

**Madison Public Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
December 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 Vice Chair Alison Keating at 7:33p.m. Vice Chairman Keating led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Jessica Bowler; Galen Cawley; John Dean; 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; students; and community members.

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

2.1. Public Participation

Mr. George Dayharsh of 158 Dorset Lane

Mr. Dayharsh recommended to the Board having more cursive writing be taught in all grades. Perhaps 15 minutes a day 3 times a week.

3. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report

Aidan Hughes and Emily Baker

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

The play Pink Panther Strikes again went well and they received positive feedback. The next show that will take place will be a medley of four musicals which will include Hamlet, Wicked, School House Rocks and Chicago. There will be four songs performed from each musical. The first informational meeting will be held this Thursday and tryouts to begin next week.

Track and field will be starting up in 2 weeks.

Daniel Hand High School band will be traveling to Disney later this week.

DHHS has starting collecting for Toys for Teens to be donated to Yale.

Finals end Wednesday and they have been stressful. There have been resources such as dogs brought in to help relieve some of the stress. Trimester 2 will begin on Thursday.

A concert was held last Sunday at the Congregational Church.

4. Superintendent's Report Thomas R. Scarice

4.1. Science Curriculum Renewal Update (on file) Kirk Samuelson

Mr. Samuelson presented the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). The K-12 science content standards cover every grade and every scientific discipline, setting expectations for what students should know and be able to do in science.

NGSS incorporates a thoughtful and deliberate integration of three distinct dimensions known as (3D) learning:"

- Science & Engineering Practices (SEPs)
- Disciplinary Core Ideas (DCIs)
- Crosscutting Concepts (CCCs)

The NGSS represent a fundamental shift in science education and requires a different approach to teaching science than has been done in the past.

Inquiry-Based Learning in the Science Classroom

- Provide Opportunities for Student Control and Ownership
- Support and Promote Intellectual Engagement
- Provide Students Experience with how knowledge is built and communicated in the real world
- Uncover and develop students ideas
- Incorporate real world connections and applications

NGSS Phenomena (and Problems) Must...

- Be observable
- Be very specific in scope (but not have a simple answer)
- Give purpose for and context to the unit and/or lessons
- Be able to spark scientific questions (or problems solvable by engineering) among students
- Be able to be explained (and/or made predictions from and /or applied) using NGSS Core Ideas.

3-D Learning – Emulates what real Science is like in the sense that it will allow students to truly think like scientists.

“In order for teachers to really understand the change in instructions, they have to be able to live it, breathe it, and work with it. This requires time, training, and patience.”

Mr. Samuelson noted that there were a lot of people involved with NGSS and wanted to thank all of them for their contributions. Mr. Samuelson stated that you learn science by doing science.

Superintendent Scarice stated that there has been a significant shift in LA/Math and hoping for the same results with science.

Mr. Keller asked how long the transition took for LA and Ms. Nadeau stated it took roughly 2-3 years.

Ms. Marino asked if a PD currently exists for science. Ms. Dahling-Hench stated that it is fairly new and that there are several packages and the District needs to find the best fit for them.

4.2. Coastal Connections Program – DHHS (on file)
Michael Docker

Mr. Docker presented the following.

The Shoreline Connections Grant is a partnership between Daniel Hand School, the Sound School and Project O. The Shoreline Connections links 9th through 12th grade students for the study of the coastal marine ecosystems of Long Island Sound. This valuable and shared natural resource provides the framework to introduce students to scientific inquiry while they are learning about the diversity of students from other districts.

Students from both schools learned about the following:

- biotic and abiotic characteristics
- three of the major river systems that empty into Long Island Sound
- different towns and different cultures
- tolerance, understanding and cooperation

The students of DHHS attended five field trips with students from the Sound School.

The overall experience was very positive with the students and the teachers. The Project O staff was very knowledgeable, friendly and were prepared and offered fantastic activities.

Superintendent Scarice stated that he was at Daniel Hand while some of the students from Sound School were visiting. Superintendent Scarice stated that he was excited to see how the students from DHHS and Sound School were interacting with each other and how engaged they were.

4.3. Language Arts LAB Classroom Model Update- Grade 7 (on file)
Lisa Caldwell and Lynne Nadeau

Ms. Caldwell and Ms. Nadeau reported on the Lab Classroom.

The Lab Classroom is an opportunity to collaborate in real teaching and learning moments.

Continuous improvement through leveraging the coaching model - with outside experts at times - in a learning lab.

- Teaching in public and studied by colleagues
- Planning is cooperative and curriculum is studied deeply
- Open conversations about student work drives instruction
- Teachers take risks in a safe environment
- Ongoing participation in educational research is essential

Who Cares About Non-Fiction? We do! Why?

To inform ourselves as students, teachers, parents, and citizens!

- Read with a skeptical and critical eye-Do your research
- Look for credibility – facts, science, author’s background, date of resources, objectivity
- Look for bias – generalization, exaggerations, loaded words that create strong emotions, opinions

When the students begin researching a topic they are interested in makes them more excited about the work. For example there were students interested in gun control and the schools SRO sat with the students and the students were able to ask him questions based on the research they had done.

The classroom lab inspires:

- Risk-taking to improve practice
- Digging deeper and more efficaciously into curriculum
- Student engagement and motivation
- Continual professional development and collaboration through a team approach
- Gradual release of responsibility

Ms. Caldwell noted some of the positive feedback from several teachers as well as students.

