

# Board of Education Regular Meeting

Tuesday, September 1, 2009 7:30 PM

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

## I. Call to Order / Attendance

## II. Executive Session - 7:00 p.m.

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

### III.A. Recognitions:

III.A.1. Lisa L. Landa, English Teacher, Daniel Hand High School - Madison Public Schools 2010 Teacher of the Year

III.A.2. Kathryn Hart, Assistant Principal, Dr. Robert H. Brown Middle School - The Kathryn Hart Fund Established with The Madison Foundation

### III.B. Public Participation

## IV. Superintendent's Report

**Speaker (s):** David J. Klein

IV.A. 2009-2010 Opening of School Update

IV.B. Student Enrollment / Class Sizes

## V. Board Members' Comments

## VI. Board Committees / Liaison Updates

VI.A. Planning Committee

**Speaker (s):** Members: Debra Frey, Chair; Bill Clorite, Becky Coffey

VI.B. Personnel Committee

**Speaker (s):** Members: John Dean, Chair; Becky Coffey; Robert Ruggiero; Holly Sellers

VI.C. Policy Committee

**Speaker (s):** Members: Harriet Gowanlock, Chair; Becky Coffey; Seth Klaskin

VI.D. Finance Committee

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

VI.E. Community Outreach Committee

**Speaker (s):** Members: Seth Klaskin, Chair; Becky Coffey

VI.F. LEARN Liaison

**Speaker (s):** Liaison: John Dean

## VII. Audience Response to Information Presented

## VIII. Consent Agenda

VIII.A. Bills Payable: \$131,713.39 (08-09);  
\$1,409,251.96 (09-10)

VIII.B. Line Transfers: \$332,300.76

VIII.C. Budget Expenditure Report as of August  
27, 2009

VIII.D. Notice of Intent for Instruction of  
Student at Home for 2 Students (Ref. Policy  
#6080.23)

**IX. Action Item: Minutes of the August 18, 2009  
Meeting**

**X. Old Business**

**XI. New Business**

XI.A. Discussion: Appointment of 2009-2010  
School Liaisons

**XII. Future Agenda Items**

XII.A. Transportation Update: September 15, 2009

**XIII. Meetings of Importance**

**Speaker(s):** Chairman  
Hale

XIII.A. September 15, 2009: Board of Education  
Meeting; 7:30 p.m., Town Campus Hammonasset Room

XIII.B. September 24, 2009: Public Workshop:  
Strategic Planning Study; 7:00 p.m.; Memorial  
Town Hall, Upper Level

XIII.C. November 21-22, 2009: CABE/CAPSS  
Convention; Mystic Marriot, Groton, CT

**XIV. 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.

Board of Education Meeting  
August 18, 2009  
Town Campus

Meeting Minutes

1. The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Chairman Hale at 7:02 p.m.

Present: Bill Clorite; Becky Coffey; Debra Frey; Harriet Gowanlock; Robert Hale; Holly Sellers

Also present: David J. Klein, Superintendent; Anita Rutlin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

2. Executive Session

MOTION: by Frey, seconded by Gowanlock to enter Executive Session at 7:02 p.m. to discuss personnel and legal issues.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Sellers

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Atty. Klaskin entered the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Personnel matters involving confidential issues were discussed.

MOTION: by Klaskin, seconded by Clorite to adjourn Executive Session at 7:28 p.m.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Klaskin, Sellers

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

The public session of the Board of Education meeting was called to order by Chairman Hale at 7:31 p.m. Chairman Hale led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Bill Clorite; Becky Coffey; Debra Frey; Harriet Gowanlock; Robert Hale; Seth Klaskin; Holly Sellers

Also present: David J. Klein, Superintendent; Anita Rutlin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment district administrators; faculty; staff; students; community members.

3. School / Community Session

3.1. Public Participation

None at this time.

4. Superintendent's Report

4.1. Introduction: Kelly Spooner, Principal Kathleen H. Ryerson Elementary School

Mr. Klein introduced Mrs. Kelly Spooner, the new Principal of Kathleen H. Ryerson Elementary School. Mr. Klein stated that he is proud to have Mrs. Spooner join the District, and the Search Committee could not have picked a better successor to long time Ryerson Principal, Dr. Paul Sinicrope who recently retired. Mr. Klein explained that Mrs. Spooner started at Ryerson on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and has hit the ground running, after having spent some time with Dr. Sinicrope over the summer to facilitate a smooth transition.

Mrs. Spooner stated that she is thrilled to be here in Madison and to become part of the Ryerson community. She remarked that she has been welcomed with open arms and is enjoying meeting and beginning work with the excellent staff here in the District. Mrs. Spooner further stated that she is excited to continue the rigorous standard of excellence at Ryerson established by Dr. Sinicrope.

#### 4.2. Overview: 2009-2010 "Back to School" Activities / Information (David J. Klein)

- New Employee Orientation

Mr. Klein directed the Boards' attention to a packet containing information on Back to School activities provided to each Board member at the meeting. The first item in the packet was an Orientation schedule for new employees. This will take place on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, and all newly hired certified and classified staff are invited and encouraged to attend. Mr. Klein reviewed the day's agenda and invited members of the Board to attend any or all of the scheduled activities.

Next in the packet was a flyer regarding the Opening Session / Convocation scheduled for Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>. At this time, District staff and guests will gather to recognize staff members who have attained 10, 15, 20, 25, 30 and 35 years of service. Mr. Klein commended two employees in particular for their long time service to the Madison Public Schools. Ms. Joyce Merola, who works in the cafeteria at Polson Middle School, has been with the District for 40 years, and Mr. Maurice Masse of the Facilities Department, has been employed by the Madison Public School for 45 years. Mr. Klein added that these two employees will receive special recognition at Opening Day for their exceptionally long time service.

