

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Tuesday, March 20, 2007 7:30 PM

Town Campus Hammonasset Room, 10 Campus Drive , Madison, CT 06443

I. Call to Order / Attendance

II. Executive Session - 6:00 p.m.

III. School Community Session - 7:30 p.m.

III.A. Public Participation

IV. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report

Speaker (s): Jeff Cavallo and Emma Norris

V. Superintendent's Report

Speaker (s): Dr. H. Kaye Griffin

V.A. Information Share: Educational Opportunities for Students and Staff at the Rockland Preserve

Speaker (s): Joe Oslander (Madison Land Conservation Trust)

V.B. Presentation: Final Report of Madison Public Schools' Athletic Department Self-Study 2006-2007 based on the CIAC Standards of Exemplary Interscholastic High School Athletic Program (Developed by the CIAC Visiting Committee)

Speaker (s): Frank Henderson

V.C. Update: Kindergarten Enrollment 2007-2008

Speaker (s): Dr. H. Kaye Griffin

VI. Board Members' Comments

VII. Board Committees / Liaison Updates

VII.A. Planning Committee

Speaker (s): Members: Kathleen Rossini, Chair; Becky Coffey; Debra Frey

VII.B. Personnel Committee

Speaker (s): Members: John Dean, Chair; Becky Coffey; David Yo

VII.C. Policy Committee

Speaker (s): Members: Holly Sellers, Chair; Harriet Gowanlock;

VII.D. Finance Committee

Speaker (s): Members: Becky Coffey, Chair; Harriet Gowanlock; D

VII.E. LEARN Liaison

Speaker (s): Liaison: Kathleen Rossini

VIII. Audience Response to Information Presented

IX. Consent Agenda (Items 9.1 - 9.3) (Reference Bylaw #9540.2 and 9540.8)

IX.A. Bills Payable: \$715,470.33

IX.B. Line Transfers: \$76,281.05

IX.C. Notice of Intent for Instruction of
Student at Home

X. **Action Item: Donation of \$1,000 to Daniel Hand
High School Science Department from Madison
Land Conservation Trust (Reference Policy
#3281)**

XI. **Action Item: Request for Overnight Travel /
CMEA All-State Music Festival (Reference Policy
#5100.8 and 6153)**

XII. **Action Item: Minutes 1.31.07 Meeting (Reference
Bylaw #9540.8)**

XIII. **Action Item: Minutes 3.6.07 (Reference
Bylaw #9540.8)**

XIV. **Action Item: Minutes 3.14.07 (Reference Policy
#9540.8)**

XV. **Old Business**

XVI. **New Business**

XVII. **Future Agenda Items**

XVIII. **Adjournment**

Public Participation Guidelines:

Members of the community are invited to speak on topics of interest and / or topics to be addressed in the agenda. The Board of Education may choose to interact with participants, but will not act upon topics that require further study before action is taken. The participation time will be limited to three (3) minutes per person and fifteen (15) minutes overall to guarantee efficient operation of the entire meeting.

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Consent Agenda:

The following agenda items are designated as routine and appropriate for approval as a single action by the Board of Education, if so desired. A Board member may request removal of any item from the consent agenda for review and discussion.

Board of Education Meeting
March 6, 2007
Town Campus

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order / Attendance

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Chairman Robert Hale at 6:35 p.m.

Present: Becky Coffey, John Dean, Debra Frey, Harriet Gowanlock, Robert Hale, Diana Lynch, Kathleen Rossini, Holly Sellers, David Youngerman.

Also present: Dr. H. Kaye Griffin, Superintendent.

MOTION: by Sellers, seconded by Youngerman to enter Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. to discuss personnel issues.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Lynch, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman.

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

2. Executive Session

Personnel issues were discussed.

MOTION: by Rossini, seconded by Coffey to adjourn Executive Session at 7:28 p.m.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Lynch, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman.

