

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 5, 2010 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.

II.A. Personnel Items

II.B. Legal Items

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

III.A. Recognition: Island Avenue Elementary School - "The Pajama Program" IAS Student Council Members: Lily Barber; Amy Corcoran; Brinley Engel; Claire Giles; Daniel Long; Nathaniel Palumbo; Jaret Ostop; William Sobran

III.B. Public Participation

IV. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report

Speaker (s): Anna Balakrishnan and Andrew Chapman

V. Superintendent's Report

Speaker (s): David J. Klein

V.A. Report on Out of State Travel

Speaker (s): David J. Klein

V.B. Update: January 4, 2010 Professional Development Activities

Speaker (s): Anita Rutlin

V.C. Discussion: Connecticut's Race to the Top State Reform Plan

Speaker (s): David J. Klein; Anita Rutlin; Becky Coffey

V.D. Formal Presentation of the Administration's 2010-2011 Recommended Budget

Speaker (s): David J. Klein

VI. Board Members' Comments

VII. Board Committees / Liaison Updates

VII.A. Planning Committee

Speaker (s): Members: Debra Frey, Chair; Bill Clorite, Jean Fitzgerald

VII.B. Personnel Committee

Speaker (s): Members: John Dean, Chair; Pam Meier; Robert Ruggiero

VII.C. Policy Committee

Speaker (s): Members: Seth Klaskin, Chair; Jean Fitzgerald; Pam Meier

VII.D. Finance Committee

Speaker (s): Members: Bill Clorite, Chair; Jean Fitzgerald; Cindy Wood

VII.E. LEARN Liaison

Speaker (s): Liaison:

VIII. **Audience Response to Information Presented**

IX. **Consent Agenda (9.1-9.5) Ref. Bylaws #9540.2 & #9540.8)**

IX.A. Bills Payable: \$677.94 (08-09);
\$830,245.35 (09-10)

IX.B. Line Transfers: \$36,658.00

IX.C. Budget Expenditure Report as of December 22, 2009

IX.D. Donation: \$6,000 to J. Milton Jeffrey Elementary School as partial payment for anticipated class trips for Grades K-4, from the Jeffrey School PTO.

IX.E. District Consolidated Application (Part II); Title II, Part D - Educational Technology Entitlement Grant (Grant Period 07/01/09 - 08/31/11) (Ref. Policy #3281)

X. **Action Item: Minutes of the December 15, 2009 Board of Education Meeting**

XI. **Old Business**

XII. **New Business**

XIII. **Future Agenda Items**

XIV. **Meetings of Importance**

Speaker(s): Chairman Hale

XIV.A. January 12, 2010: BOE / Administrative Strategic Plan Renewal; 5:00 p.m., Town Campus Hammonasset Room

XIV.B. January 13, 2010: Planning Committee Meeting; 7:30 a.m., Central Office Room B

XIV.C. January 19, 2010: Policy Committee Meeting; 6:00 p.m., Central Office Room B

XIV.D. January 19, 2010: Board of Education Meeting (Take Action on 2010-2011 Budget); 7:30 p.m., Town Campus Hammonasset Room

XIV.E. January 28, 2010: Board of Education Retreat; 6:00 p.m, Town Campus Hammonasset Room

XIV.F. February 4, 2010: Board of Education Presentation of 2010-2011 Budget to Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance; 7:30 p.m., Town Campus Hammonasset Room

XV. **Adjournment**

**Madison Public Schools
Board of Education Meeting
Central Office Room B
January 5, 2010
7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

Executive Session Agenda

1. Executive Session (7:00 p.m.)

1.A. Personnel Issues

- **Status of Open Positions**

1.B. Legal Issues

- **Student Discipline Updates**

Adjournment (7:30 p.m.)

