

**Madison Public Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
May 09, 2017
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 Jean Fitzgerald at 7:35 p.m. Chairman Fitzgerald led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Jessica Bowler; Galen Cawley; Jean Fitzgerald; Alison Keating; Happy Marino; Katie Stein

Seth Klaskin entered the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Also present: Thomas Scarice, Superintendent of Schools; Gail Dahling-Hench, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; students; and community members.

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

2.1. Recognition

2.1.1. National Teachers Week - May 1-5, 2017

Superintendent Scarice introduced Mike Ginsburg Madison Education Association President who attending the meeting representing the teachers of Madison Public Schools.

Superintendent Scarice noted that National Teacher Appreciation Day, also known as National Teacher Day, is observed on the Tuesday of the first full week in May. This day is part of Teacher Appreciation Week, which is the first full week in May of each year.

The National Education Association describes National Teacher Day *“as a day for honoring teachers and recognizing the lasting contributions they make to our lives”*.

Teachers play a critical role in educating and shaping our children: the future leaders of our country. They are kind, patient, hard-working, dedicated and understanding professionals that mold our children’s lives in a positive direction.

2.1.2. National Nurses Week - May 6-12, 2017

Superintendent Scarice introduced the nurses who were in attendance of the meeting. Karen Owen, Dashana Kytte, Stephanie Bulyk, Wendy Flynn and Maura Cutler

Superintendent Scarice noted that American Nurses Association has designated 2017 as the "Year of the Healthy Nurse. It's all about celebrating nurses like you who lead the charge for health and wellness.

National Nurses Day is celebrated annually on May 6 to raise awareness of the important role **nurses** play in society. It marks the beginning of **National Nurses Week**, which ends on May 12, the birthday of Florence Nightingale. "Advocating, leading, caring" - the slogan of the American Nursing Association (ANA).

Superintendent Scarice noted that Karen Owen has been nominated for Nurse of the Year. Ms. Owen recognized Maura Cutler for her recent recognition by her peers which will take place at National Nurses Day in Stratford.

2.1.3. Administrative Assistant Day - April 26, 2017

National Administrative Professionals' Day, also known as Secretaries Day or Admin Day, is observed on the Wednesday of the last full week in April of each year. It is a day to recognize the work of secretaries, administrative assistants, receptionists and other administrative support professionals.

U.S. Secretary of Commerce, Charles Sawyer proclaimed the first observance of National Secretaries Week as June 1-7, 1952. Wednesday, June 4, 1952, was designated the first National Secretaries Day.

The name of the observance was changed to Professional Secretary Day/Week in 1981 when the National Secretaries Association became Professional International (PSI). The name change reflects the ever changing job titles and expanding responsibilities of today's administrative workforce.

2.2. Public Participation

Mr. Madhavan Parthasarthy of 21 Dover Lane
Should the referendum fail what will happen to the recently voted on closing of Island Avenue Elementary School and rebuilding a new one? Superintendent Scarice stated that Island Avenue will more than likely still close and that the students would be relocated between Jeffrey and Ryerson Elementary Schools.

3. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report Aidan Hughes and Emily Baker

Ms. Baker and Mr. Hughes reported on the following:

Aidan stated that he was accepted in his college of choice in Toronto.

Mester 6 started yesterday.

This coming Saturday the junior prom will take place. There is a Facebook chat set up where students are posting their dresses as well as where and when tickets can be purchased.

There will be a pre-prom discussion will be held on Thursday regarding the opioid abuse which has been approved by the Department of Justice.

Red Cross held a blood drive last week at Madison Public Schools.

The art show will take place on May 18, 2017 on the Bridge.

The Daniel Hand High School Band Concert will take place May 18, 2017.

4. Superintendent's Report

Thomas R. Scarice

Superintendent Scarice noted to the Board that he recently sent them an email with some “must” reads.

DHHS Social Studies teacher Laura Stott, was featured again on the widely read educational blog, “Learning Personalized”. Read how Laura met that challenge and worked this year to design projects that are authentic, meaningful, and rigorous.

Superintendent Scarice also made note that the The US News and World Report high school rankings are out again and again it is a complete farce. Superintendent Scarice stated that he moved to Madison after working here for four years in order for his children to attend the Madison Public Schools. Superintendent Scarice stated that is how much he believes in the Madison Public Schools system.

4.1. PADI - Grade 8 Team Implementation and Results

Dianna Floyd (on behalf of Brian Courtmanche)

The purpose of all academic assessment is to gain accurate information about what students know and can do. Collaboration among individuals scoring an assessment is one proven strategy for increasing the consistency and accuracy of results. Using protocols for examining student work helps to establish guidelines for conversation and build the skills and culture necessary for this important work.