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

The public session of the Board of Education meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Hale at 7:35 p.m. Chairman Hale led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Becky Coffey, John Dean, Debra Frey, Harriet Gowanlock, Robert Hale, Diana Lynch, Kathleen Rossini, Holly Sellers, David Youngerman.

Also present: Dr. H. Kaye Griffin, Superintendent; Anita Rutlin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment; district administrators; faculty; staff; students; community members.

Chairman Hale received consent from the Board to move item 5.1 on the agenda up to item 3.3.A and item 18 to 3.3.B.

Chairman Hale distributed guidelines for public participation at Board of Education meetings. He stated that the meetings are held in public, but are not public meetings. The public participation at the meetings should be limited to items on the agenda and policy issues and that it is inappropriate to discuss personnel issues. He stated that there is a process to discuss personnel issues and these issues are not discussed during public session. He added that the public can contact the various chairmen of the Board of Education's subcommittees with concerns related to their committees area.

3. School Community Session

3.1 Recognition: Polson Middle School Iraq Care Package Project

Dr. Griffin acknowledged Frank Henderson, Principal – Polson Middle School; Mike Woods, Interim Principal – Polson Middle School; Connor Toohey, student; Nicole Natarelli, student; and Morgan Brennan, student. She stated that the Polson Middle School is being recognized for its participation in Operation Kids Care which connects students with servicemen in Iraq.

Mr. Henderson explained that the Iraq Care Package Project was a collaborative effort of students, parents and staff at the Polson School. This is the third year that the school has participated in the program. In 2005, the students received the Governor’s Citizen Award for their participation in Operation Kids Care. A banner was sent to the students from the soldiers in Iraq as a thank you and will hang in the entry of the Polson Middle School.

Miss Brennan reported that over the last three (3) years over six-hundred (600) care packages have been sent to soldiers in Iraq filled with donations. The students prepared the boxes for shipping and completed the customs forms.

Miss Natarelli stated that 224 packages were sent this year to Transport Company #1207 which included letters written from the students.

Mr. Toohey read two (2) letters of appreciation from the soldiers of Transport Company #1207.

Mr. Woods thanked the PTO, Exchange Club, American Legion and VFW for their support in the program.

Chairman Hale presented the staff and students with a certificate of recognition for the participation in the Iraq Care Package Project.

3.2. Recognition: School Social Worker Month

Dr. Griffin reported that March is National Professional School Social Worker Month. She stated that it is important to recognize the important work that the Social Workers do in Madison everyday. Some of their duties include: prevention and intervention; assessment and screening; and counseling. The Social Workers work to promote educational equity and reduce the learning barrier for some students. They handle academic, social, emotional and behavioral issues and are considered experts in human behavior, mental health and human relations.

Chairman Hale presented certificates of appreciation to Social Workers Linda Young, Allan Uzwiak and Ben Schreiber.

3.3 Recognition: School Board Member Appreciation Month

Dr. Griffin recognized the Board of Education for their hard work and dedication. She stated that the board members devote many hours outside of the two meetings per month to the Madison Public Schools. They do a critical job of governing the schools and making critical decisions for over 3, 800 students. Dr. Griffin stated that the members volunteer to serve on the board because of their commitment to children, education and the town.

3.3.A. Update: Tiger Fitness Center (formerly #5.1)

Ms. Rossini read the following statement:

Much has occurred in and surrounding the Tiger Fitness Center since we had the surprise arrival of fitness equipment on January 20 and since we last reported on this issue on Feb. 6. I first want to make clear that actions that have taken place concerning the fitness center were taken at the express direction or recommendation of the Planning Committee, and as Chair of Planning I take full responsibility for those actions.