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
December 15, 2009
Town Campus

Meeting Minutes

1. The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Chairperson Coffey at 7:10 p.m.

Present: Bill Clorite; Becky Coffey; John Dean; Seth Klaskin; Pamela Meier; Cindy Wood

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

2. Executive Session

MOTION: by Wood, seconded by Meier to enter Executive Session at 7:10 p.m. to discuss personnel and legal issues.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Klaskin, Meier, Wood

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Personnel matters involving confidential issues were discussed.

Legal issues were discussed.

MOTION: by Dean, seconded by Clorite to adjourn Executive Session at 7:25 p.m.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Klaskin, Meier, Wood

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

The public session of the Board of Education meeting was called to order by Chairperson Coffey at 7:34 p.m. Ms. Coffey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Bill Clorite; Becky Coffey; John Dean; Seth Klaskin; Pamela Meier; Cindy Wood

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

3. School / Community Session

3.1. Recognitions:

Connecticut Association of Schools Celebration of Connecticut Elementary Schools' Success

Mr. Klein reported that the Connecticut Association of Schools held an awards dinner on November 23rd and it was a very special evening for Madison. As previously announced, J. Milton Jeffrey School was named Elementary School of the Year. In addition, Island Avenue Elementary School and Kathleen H. Ryerson Elementary School were also honored by CAS, and Mr. Klein and the Board recognized them for their achievements.

- *Island Avenue Elementary School, Paws and Read Program*

Mr. Klein first announced that Island Avenue Elementary School was recognized for its "Paws and Read Program" and the individuals honored by CAS were Cindy Armor, Reading Specialist; Pat Durante, Owner and Handler of Roxy the dog; Doreen Shirley, Language/Arts Specialist and Kathy Nutley, Principal.

Mr. Klein gave a brief description of the program and then introduced Mrs. Shirley, who had brought Roxy with her and asked her to speak more about it.

Mrs. Shirley explained that Roxy is a Registered Delta Therapy dog and visits Island Avenue School once a week to listen to children read to her. Students who wish to participate write a letter to Mrs. Shirley and once they are scheduled, she helps them select a book. The students are motivated and practice reading their book several times in advance, which greatly improves their reading skills. Roxy's handler, Ms. Durante, is present during the session but minimally involved, and Roxy provides a non-judgmental, loving audience for the students. Mrs. Shirley stated that Roxy is very popular and much loved by the students and staff at Island Avenue and she is very happy to be involved with the program.

- *Kathleen H. Ryerson Elementary School, Math Intervention and Enrichment Program*

Mr. Klein next announced that Ryerson School had been recognized for their Math Intervention and Enrichment Program and stated that the following staff from Ryerson were honored at the November 23rd event: Sue Brinn, Paraprofessional; Donna Doraz, Paraprofessional; Alicia Dunbar, Grade 1 Teacher; Wendy Flanders, Paraprofessional; Ruth Rose, Math Specialist; Erin Smith, Grade 3 Teacher; and Lynn Voitans, Grade 3 Teacher.

Mr. Klein discussed the highlights of the program for which Ryerson received this recognition and then introduced Mrs. Rose and asked her to speak more about it. Mrs. Rose stated that this program allows the classroom teachers, paraprofessionals and her to service students at all ends of the spectrum; those that need additional help, those that need enrichment and all students in between. She stated that it is truly a collaborative effort and all staff members work wonderfully together. Mrs. Rose remarked that the staff at Ryerson was thrilled and honored to have received this recognition.

3.2. Public Participation

Ms. Harriet Gowanlock, 16 Town Crier Lane spoke in support of the proposed Girls' Golf Team at Daniel Hand High School. She commented that many people contributed to this proposal, and thanked in particular Mrs. Kippie Martin, who did much of the work, Superintendent Klein, Director of Athletics Craig Semple and the MAPAC group for bringing it forward. Ms. Gowanlock stated that golf is a sport that promotes life long fitness and she hoped the Board would vote in favor of establishing this team.