The purpose of calibration is to ensure that a group of educators evaluates student work consistently and in alignment with the scoring rubric. This increases the reliability of the assessment data. When scoring is calibrated, a piece of student work receives the same score regardless of who scores it because all scorers interpret and apply the rubric in the same way. Calibration is necessary because rubrics alone do not ensure consistent scoring of student work.

The purpose is to calibrate the scoring of student work from the PADI Solar Panel Project and to consider the instructional implications of the task, student work, and rubric.

Materials needed for each person: Prompt or task, Task rubric, Student work (copies of 3 samples for all), Score sheet.

The task students were given was to evaluate the feasibility of solar panel installation on a local residential property. The students were to play a role of the solar panel installation

consultant. The situation the students were given was to be hired by a homeowner to make a recommendation concerning installation of panels that takes into consideration full financial analysis as well as environmental and social concerns and impacts.

The students would create an effective presentation to help homeowners make a decision about whether they should consider installing solar panels.

4.2. Social-Emotional Wellness Team

Becky Frost and Team

The Madison Public Schools understands that the number one job of the school system is to make sure we have a highly engaging, individually responsive curriculum and a great teacher in every classroom. Yet, there is so much more to educating a child than academics. The MPS acknowledges all facets of children and childhood. The Social Emotional Wellness Committee serves as the “watchdog” for our students SEL health, asking, “What is best for kids?” in all we do. The Social Emotional Wellness Committee was established to plan for K-12 Social Emotional Wellness policy and programming.

Last year the committee worked to establish K-4 programming with the adoption of the *Responsive Classroom* model. When students feel emotionally safe and supported, they are more available for learning.

We know keeping our students available for learning is not always about big programs. It’s in the little, day-to-day decisions, too. For example, it is why we have worked to:

- Add extra recess at the K-4 level
- Revise our HW policy
- Continue the Trimester model at the high school
- Continue to teaming model in the middle schools

In year two of this committee, we are 49 members strong- a true testament to how much our Madison faculty and staff care about our kids! This team consists of:

- Administrators
- K-12 Classroom teachers
- Special Education teachers and coordinators
- School psychologists
- School social workers
- Guidance counselors
- As well as Scott Cochran and Angela from Madison Youth and Family Services

Our team strives to create a unified, common approach to how we structure our school days and our programming to meet the needs of all our kids

We accomplished three major takes this year that will serve as the foundation for our future planning for SEL Health:

1. Creation of a K-12 guiding document for Social Emotional Health
2. Selection of programming for direct instruction of SEL in grades 5-8: Responsive Classroom
3. Creation of a K-8 SRBI model for tiered SEL instruction

As we move to the 2017-2018 school year, we will continue to be the clearinghouse for SEL policy and programming changes

4.3. Other Matters

Superintendent Scarice stated that the special work for ACA/SE would not happen without Assistant Superintendent Gail Dahling-Hench.

Superintendent Scarice noted that the District have a, but focused meeting with Colliers and DRA last week. The meeting was intended to prepare for a site visit at Ryerson from the State Department of Education as part of securing reimbursement. Chuck Warrington facilitated the meeting and Jim Barrett was very helpful in planning our visit.

5. Board Members' Comments

No comments were made.

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

6.1. Planning Committee

Members: Jessica Bowler, Chair; Galen Cawley, Alison Keating

Ms. Bowler reported on the following from the April 18, 2017 Planning Committee Meeting.

Greece Trip

Martin Glasser came to discuss a trip to Greece for April 2018 vacation. The trip will be on the mainland – Athens (no islands).

- Goal is 25 kids with 3 chaperones from DHHS plus one from the travel company – Explorica for a total of 4 adults.
- Explorica is Martin's choice for his trips due to their experience with this location and their relationship with DHHS and Martin.
- As in the case for all trips the Code of Conduct will be followed.
- This is a new trip for Hand but sounds very educational.
- We will ask for this to be voted on tonight.

National Honor Society Dismissal Procedures

Laura Stott – National Honor Society Chair at Hand and Grade 11 Social Studies teacher

- Worked to create a process from warning to dismissal for when these situations arise.
- We had one instance arise over the last few years and realized at that time a process was needed.
- This will be put in place for the 2017 incoming Honor Society inductees

School Utilization Facilities Study

We reviewed the slides and the information that was presented at our meeting on the evening of April 18th.

Quebec Trip

Mary Merkle-Scotland came to discuss a trip to Quebec for the mini-break in February 2018.

- Goal is 30 kids with 4 chaperones from DHHS
- Mary has used this tour company before - Prometore
- As in the case for all trips the Code of Conduct will be followed.
- They will travel to Quebec via bus.
- Will take any kids from French 2 and above and also open to non-French language kids if interested
- We will ask for this to be voted on tonight.