The equipment situation we were faced with at the end of January was new territory, to say the least, and at each juncture Planning tried to do the “next right thing,” with each step intended to move us closer to getting Tiger Fitness opened. Sometimes, however, our best efforts fell short, exacerbating an already difficult situation. For example, I would give much to take back the word “dispose” used in our motion on February 6, and replace it with “make disposition of.” A change in semantics may or may not have helped, and, anyway, second guessing that right now is not the next right thing to do. I do know for sure that our word choice created much confusion and for that I am truly sorry. We never intended to throw the equipment away, or to disrespect the generous gesture of the donation.

I’m sure its not news that it has been a difficult and at times very uncomfortable month for all of us who have touched or been touched by the Tiger Fitness Center project. As an aside I have, on more than one occasion, reflected on the toll that public service takes on me personally. One thing I have never questioned, however, is my commitment and my personal observations of the commitment that is made by each Board of Education member, and that commitment is this: to integrity, high standards, and transparent process. We may each be stylistically different in our approach and demeanor, but we all ask tough questions and contribute our point of view to decision making. And, just as importantly as how we each govern our own individual behavior, we require the same standards from our administrators and each staff, down through the line.

I am proud to serve with this dedicated board.

Any Board of Education, by definition, is entrusted with allocating what can be a large amount of public money. Ultimately it is the nine of us who must allocate our budget responsibly. We take great care to distribute our scarce resources in a way that best serves all of our students, an extraordinarily complicated task, and one made more so by the many laws and mandates we must follow and the varied constituencies we take into consideration. The word for this balancing act is equity, at least for me. It is through the lens of equity that we evaluate recommendations for program changes or enhancements.

Which brings me to the Tiger Fitness Center. Over two years ago the Planning Committee, with the support and input of multiple others in and outside of our public school administration, identified an enhanced fitness center as of high priority to our school district. The initial seed that has now become Tiger Fitness Center germinated from our concern, and the community’s concern, for the health and wellness of our students. The vision, which was discussed and voted on publicly, was for a center that would benefit all upper middle school and high school students, a center that is readily accessible and appropriate for students in PE classes, in an intramural setting, and in a team sport settings. Of course this center would need to meet all code requirements, and any athletic program conducted within its walls would need to fit with the standards of equity as required by law. Planning is now able to report that we expect to open this Tiger Fitness Center at the beginning of the third Trimester in two weeks.

Ms. Rossini then reported that the Planning Committee hired a consultant, Phil Vendetti, to evaluate the existing equipment and new equipment placed on the premise of the Tiger Fitness Center. This consultant helped to design a layout of the fitness equipment that was in keeping with the original vision for the Fitness Center. The services of the consultant will include the movement of equipment and slight repairs that need to be done.

Ms. Rossini added that the Planning Committee identified an additional 500 feet of space adjacent to the Tiger Fitness Center so that all equipment could be utilized and an appropriate work-out flow could be achieved. The recommended layout for the space will meet fitness and safety standards. The scheduling of the use of the Fitness Center still needs to be worked out and the Superintendent and appropriate staff have been instructed to develop a pilot scheduling program.

Dr. Griffin reported that two (2) positions have been posted for supervisors in the Fitness Center. An orientation program for students and staff (including Physical Education classes and sport teams), which will provide training on how to operate the equipment in the facility, will take place. The plan is to have the Fitness Center open four (4) days per week for four (4) hours per day as of March 20th.

Ms. Lynch questioned where the funding for the supervisors will come from. Dr. Griffin responded that the funding would be through registration fees, and perhaps, the current athletics program budget.

Ms. Gowanlock questioned if there was any increase in the insurance premium for the center. Dr. Griffin responded that there would be no increase if the center qualified for the insurance by meeting the appropriate standards.

Ms. Rossini commented that twelve (12) pieces of equipment that were in the original vision for the Fitness Center are not currently in the existing equipment allotment. These items include three (3) treadmills; three (3) elliptical machines and three (3) pieces of circuit training equipment. She is anticipating that some of this equipment could be used for a two (2) week demonstration to see how they would fit into the layout of the fitness room.