Mrs. Kippie Martin, 54 Woodland Road next spoke and stated that she has been working on a proposal for a Girls' Golf Team since 2007. She stated that there is clearly sufficient interest in a Girls' Golf program and the girls are definitely competitive enough. She shared that two girls from Daniel Hand played the past season as a 'team of one' with Middletown High School and received high remarks from the coach. She further commented that these girls, as well as others, are already preparing by taking lessons and participating in tournaments. Mrs. Martin stated that there are several girls in Madison that currently play competitively and have already made their mark despite not having their own team. She is confident that this program will continue to grow in popularity.

4. Board of Education Student Representatives Report (Anna Balakrishnan and Andrew Chapman)

Ms. Balakrishnan and Mr. Chapman reported on the following:

- The fall play, "Get Smart" took place on December 3-5th and was a huge success;
- Auditions are currently being held for the spring musical "Seussical";
- The chorus concert took place on December 11th and was wonderful;
- Winter sports are underway and all are going well;
- The school is winding down for the holiday break.

5. Superintendent's Report

5.1. Update: Student Enrollment

Mr. Klein reported that as of Friday, December 11th, enrollment was at 3,668 students. The ADS projection for this year was 3,664 and Mr. Klein commented on the remarkable accuracy of the ADS projection.

Mr. Klein further reported that for the 2010-2011 year, ADS is projecting total enrollment of 3,498. This includes rolling over all students currently enrolled along with the 2010-2011 ADS projection of 149 kindergarten students.

Mr. Klein next stated that Ms. Anita Rutlin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment would give a brief update on the Professional Development activities planned for Monday, January 4, 2010.

Ms. Rutlin announced that the January 4th Professional Development schedule (on file) was in the packet of documents at each Board member's place. She stated that there are 36 different workshops planned for the day, and of that number, 33 are being facilitated by Madison Public Schools staff. She remarked that this was a wonderful way for us to build on our internal capacity and that at the end of the day, it means that staff members will have someone in the building that they can go to with questions about any of the information presented in the workshops. Ms. Rutlin gave an overview of the topics that will be covered on January 4th.

Ms. Coffey stated that she was very pleased that Madison faculty members have the capabilities and have chosen to lead workshops.

6. Board Member Comments

Ms. Coffey stated that she had attended a wonderful ceremony on Monday at Jeffrey School to celebrate their Elementary School of the Year award. She commented that the students and staff were very excited about and proud of this honor.

Ms. Coffey also reported that a Town Meeting had taken place earlier in the evening with regard to the recommendation of a special reserve fund for costs associated with unanticipated Special Education outplacements. She commented that this had been a consideration for several years and the Board of Education had submitted a formal request this year. Ms. Coffey was pleased to report that the Town has <http://portablenorthpole.tv/home> approved a Special Education seed money appropriation fund. She expressed her appreciation for the support of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance.

Atty. Klaskin offered his congratulations to Jeffrey School on their recent award and commented that it was a tremendous achievement for the students and staff.

7. Reports from Board Committees / Liaisons

7.1. Planning Committee

Ms. Frey was not present at the meeting. In her absence, Ms. Coffey briefly reviewed the Girls' Golf Team Proposal (on file) which had previously been distributed to the Board. Ms. Coffey pointed out that each Board member also had at their place a copy of Board Policy #5100.96, Maintenance and Development of Athletic Programs. A brief discussion took place regarding the proposal and how it relates to the Board policy. Mr. Klein also explained that this was being proposed as a one year Pilot Program and Mr. Semple will provide an update to the Board in the spring after their season.

7.1. Personnel Committee

No report.

7.3. Policy Committee

No report; the first meeting is scheduled for January 19, 2010.

7.4. Finance Committee

Mr. Clorite stated that the Committee had met earlier in the evening. They looked again at the 2009-2010 budget and discussed the anticipated shortfall in reimbursement from the state. The committee has also received their 2010-2011 budget books and those were reviewed as well. Mr. Klein stated that the binders will be distributed to the rest of the Board on Friday, December 18th and Ms. Coffey asked all Board members to review the books carefully and forward questions to Superintendent Klein as they arise.