Ms. Caldwell and Ms. Nadeau both started that it is a unique opportunity to be able to work with Kate Roberts. They also stated that the students love being able to take what they’ve learned and be able to apply it right away. They also stated the students enjoy working in small groups and 1 on 1.

Atty. Klaskin stated that being able to work in small group and working with students 1 on 1 must keep things more interesting for the students as well as the teachers.

- 4.4.** Daniel Hand High School trip to Twinsburg/Cleveland Ohio - February 24-27, 2017 (Grades 9-12) to compete at a nationally recognized show choir festival.

Superintendent Scarice informed the Board of trip for February 2017.

4.5. Other Matters

Superintendent Scarice reported that there is still the fear of the education funding politics where money follows the child which would be placing a dollar amount of each child.

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:

- 1) The committee reviewed the ADS numbers for enrollment projections. These numbers will be used as a guideline for K-1 budgeting. All other classes we will roll their current numbers forward.
- 2) The Committee received an update from the Madison Instructional Technology Team (MITT).

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There are two subcommittees:

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A device subcommittee and a software/instructional tools subcommittee. There will be more to come in the next few Board meetings and during the budget discussions. K-12 devices

- 3) The Committee reviewed the balanced scorecard/strategic objectives document.
- 4) Textbook adoptions new classes will be voted on later in the meeting (Latin3 and AP Latin).
- 5) Program of Studies
To be voted on later in the meeting.

Ms. Dahling-Hench noted the following:

Black American Literature and Humanities

We would like to make a technical change to the Program of Studies proposed and make these courses only offered at Level 1. We would also recommend a name change from Black American Literature to Race, Literature, and Culture as a more accurate title.

Superintendent Scarice stated that the need to override a course selection will be eliminated.

- 6) Daniel Hand High School Health Requirement
 - to get rid of “mesters” for health students will take 2 trimester classes.
 - some additional conversations about other elective classes and other changes – Superintendent Scarice and Assistant Superintendent Dahling-Hench will come back to the Board with this in about month.
- 7) Lab Classroom – grade 7
Presentation was given earlier in the meeting.
- 8) Science Curriculum renewal update
Presentation was given earlier in the meeting.
- 9) Coastal Connection Update
Presentation was given earlier in the meeting.

6.2. Personnel Committee

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

Mr. Dean reported that the NAGE contract will be up for negotiations in March/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 stated that the Budget Assumptions is on the agenda to be voted on later in the meeting. There was only one change made and that was adding to item #4 the wording pending BOE approval. The Board members were each handed an updated copy with the change.

6.5. LEARN Liaison

Katie Stein

No report was given. Next meeting will be held 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: \$21,062.08 2015-2016 Budget; \$1,127,329.52 2016-2017 Budget
- 8.2.** Line Transfers: \$71,663.01
- 8.3.** Budget Expenditure as of November 30, 2016
- 8.4** Donation: \$1,709.00 to Island Avenue Elementary School from Island Avenue Elementary School PTO for HP Design Jet T520 printer and ink.

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

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

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

Atty. Klaskin thanked the Island Avenue Elementary School PTO for their donation of an HP Design Jet T520 printer and ink to the Island Avenue Elementary School.

9. Action Item: Minutes of the November 15, 2016 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Klaskin seconded by Bowler to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2016 Board of Education Meeting.

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; Dean; Keating; Keller; Klaskin; Marino; Stein

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

10. Action Item: To approve the 2017-2018 School Year Calendar

MOTION: by Planning Committee to approve the 2017-2018 School Year Calendar

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; Dean; Keating; Keller; Klaskin; Marino; Stein

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

11. Action Item: Approve the Budget Assumptions

MOTION: by Finance Committee to approve the Budget Assumptions.

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

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

12. Action Item: To approve 2017-2018 Program of Studies

MOTION: by Planning Committee to approve the 2017-2018 Program of Studies

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; Dean; Keating; Keller; Klaskin; Marino; Stein

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

The 2017-2018 Program of Studies was approved with the amended technical update.

13. Action Item: Textbook Adoption (Reference Policy #6100.10) AP Latin (new course in 2017-2018) Vergil's Aeneid: Selected Readings from Books 1, 2, 4, and 6

MOTION: by Planning Committee to adoption AP Latin (new course in 2017-2018) Vergil's Aeneid: Selected Readings from Books 1, 2, 4, and 6

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; Dean; Keating; Keller; Klaskin; Marino; Stein

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

14. Action Item: Textbook Adoption (Reference Policy #6100.10) Latin 3 (new curriculum) A Call to Conquest: Readings from Caesar's Gallic Wars

MOTION: by Planning to adoption Latin 3 (new curriculum) A Call to Conquest: Readings from Caesar's Gallic Wars

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; Dean; Keating; Keller; Klaskin; Marino; Stein

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

15. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

16. Future Agenda Items

No new business was discussed.

**17. Meetings / Dates of Importance (see attached)
December/January Calendars**

18. Adjournment

MOTION: by Dean seconded by Bowler to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

AYES: Bowler; Cawley; Dean; Keating; Keller; Klaskin; Marino; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

Approved at the 12/20/16 BOE Meeting

LF