Ms. Frey added that the identification today of an additional 500 feet of space allowed for the use of all the donated equipment. Without the identification of this space, the Fitness Center would not be able to use of the entire donation due to fire and safety codes.

Ms. Gowanlock questioned whether the use of the additional space adjacent to the fitness center would impact programming at Polson School. Ms. Rossini responded that the space is a PE classroom that is used for spill-over from PE classes, but other spaces within Polson School could be used instead. She noted that next year is the peak enrollment year for Polson School and that if they can accommodate the allocation of space at that time there should be no problem for the future use of this space.

Ms. Rossini noted that the Planning Committee has allocated \$500 for upgrading the flooring in this newly identified space.

3.3.B. Action: Donation of Equipment to Tiger Fitness Center (*Reference Policy #3281*) (formerly #18)

MOTION: by Planning Committee to approve the donation of fitness equipment valued at \$22,050 to the Tiger Fitness Center from the Shirley French Lilac Foundation.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Lynch, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman.

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

3.4 Public Participation

Becky Deblonsky, 137 Liberty Street, thanked the Board of Education and Planning Committee for work in getting fitness center ready to open. She added that the students miss the current Athletic Director and want to have him back.

George Gerard, 279 Bradley Corners, commented that the turn out of people at the meeting attested to the fact that people care about the town and the schools and would like the public comment section of the agenda extended.

Becky Lutz, 66 High Hill Circle, stated that the Fitness Center will benefit all students and that she wants the Athletic Director to come back to his job.

Mike Ciotti, 170 Dorset Lane, stated that he is the Assistant Football Coach at Daniel Hand High School and that he is looking forward to the opening of the Fitness Center. He thanked the Planning Committee for their work and the public for their donations.

Ken Sweitzer, 364 Green Hill Road, spoke on behalf of the Shirley French Lilac Foundation who made the donation of the equipment to the Tiger Fitness Center. He thanked the Board of Education members for reconsidering the disposal of the donation. He also thanked Planet Fitness and the Athletic Director for the good deal on the equipment. He added that personally he was disappointed with how the situation escalated and was handled over the

past five (5) weeks. He was also disappointed that the students have not been able to use the Fitness Center for the past five (5) weeks.

Carrie Sweitzer, 364 Green Hill Road, stated that she feels school morale is at an all time low and that the situation with the Fitness Center has created an unhealthy learning environment for the children.

Mr. Hale commented that if the donation of the fitness equipment had followed established Board of Education policies, the situation would not have occurred.

Scott Sweitzer, 67 Dream Lake Drive, stated that he saw a copy of an e-mail sent by a member of the Board of Education which referred to the Shirley French Lilac Foundation as "hell-bent". He stated that as a foundation they do not need to follow the bidding rules and procedures of the Board of Education for obtaining the fitness equipment. He added that the purpose of the Foundation is to find a cure for pancreatic cancer and autism and to benefit the children of Madison. He stated that the Foundation has donated over \$50,000 to the schools in the last three (3) years. He added that although the consultant is well-qualified he feels the Athletic Director would have been able to address the layout of the Fitness Center.

Licia Ciotti, 170 Dorset Lane, expressed hope that the Athletic Director was reinstated. Mr. Hale reiterated to the public that comments would not be heard relating to personnel matters.

Sue Wivell, 16 White Birch Road, stated that the amount of people attending tonight's meeting is only a small portion of the residents who support this issue.

Steve Lutz, 66 High Hill Circle, stated that he feels the community is now in a good place with the Fitness Center, but feels the entire situation was taxing to the Planning Committee and the community. He feels that if there was better communication, the situation might not have occurred and questioned the timeline for the receipt of the donation request, delivery of equipment and notification to the Superintendent as reported in the January 31, 2007 minutes.

Mr. Hale added that the minutes of the January 31, 2007 special Board of Education meeting are draft minutes and will be edited to show that the donation form received was incomplete.

Dr. Griffin responded that the original donation request that she received was for a cash donation not the donation of equipment.