- Professional Development Schedule

Mr. Klein discussed the schedule of Professional Development Activities developed by Ms. Anita Rutlin for both Certified and Classified staff for August 24, 25 and 26<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Klein stated that also included in the packet was a copy of the Student Orientation Schedule and the Open House schedule. These have been on the District Website for the better part of the summer so that parents could be aware of the dates well in advance.

Finally, Mr. Klein referred to a draft list of presentations planned for upcoming Board of Education meetings through December 2, 2009.

#### 4.3. Update: 2009-2010 Enrollment (David J. Klein)

Mr. Klein reported that enrollment stood at approximately 3,641 for the start of the school year, which is 11 students over than the ADS projection of 3,630. He explained that he was giving this figure as an approximation because registrations have been extremely active over the past several days and students continue to be enrolled. He expects this number will probably increase, but not drastically.

#### 4.4. Overview: 2008-2009 Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) Results (Anita Rutlin) 2008-2009 Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) Results (Anita Rutlin)

Ms. Anita Rutlin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, presented a PowerPoint report (on file) summarizing the Madison Public Schools student scores on the 2009 Connecticut Master Test (CMT) and the Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT). Results for both tests showed growth in many areas, with every school in the district meeting annual progress goals. Further, Madison consistently ranked among the strongest school districts in the state and in the top 10 of the DRG (District Reference Group) for many subject areas in various grades. The results showed insignificant declines in some subject areas for some grades but the District did exceptionally well over all and our students should be proud of their performance. Results were summarized across grades and general discussion ensued.

Ms. Rutlin and Mr. Klein explained that while they are extremely pleased with the results, they are also aware of areas in need of improvement. Work has already begun to advance those areas of instruction and assessment to enhance those scores in the future. A good deal of Professional Development has taken place over the summer

months, specifically in the Elementary Science program curriculum, to insure that there is better alignment both vertically, across each particular grade, and horizontally, from grade to grade.

Ms. Rutlin concluded by reiterating how pleased she is, and we all should be, with the results of the CMT's and CAPT tests. The results are something for the school community to celebrate. Mr. Klein added that he is appreciative of the Administrators and Staff for the fine work they do. He also commended the students in Madison, who come to school prepared to learn each day, and their families, who support the District and share with their children the value of education.

## 5. Board Member Comments

Chairman Hale stated that he had received an Invitation from the State Department of Education to attend a ceremony and reception honoring graduates of the 2006-2009 Mathematics and Science Partnership, Instructional Coaching Academics program. The ceremony is being held on September 17<sup>th</sup> at Wesleyan University and two Madison teachers, Mrs. Ruth Rose and Mr. Jason Engelhardt will be honored, as they have recently completed this intensive three year program.

## 6. Reports from Board Committees / Liaisons

### 6.1. Planning Committee

The Committee has a meeting scheduled for the following morning and will have an update at the September 1, 2009 Board of Education meeting.

### 6.2. Personnel Committee

No report.

### 6.3. Policy Committee

No report.

### 6.4. Finance Committee

The Committee has not met, but Ms. Coffey and Ms. Dotty Bavin, Director of Fiscal Services, stated that they expect to have a final figure for the 2008-2009 budget closeout within the next couple of weeks.

### 6.5. Community Outreach Committee

The Committee has not met but Atty. Klaskin reminded those viewing the meeting on Channel 19 to sign up for the listserv for the District and / or the listserv for the school(s) which their families attend. Atty. Klaskin stated that this is a very valuable email service to keep you informed about important information and events related to the Madison Public Schools.

### 6.6. LEARN Liaison

No report.

Mr. Clorite asked to give a quick update on the summer building projects:

The roof at Island Avenue School is 99% complete – all that remains to be done is trim work. The boiler replacement projects at Ryerson Elementary and Brown Middle School have been completed, though not yet tested, as this will be done when the weather turns colder. The hot water system is up and running at Brown School.

Mr. Clorite stated that these projects were completed on time and under budget, due in large part to the work of Bill McMinn, Director of Facilities.

7. Audience Response to Information Presented

None at this time.

8. Consent Agenda

8.1. Bills Payable: \$141,166.41 (08-09); \$494,017.01 (09-10)

8.2. Line Transfers: \$61,738.61

8.3. Budget Expenditure Report as of August 13, 2009

8.4. Donation: \$1,500 to the J. Milton Jeffrey Elementary School Library to purchase books, from the Jeffrey School PTO

8.5. Donation: \$2,150 to the Daniel Hand High School Music Department for new dresses for the Flag Squad, from the DHHS Music Boosters

8.6. Donation: \$3,311.30 to Dr. Robert H. Brown Middle School for 610 Student Planners, from the Brown School PTO

MOTION: by Sellers, seconded by Gowanlock to approve the Consent Agenda.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Klaskin, Sellers

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Atty. Sellers commented on the very generous donations from the Jeffery and Brown School PTO's and the Music Boosters at Daniel Hand High School. She stated that the annual donation that provides student planners for Brown Middle School students is a very important and appreciated donation that is of immense value to those students.

9. Action Item: Minutes of July 21, 2009 Board of Education Meeting

MOTION: by Coffey, seconded by Klaskin to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2009 Board of Education meeting.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Klaskin, Sellers

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

10. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

11. New Business

12. Future Agenda Items

Mr. Klein referred to the draft list of presentations / reports to the Board of Education which he distributed during the Superintendent's Report.

13. Meetings of importance.

Chairman Hale referred to the list of upcoming meetings on the agenda.

14. Adjournment

MOTION: by Sellers, seconded by Clorite to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Frey, Gowanlock, Hale, Klaskin, Sellers

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Submitted for approval at the 09/01/09 Board of Education Meeting  
dmd