

**Madison Public Schools
Board of Education Regular Meeting
April 24, 2018
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 7:34 p.m. Chairman Stein led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Galen Cawley; Greg DeSantis; Happy Marino; Violet McNerney; Emily Rosenthal; 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. Recognition

2.1.1. Administrative Assistant Day - April 25, 2018

Superintendent Scarice

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.

During World War II, there was a shortage of skilled administrative personnel in the United States due to Depression-era birth-rate decline and booming post-war business. The National Secretaries Association, founded in 1942, was formed to recognize the contributions of administrative personnel to the economy, support their personal development, and to help attract workers to the administrative field. The National Secretaries Association's name was changed to Professional Secretaries International in 1981 and to the International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP) in 1998.

In 1955, the observance date of National Secretaries Week was moved to the last full week of April, with Wednesday now designated as Administrative Professionals' Day. The name was changed to Professional Secretaries Week in 1981 and became Administrative Professionals Week in 2000 to encompass the expanding responsibilities and wide-ranging job titles of administrative support staff in the modern economy.

Superintendent Scarice thanked all of the administrative staff for all of their hard work. Also, stating that each school as well as town campus will each have their own recognitions.

2.2. Public Participation

No comments were made.

3. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report Emily Baker and Ryan Tomicic

Emily and Ryan reported on the following:

Diversity Week is taking place this week
Senior auction for 2018 class will be held this Friday evening
The process for choosing the new BOE student representative is underway
Spring pep rally took place before spring break
Junior SATs took place today
College Fair is taking place this week for freshmen, sophomores and juniors
Spring sports are in full swing

4. Superintendent's Report Thomas R. Scarice

4.1. Independent Study Student Report (experience at National Conference in Boston)

Four of the five students who took part in the Independent Study Course pilot which took place at the beginning of the school year attended the Board meeting to discuss their experience at the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) conference which took place in Boston last month. There were over 10,000 educators in attendance and that Daniel Hand High School students were the first to ever present at this conference.

The students were able to talk about their experience to numerous educators while attending the conference. The students stated that there were educators from throughout the US, Hawaii, China and beyond. Many of the educators were interested in applying this to their school systems as well as wanting to know the impact it had on the students. The students stated that they loved the freedom and motivation the Independent Study allowed them to have.

Parents of the students also attended the Board meeting and were asked if they were hesitant about the pass/fail class. The parents agreed that they thought this was a great opportunity and did not hesitate having their child participate in the Independent Study pilot.

This year there were 5 students that participated in the pilot and next year there will be 36 students taking part in the Independent Study course.

4.2. Balanced Scorecard

Superintendent Scarice gave a brief summary of the Balanced Scorecard. Superintendent Scarice noted that it will go to the full Board to take action at an upcoming Board meeting.

4.3. Other Matters

Kindergarten enrollment for 2018-2019 had projected 138 students and there are currently 128 registered.

5. Board Members' Comments

Ms. Stein made the following comments:

Tomorrow evening kindergarten open house will take place and there will be a Board member present at each of the elementary schools.

The Executive Committee conducted its Bi-Annual review.

A Board retreat will be scheduled soon.

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

6.1. Planning Committee

Members: Jessica Bowler, Chair; Emily Rosenthal, Happy Marino

Ms. Marino reported on the following:

Planning Committee met this morning. We reviewed an initial draft of recommended 4th and 5th grade schedules for 2019-20 school reconfiguration presented by Julie Phelps and Rebecca Coiteaux. This draft included curriculum hours and specials and potential instructional models. It is still being reviewed and refined and will come back to planning at which point we will share a draft with the board members for any feedback.

Julie and Rebecca also gave us an update on responsive classroom implementation at Brown. They are halfway through the 4 training sessions with 5th and 6th grade staff and expect to complete in June to implement the following year. A nice benefit of the timing is that for the school reconfiguration, 4th and 6th grade teachers will already have experience with the model.

Rebecca and Gail also presented the teacher evaluation plan updates. They have made updates to the Teacher Growth Profile and the Service Provider Growth Profile to align them more closely to the professional development and language the district uses. The board will need to take action and approve the plan for implementation.

We received an updated planning timeline for the school reconfiguration. Additionally we discussed adding a timeline and schedule to the Balanced Scorecard under measures, slightly refining some of the language, and adding in the timing for regular review cycles per measure for full transparency.

6.2. Personnel Committee

Members: Greg DeSantis, Chair, Violet McNerney

No report was given.

6.3. Policy Committee

Members: Emily Rosenthal Chair; Violet McNerney, Seth Klaskin

6.3.1. Policy #4141 - Social Networking (second reading)

Ms. Rosenthal reported the following:

Policy #4141 is being brought to the Board this evening for second reading.

Bylaw #9400 – Organization of the School Board will be brought to the full Board at the May 8, 2018 the Board will take action on waiving the 2nd and 3rd readings and to adopt the bylaw.

6.4. Finance Committee

Members: Happy Marino, Chair; Galen Cawley

Ms. Marino reported the following:

Finance Committee met this evening and reviewed an updated forecast for 2017-18 budget. We are still showing a deficit which makes it unlikely that we will have any funds to return to the town and most likely will require us to utilize the special education reserve fund.

6.5. LEARN Liaison

Emily Rosenthal

Ms. Rosenthal reported on the following:

The LEARN Board of Directors met on April 12, 2018. The Director of Student Support Services gave a presentation on the Student Support Services Program, including a history of the program and the development of services, in addition to outlining the capabilities of a new diagnostic center. The Center is comprised of professional staff, including a child psychiatrist, and will help in providing a continuum of support. In addition, all LEARN out programs will be consolidated in one location to help serve complex needs children from Kindergarten through age 21, creating a singular community and easier transitions throughout grade levers. Finally, at the request of a Board Member, the board held a roundtable discussion on regional transportation needs, issues, and challenges and this conversation will continue at the next meeting with a focus on exploring regional transportation solutions.

6.6. Facilities Committee

Members: Seth Klaskin, Chair; Galen Cawley, Greg DeSantis

No report was given.

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: \$2,389.80 2016-2017 Budget - \$345,732.31 2017-2018 Budget

8.2. Line Transfers: \$88,778.66

MOTION: by DeSantis seconded by Marino to approve the Consent Agenda.

AYES: Cawley; DeSantis; Marino; McNerney; Rosenthal; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

9. Action Item: Minutes of the April 10, 2018 Board of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)

MOTION: by Rosenthal seconded by Cawley to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2018 Board of Education Meeting.

AYES: Cawley; DeSantis; Marino; McNerney; Rosenthal; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

10. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

11. Future Agenda Items

Ms. Marino asked if research could be done regarding the school colors.

12. Meetings / Dates of Importance (see attached)

May-June 2018

13. Adjournment

MOTION: by Marino seconded by DeSantis to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

AYES: Cawley; DeSantis; Marino; McNerney; Rosenthal; Stein

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN:

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Approved at the May 8, 2018 Board Meeting.