Mr. Klein then gave a timeline of the budget process:

January 5, 2010 Formal presentation to the Board of Education
January 19, 2010 Board of Education votes on budget
February 2, 2010 Board of Education submits proposed budget to the Board of Selectman and Board of Finance
February 4, 2010 Board of Education presentation to Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance

7.5. LEARN Liaison

No report.

8. Audience Response to Information Presented

Mrs. Hillary Griffin, 38 Windward Lane thanked Mrs. Martin for her hard work on the Girls' Golf Proposal and stated that she supported the proposal as well.

9. Consent Agenda

9.1. Bills Payable: \$2,520.09 (08-09); \$1,229,876.00 (09-10)

9.2. Line Transfers: \$8,754.97

9.3. Request for removal of used books/equipment (*Reference Policy #3260*)

MOTION: by Wood, seconded by Dean to approve the Consent Agenda.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Klaskin, Meier, Wood

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

10. Action Item: Minutes of the December 1, 2009 Board of Education Meeting

MOTION: by Klaskin, seconded by Clorite to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2009 Board of Education meeting.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Klaskin, Meier, Wood

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: Ruggiero

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

11. Action Item: Daniel Hand High School Program of Studies

MOTION: by Meier, seconded by Dean to approve the Daniel Hand High School Program of Studies for 2010-2011.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Klaskin, Meier, Wood

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

12. Action Item: Establishment of a Daniel Hand High School Girls' Golf Team as a one year Pilot Program for the Spring 2010 season.

MOTION: by the Planning Committee to approve the establishment of a Daniel Hand High School Girls' Golf Team as a one year Pilot Program for the Spring 2010 season.

Discussion ensued. Ms. Woods commended Mrs. Martin and others involved with the proposal on the detailed timeline provided and their tenacity in bringing this to fruition.

Ms. Meier stated that she thought it was a wonderful idea and that she supported the proposal.

Mr. Dean asked for clarification as to why it could be approved as a team and not as a club per Board policy. Ms. Coffey explained that as girls have been part of or eligible to join the co-ed team since its inception, it was not necessary for the program to be designated as a club in the first year.

Mr. Semple explained the concept of a 'team of one'. Last year two girls from Madison golfed under the umbrella of Middletown High School, but as a Madison team. He also shared that Madison accepts student athletes from other districts, i.e., girl's gymnastics and boy's swimming, under the 'team of one' concept and stated that it's a 'win-win' situation for all involved.

Mr. Clorite commented that the parents put together a great proposal and did an excellent job working with Mr. Semple and the Administration. He stated that he thought it was a great opportunity for girls and he hoped that they will take advantage of it.

Atty. Klaskin commented on the fact that the program will be entirely funded by registration fees and will have no impact on the budget.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Klaskin, Meier, Wood

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

13. Old Business

13.1. Discussion: Dates for Strategic Renewal and Board of Education Retreats.

Ms. Coffey reminded everyone that the Strategic Plan Renewal meeting with the Board and the Administration was scheduled for January 12, 2010.

Discussion began about possible dates for the Board of Education Retreat and Mr. Klein stated that an email would be sent out to poll members of the Board on their availability for January 21st or 28th.

Mr. Klein then discussed the Strategic Plan Renewal process, stating that he and Ms. Coffey have been working on an audit of what has occurred in the District since 2003, when the new Daniel Hand High School opened. This will help frame the Board's strategic plan for the next two years. Mr. Klein commented that a two year time frame is very manageable and realistic, and the plan will be developed collaboratively by the Board and the Administration.

14. New Business

No new business was discussed.

15. Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items at this time.

16. Meetings of importance.

Ms. Coffey referred to the list of upcoming meetings on the agenda.

17. Adjournment

MOTION: by Dean, seconded by Meier to
adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Klaskin, Meier, Wood

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

Approved at the 01/05/10 Board of Education Meeting
dmd