

**Madison Public Schools  
Board of Education Regular Meeting  
September 06, 2016  
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 Ms. Jean Fitzgerald at 7:34 PM. Ms. Fitzgerald led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Jessica Bowler; Galen Cawley; John Dean; Jean Fitzgerald; Alison Keating;  
Matt Keller; Seth Klaskin, Happy Marino; Katie Stein

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

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

**2.1. Public Participation**

Mr. Arthur Symonds of 65 Bartlett Drive stated his concerns regarding the school utilization study options of building new as opposed to renovating existing properties. Mr. Symonds also stated his concern regarding the potential length of time 5 year old students would be spending on the bus being approximately 45 minutes.

Mr. Charles Bowe of 37 Green Hill Road stated his concerned regarding the busing routes. Mr. Bowe stated he sent a letter to Superintendent Scarice as well as Ms. Fitzgerald. Superintendent Scarice and Ms. Fitzgerald stated that they would be in contact with Mr. Bowe regarding the situation.

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

Aidan Hughes and Emily Baker (not in attendance)

No report was given.

**4. Superintendent's Report**

Thomas R. Scarice

**4.1. School Opening Update**

Superintendent Scarice reported that it was a great start to the school year. Superintendent Scarice stated that over 200 plus people attended the professional development days last week. Superintendent Scarice stated that the first school day was uneventful.

Superintendent Scarice also stated that over the course of the year at many Board of Education meetings there will be a 10-15 minute follow-up presentation regarding

changes the Board has made to the classrooms as well as the District over the past year.

#### 4.2. School Facilities Utilization Study Update & Discussion

Ms. Fitzgerald stated that the Board is still reviewing options of the school utilization study and whether the District should be a 5 or a 4 school District. Ms. Fitzgerald also stated busing will also be discussed. With possible options being adding buses or adjusting bell time's to stay within the Districts limit of a 45 minute bus ride.

Superintendent Scarice stated that at the September 20, 2016 Board Meeting it will be a Tri-Board meeting to further discuss the school facilities utilization study.

The approximate operating cost and potential savings, as well as the construction costs of each option were discussed.

Once a District model has been chosen a construction manager as well as a building committee will be put into place.

Ms. Nobitz went over the school utilization study options as well as the financials associated with each options. Ms. Nobitz discussed the estimated annual debt service associated with each option and the resulting difference in the Town's mil rate.

Superintendent Scarice reported that there are currently 2951 student enrolled at Madison Public Schools.

#### 4.3. Other Matters

No other matters were discussed.

#### 5. Board Members' Comments

Ms. Keating stated that she attended her first convocation this year and thought it was very nice and she enjoyed being a speaker at the event.

#### 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:

##### **Update on summer MITT Work**

60 classrooms are going to pilot google classroom this fall (in lieu of final site)  
A parent/teacher survey will be conducted to evaluate.

The Board of Education will receive a report this spring.

Device group – more updates to come on this group's work.

CTE – in addition to the ongoing curriculum writing the committee is going to look at a K-12 audit around coding. The committee will report back to the Board after the audit is complete.

### **Update on staff development days (4 professional development days in August)**

Ms. Dahling-Hench's team reviewed the surveys and the impact. Ms. Bowler stated that it was very well received across the board. Ms. Bowler noted that there was a mix of internal and external speakers for the PD days. The teachers also spoke about how the students will directly benefit from the PD conducted in August.

### **CIP – Reviewed again the 5 year CIP plan**

The numbers have been updated from 2 weeks ago however the projects remain the same. Ms. Bowler asked the Board to take action on the CIP 5 year plan tonight.

### **School Utilization Facilities Study**

Ms. Bowler reported that the study was discussed at length during tonight's Planning Committee Meeting. Ms. Bowler reminded the Board that the September 20, 2016 Board Meeting will be a Tri-Board meeting to further discuss the study. Ms. Bowler stated that the Committee is hoping for a decision in October and to then move to the next step on the timeline.

#### **6.2. Personnel Committee**

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

Mr. Dean stated that the next round of negotiations will be held in March and April of 2017.

#### **6.3. Policy Committee**

Members: Katie Stein, Chair, Seth Klaskin, Matt Keller

No report was given.

#### **6.4. Finance Committee**

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

Ms. Keating noted that the committee has not met since the last Board Meeting. Ms. Keating stated that at the next Finance Committee meeting they will be discussing Budget Assumptions as well as the budget calendar development.

#### **6.5. LEARN Liaison**

No report was given. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday morning.

### **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: \$63,473.43 2015-2016 Budget; \$329,641.33 2016-2017 Budget**

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**8.2. Budget Expenditure as of August 31, 2015**

MOTION: by Bowler seconded by Klaskin to approve the consent agenda.

AYES: Bowler, Cawley, Dean, Fitzgerald, Keating, Keller, Klaskin, Marino, Stein

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

**9. Action Item: Minutes of the August 23, 2016 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)**

MOTION: by Klaskin seconded by Bowler to approve the minutes of the August 23, 2016 Board of Education Meeting.

AYES: Bowler, Cawley, Fitzgerald, Keating, Klaskin, Stein

ABSTENTIONS: Dean, Keller, Marino

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

**10. Old Business**

No new business was discussed.

**11. Future Agenda Items**

No future items were discussed.

**12. Meetings / Dates of Importance:**

Planning Committee Mtg. September 20, 8:45 a.m. Room B

Finance Committee Mtg. September 20, 5:30 p.m. Room B

Policy Committee Mtg. September 20, 6:30 p.m. Room B

Board of Education Mtg. September 20, 7:30 p.m. Hammo Room

**13. Action Item: To add the CIP 5 year plan to the agenda.**

MOTION: by Planning to add the CIP 5 year plan to the agenda.

AYES: Bowler, Cawley, Dean Fitzgerald, Keating, Keller, Klaskin, Marino, Stein

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

**14. Action Item: To approve the CIP 5 year plan.**

MOTION: by Planning to approve the CIP 5 year plan to the agenda.

AYES: Bowler, Cawley, Dean Fitzgerald, Keating, Keller, Klaskin, Marino, Stein

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

**15. Action Item:** To enter into Executive Session to discuss pending litigations.

MOTION: by Klaskin seconded by Keating to enter into Executive Session to discuss pending litigations. At 8:30 PM

AYES: Bowler, Cawley, Dean Fitzgerald, Keating, Keller, Klaskin, Marino, Stein

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

**16. Adjournment**

MOTION: by Dean seconded by Bowler to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 PM

AYES: Bowler, Cawley, Dean, Fitzgerald, Keating, Keller, Klaskin, Marino, Stein

NAYS:

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

To be approved at the 9/20/16 BOE Meeting  
LF