Joan Walker, 39 Stepping Stone Lane, stated that she understands the need for process and procedures but feels the actions taken have been extreme and caused the school and the management to be seen in a negative light.

Jerry Callaghan, 33 Indian Trail, stated that he was frustrated by the inability to discuss personnel issues and that there needs to be more communication between the public, board, staff, students and athletes. He stated that a process is underway to get a petition for a town forum to discuss the issue.

Ms. Gowanlock responded that due to legal and contractual issues the area of personnel could not be discussed at the meeting.

4. Board of Education Student Representatives Report

Emma Norris reported that CAPT testing started today and will continue through Thursday of this week and then again on March 13th and 15th. Final and midterm exams at Daniel Hand High School start next week. The 107 day dance for seniors will be held soon. Shannon Tobin, a senior at Daniel Hand, will direct a drama within the Connecticut Drama Association on March 20th. Students are in process of signing up for spring sports and tickets are on sale for the Spring Musical.

5. Superintendent's Report

5.2 Update: Kindergarten Enrollment 2007-2008

Dr. Griffin reported that formal kindergarten registration was held during two (2) days in February. To date, 67 students are enrolled in a.m. kindergarten and 71 in p.m. kindergarten (138 total). The projection for enrollment is 225 students so the current enrollment numbers predict a slight decrease from the forecast.

5.3 Presentation: Pilot Curriculum Lab Project Support Document

Anita Rutlin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, presented the Board with handouts on the pilot program for the Curriculum Lab Project (on file). The pilot program focuses on the area of World Languages during the third trimester of this school year. The review would affect students from grades 1 – 12 (3,400 students). The program will include a survey from World Language teachers, a survey from students and a walk through of the classes by Ms. Rutlin. The program coordinates with the Board of Education's Strategic Plan's goal to prepare students for the 21st century. A report will be presented to the Board on the results of the pilot program where recommendations will be made for possible program improvement. The Curriculum Lab Project is a five-year plan to review one area of the curriculum during each semester of the school year.

Dr. Griffin indicated that the information on the Pilot Curriculum Lab Project will be posted on the web.

6. Board Member Comments

None.

7. Distribution of Executive Summaries from Board Committees / Liaisons

Ms. Coffey reported that the Finance Committee has completed its review of the 2007-2008 education budget and the Board has received a copy of the budget document.

7.1 Policy Committee

Ms. Sellers reported that the Policy Committee reviewed the comments on the draft 2008-2009 school year calendar. Based upon comments, a professional development day was changed from the end of the winter holiday break to the end of the February break.

7.1.1 Policy #1330 Community Use of School Facilities (Third Reading)

Ms. Sellers presented to the Board the third reading of Policy #1330 Community Use of School Facilities. She indicated that there have been no changes made to the policy since the second reading. The Policy Committee has planned a meeting for Friday to review the regulations associated with this policy.

8. Audience Response to Information Presented

Mike Ciotti, 170 Dorset Lane, questioned whether it was possible to open the Fitness Center prior to March 20th, especially for senior athletes that need to get ready for college and recruitment. Ms. Rossini responded that the process is moving as fast as possible since the equipment still needs to be moved, staff hired, and the center reviewed by the appropriate officials.

Steve Lutz, 66 High Hill Circle, questioned the condition of the current fitness center at the Daniel Hand High School. He stated that he does not believe this center would meet insurance requirements and that it is being used as a storage area. Ms. Rossini responded that the fitness center at the Daniel Hand High School is being considered during the evaluation. Dr. Griffin added the current fitness center has drifted from its original layout and this will be addressed. Areas for storage of athlete equipment are being reviewed.

Barbara Ciotti, 12 Amber Trail, stated that there was a flaw with the fitness facility at the high school when it was opened. She then requested when the Board would have information on the position of the Athletic Director. Mr. Hale responded that due to contractual and legal issues the matter could not be discussed.