England Trip

Amy Zupan came to discuss a trip for Summer 2018 – AP English Literature Tour to England

- Goal is 24 kids with 4 chaperones
- EF will be the tour company – same as the Spanish Trips (Costa Rica and Spain)
- As in the case for all trips the Code of Conduct will be followed.
- This is a new trip for Hand but sounds very educational.
- Open to seniors and juniors (2018-2019 school year) and kids that have a passion for English Literature.
- We will ask for this to be to be voted on tonight.

Ms. Bowler reported on the following from the May 9, 2017 Planning Committee Meeting.

Design of Grade 4 - PADI

The Planning Committee discussed the Grade 4 ELA, Science and Social Studies interdisciplinary assessment that was developed and implemented using the PADI method.

SRBI Update (Scientific Research Based Intervention) - K-8

Math and ELA had intervention but we will now have intervention for the Social-Emotional side too.

SST process (student study team process) is being reviewed and we now want to look at the whole child and a problem solving approach. Looking at the numbers as well as so much more than just the numbers.

The team also developed a list of extensive tools for teachers to use when considering kids of intervention or working with kids receiving intervention.

Textbook Adoptions: For consideration and to be voted on at next meeting

Sports and American Culture - A Brief History of American Sports is the recommended book

25 copies - Social Studies elective 10-12th graders

Modern Middle East - Resurrecting Empire: Western Footprints and America's Perilous Path in the Middle East is the recommended book

25 copies - Social Studies elective 10-12th graders

6.2. Personnel Committee

Members: John Dean, Chair, Alison Keating, Happy Marino

Ms. Marino stated that the committee is awaiting the results from NAGE regarding the results of their contract ratification.

6.3. Policy Committee

Members: Katie Stein Chair; Seth Klaskin, Matt Keller

No report was given. The Policy Committee has not met since the last Board meeting.

6.4. Finance Committee

Members: Alison Keating, Chair; Alison Keating, Jessica Bowler, Happy Marino

Ms. Keating stated that the budget was approved by the Board of Finance and the Board of Selectmen. Referendum date will take place on May 16, 2017.

Atty. Klaskin urged that everyone get out and vote.

6.5. LEARN Liaison

Katie Stein

No report was given. The next LEARN meeting will take place this Thursday.

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

No comments were made.

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

8.1. Bills Payable: \$97.81 2015-2016 Budget and \$1,004,765.59 - 2016-2017 Budget

8.2. Line Transfers: \$58,921.03

8.3. Budget Expenditure as of May 3, 2017

8.4. Donation: \$10,000.00 to J. Milton Jeffrey Elementary School from the J. Milton Jeffrey Elementary School PTO for school resources.

- 8.5.** Donation: \$3,339.14 to J. Milton Jeffrey Elementary School from the METER Group, Inc. for instructional supplies to support instruction in the area of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM).

MOTION: by Bowler seconded by Keating_ to approve the Consent Agenda.

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; Fitzgerald; Keating; Klaskin; Marino; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Atty. Klaskin thanked both J. Milton Jeffrey Elementary School PTO and METER Group, Inc. for the generous donations to J. Milton Jeffrey Elementary School.

- 9.** Action Item: Minutes of the April 4, 2017 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by _Keating seconded by Bowler to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2017 Board of Education Meeting.

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; Fitzgerald; Keating; Klaskin; Marino; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

- 10.** Action Item: Minutes of the April 18, 2017 Board of Education Meeting to be tabled until the May 23, 2017 Board of Education Meeting.

MOTION: by Klaskin seconded by Keating to be tabled until the April 18, 2017 Board of Education Minutes until the May 23, 2017 Board of Education Meeting.

AYES: Bowler; Cawley;; Fitzgerald; Keating; Klaskin; Marino; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

- 11.** Action Item: To approve the Quebec Trip – February 16-19, 2018

MOTION: by Planning to approve the Quebec Trip – February 16-19, 2018

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; Fitzgerald; Keating; Klaskin; Marino; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

12. Action Item To approve the England Trip – Summer 2018

MOTION: by Planning to approve the England Trip – Summer 2018

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; Fitzgerald; Keating; Klaskin; Marino; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

13. Action Item. To approve the Greece Trip – April 13-21, 2018

MOTION: by Planning to approve the Greece Trip – April 13-21, 2018

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; Fitzgerald; Keating; Klaskin; Marino; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

14. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

15. Future Agenda Items

No future items were discussed.

16. Meetings / Dates of Importance (see attached)

May-June 2017 Calendars

Ms. Fitzgerald reminded everyone to vote to the Referendum which will take place on May 16, 2017.

17. Adjournment

MOTION: by Keating seconded by Klaskin to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; Fitzgerald; Keating; Klaskin; Marino; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Approved at the May 23, 2017 Board of Education Meeting
LF