting. The committee also discussed the Suspension/Expulsion policy; further discussions will take place in March with input from high school administrators. Five policies are presented this evening for a first reading:

Policy #1210 - Parent-Teacher Organizations

Policy #1325 - Advertising and Promotion

Policy #1330 - Community Use of School Facilities

Policy #1340 - Otherwise Lawful Possession of Firearms on School Property

Policy #1360 - School Volunteers

**6.7. CIP Committee**

Katie Stein, Kirk Barneby

No report.

**6.8. LEARN Liaison**

Diane Infantine-Vyce

No report.

**6.9. Board of Selectmen Liaison**

Scott Murphy

Mr. Murphy was not in attendance this evening.

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

**8. Consent Agenda (Ref. Bylaw #9540.2 and 9540.8)**

### **8.1. Budget Expenditure as of January 30, 2020**

MOTION: by Barneby, seconded by DeSantis to approve the Consent Agenda.

AYES: Barneby, Cawley, DeSantis, Infantine-Vyce, McNerney, Miller, Rosenthal, Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

**9. Action Item:** Motion to request from the Boards of Selectmen and Finance a special appropriation of \$65,000 to fund the Madison Public Schools / External Placements for Special Education Reserve Fund.

MOTION: by DeSantis, seconded by Barneby to approve the request to the Board of Selectmen and Finance a special appropriation of \$65,000 to fund the Madison Public Schools / External Placements for Education Reserve Fund.

AYES: Barneby, Cawley, DeSantis, Infantine-Vyce, McNerney, Miller, Rosenthal, Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

**10. Action Item:** Approval of minutes of the January 21, 2020 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Barneby, seconded by McNerney to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2019 Board of Education meeting as amended.

AYES: Barneby, Cawley, DeSantis, Infantine-Vyce, McNerney, Miller, Rosenthal, Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

**11. Action Item:** Approval of donation of Automatic External Defibrillator to Brown school from Defibtech, Guilford, CT

MOTION: by Barneby, seconded by McNerney to approve the donation of an Automatic External Defibrillator to Brown School from Defibtech of Guilford, CT.

AYES: Barneby, Cawley, DeSantis, Infantine-Vyce, McNerney, Miller, Rosenthal, Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

**12. Old Business**

**13. Future Agenda Items**

**14. Meetings / Dates of Importance (see attached)**

**15. Action Item: Enter into Executive Session to Discuss Mid-Year Evaluation of Superintendent**

MOTION: by DeSantis, seconded by Cawley to enter into Executive Session to discuss the mid-year evaluation of the Superintendent.

AYES: Barneby, Cawley, DeSantis, Infantine-Vyce, McNerney, Miller, Rosenthal, Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

**16. Adjournment**

MOTION: by Barneby, seconded by Infantine-Vyce to adjourn the meeting at 10:27 p.m.

AYES: Barneby, Cawley, DeSantis, Infantine-Vyce, McNerney, Miller, Rosenthal, Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

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