Licia Ciotti, 170 Dorset Lane, asked if the Athletic Director would be part of the implementation of the Tiger Fitness Center. Ms. Rossini responded that in the original design of the Fitness Center, the Athletic Director was included in the process.

Steve Filipone thanked Ms. Rossini for including him in the discussions on the Tiger Fitness Center.

9. Consent Agenda (Items 9.1 – 9.5)

MOTION: by Frey, seconded by Sellers to move item 9.4.1 from the consent agenda.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Lynch, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman.

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

9.1 Bills Payable: \$847.77 (05/06) and \$585,225.89 (06/07)

9.2 Line Transfers: \$56,131.98

9.3 Budget Expenditure Report as of 2.28.07

9.5 Notice of Intent for Instruction of Student at Home

MOTION: by Frey, seconded by Sellers to approve the consent agenda.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Lynch, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman.

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

10. Action Item: Minutes 1.31.07 (*Reference Policy #9540.8*)

MOTION: by Frey, seconded by Rossini to table the minutes of 1.31.07.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Lynch, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman.

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

11. Action Item: Minutes 2.6.07 (*Reference Policy #9540.8*)

MOTION: by Frey, seconded by Sellers to approve the minutes of 2.6.07

AYES: Coffey, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Dean, Lynch

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

12. Action Item: Minutes 2.13.07 (*Reference Policy #9540.8*)

MOTION: by Frey, seconded by Rossini to approve the minutes of 2.13.07

AYES: Coffey, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Dean, Lynch

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

13. Action Item: 2008-2009 School Year Calendar (*Reference Policy #6030*)

MOTION: by Sellers on behalf of Policy Committee to approve the 2008-2009 school year calendar.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Lynch, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman.

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

14. Action Item: Updated Capital Maintenance Plan (*Reference Policy #9540.8*)

MOTION: by Rossini on behalf of the Planning Committee to approve the updated Capital Maintenance Plan.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Lynch, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman.

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

15. Action Item: Request for Out-of-State Travel / National Academic Quest in Washington D.C. (*Reference Policy # 5110.8 and 6153*)

MOTION: by Gowanlock, seconded by Frey to approve the request for out-of-state travel for Daniel Hand High School students to compete in the National Academic World Quest in Washington D.C. from March 23 – March 25, 2007.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Lynch, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman.

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

Ms. Frey congratulated the students on their achievement.

16. Action Item: Request of Out-of-State Travel / Yearbook Conference in New York City (*Reference Policy #5110.8 and 6153*)

MOTION: by Coffey, seconded by Rossini to approve the request for out-of-state travel for Daniel Hand High School students to attend yearbook conference at Columbia University in New York City from March 15 – March 16, 2007.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Lynch, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman.

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

17. Action Item: Community Use of School Facilities Policy #1330 (*Reference Policy #9540.8*)

MOTION: by Sellers on behalf of the Policy Committee to approve the revisions to the Community Use of School Facilities Policy #1330.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Lynch, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman.

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

MOTION: by Frey, seconded by Coffey to add item 18A (Action Item: Voluntary Early Retirement and Normal Retirement Applicants Effective 6.30.07) to the agenda.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Lynch, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman.

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

18A. Action Item: Voluntary Early Retirement and Normal Retirement Applicants Effective 6.30.07

MOTION: by Frey, seconded by Coffey to approve the voluntary early retirement and normal retirement effective 6.30.07 for the following employees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Position</u>
<u>Voluntary Early Retirement</u>		
Linda Burke	Ryerson School	Grade 1 Teacher
Shirley Kiely	Jeffrey School	Grade 1 Teacher
Julie Elting	Jeffrey School	Grade 1 Teacher
Concetta Piccione	Island Avenue School	Grade 4 Teacher
Margaret Healy	Jeffrey School	Grade 4 Teacher
Catherine Hlousek	Polson School	Math Teacher
Barbara Hanley	Polson School	Math Teacher
Barbara Francese	Brown School	Social Science Teacher
Oscar Ezell	DHHS	Social Science Teacher
Janet Balsamo	Ryerson School	English Teacher
Carol Gill	DHHS	World Language Teacher
Melissa Barker	Island Avenue School	Art Teacher
Ann McEntire	Polson School	Art Teacher
Susan Wylie	DHHS	Applied Education Teacher
Brian Beard	DHHS	Technology Education Teacher
Charlene DeFrancesco	Ryerson School	Special Education Teacher
Shelia Ostrander	Polson School	Psychologist
Jeanne Stein	Brown School	Principal
<u>Normal Retirement</u>		
William Brucker	Brown School	Science Teacher

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Lynch, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman.

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

Mr. Youngerman acknowledged the contributions these staff members have made to the Madison Public Schools.

MOTION: by Coffey, seconded by Frey to add item 18B (Action Item: 2007-2208 Board of Education Budget) to the agenda.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Lynch, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman.

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

18B. Action Item: 2007-2008 Board of Education Budget

Mr. Dean questioned the amount of anticipated ECS funding for 2007-2008. Mr. Hale responded that Madison could expect an additional \$500,000 - \$800,000 in revenue based upon the Governor's budget proposal.

Mr. Dean stated that he will abstain from the vote on the budget. Although the budget request is good, he can not support the dollar request without knowing the actual funding level to be received from the state.

Ms. Coffey commented that historically the Board of Education has had a higher than normal budget request every 3-4 years in order to address enrollment issues and deferred programs. She feels 2007-2008 is such a year.

Ms. Frey commented that the Madison Public Schools can only share and economize to a certain point. She also noted that this is the first year of the implementation of the Board of Education's Strategic Plan.

Ms. Gowanlock stated that the Board did not develop the budget request based upon an anticipated increase in revenues from the state but rather on what needs to be done for the children. She added that there were more items in the initial rest to support the Strategic Plan but they went unfunded.

MOTION: Coffey, on behalf of the Finance Committee, to approve the 2007-2008 Budget as recommended by the Finance Committee which represents a request for \$41,737,679 or a 7.92% increase over the 2006-2007 operating budget baseline.

AYES: Coffey, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Lynch, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman.

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Dean

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

19. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

20. New Business

No new business was discussed.

20. Future Agenda Items

Ms. Frey requested that the board have a presentation or workshop on safety and risk management from the insurance carrier.

21. Adjournment

MOTION: by Rossini, seconded by Coffey to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 p.m.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Lynch, Rossini, Sellers,
Youngerman.
NAYS: None
MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

Submitted for approval at the 3.20.07 BOE meeting.
hgd

Board of Education Special Meeting
March 14, 2007
Hammonasset Room, Town Campus

Meeting Minutes

The special meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Chairman Robert Hale at 5:30 p.m.

Present: Becky Coffey; John Dean; Debbie Frey; Harriet Gowanlock; Robert Hale, Kathleen Rossini; Atty. Holly Sellers; David Youngerman.

Also present: Dr. H. Kaye Griffin, Superintendent of Schools; Attorney Donald Houston and Athletic Director Craig Semple.

MOTION: by Frey, seconded by Sellers to enter Executive Session at 5:30 p.m. for discussion with Director of Athletic Programs (personnel); and contractual issues.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman
NAYS: None
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

1. Executive Session

The meeting was moved to Conference Room B in Central Office.

A discussion with the Director of Athletic Programs was held. Additionally, contractual issues were discussed.

MOTION: by Dean, seconded by Coffey to adjourn Executive Session at 7:20 p.m.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman
NAYS: None
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

MOTION: by Dean, seconded by Coffey to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

AYES: Coffey, Dean, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Rossini, Sellers, Youngerman
NAYS: None
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

Submitted for approval at the 3.20.07 BOE meeting.
hgd