

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Tuesday, May 17, 2011 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.

II.A. Personnel Items

II.A.1. Evaluation of Superintendent of Schools

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

III.A. Recognition:

III.A.1. Fifth Annual Environmental Gift from Madison Land Conservation Trust; Presented to Mike Docker and John Gaskell, Daniel Hand High School Science Teachers, by David Skelly

III.B. Public Participation

IV. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report

Speaker (s): Andrew Chapman and Jessica Buller

V. Superintendent's Report

Speaker (s): David J. Klein

V.A. Enrollment Update: 2010-2011; 2011-2012

Speaker (s): David J. Klein

V.B. NAVIANCE Presentation for Grade 6

Speaker (s): Jean Baker and Michelle Catucci

V.C. Other

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.C.1. Recommended 2012-2013 School Year Calendar

Speaker (s): Seth Klaskin

VII.D. Finance Committee

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

VII.E. LEARN Liaison **Speaker (s) :** Liaison:
Robert Ruggiero

VIII. **Audience Reponse to Information Presented**

IX. **Consent Agenda (9.1 - 9.4) Ref. Bylaw #9540.2
and #9540.8)**

IX.A. Bills Payable: \$4,039.80 (09-10);
\$616,571.17 (10-11)

IX.B. Line Transfers: \$13,812.37

IX.C. Donation: \$1,000 donation to the Town
Campus Learning Center from Jeannette Brady in
honor of Sam Bauer

IX.D. Textbook Adoption (Ref. Policy #6100.10)

IX.D.1. 1) Collage: Revision de grammaire; Fifth
Edition; McGraw Hill Higher Education, 2011;
ECE/UCONN 3267 Intermediate French: French 6
Honors; World Languages Grade 12, DHHS;

IX.D.2. 2) Autour de la literature: Ecriture et
lecture aux cours moyene de francais; Fifth
Edition; Houghton Mifflin CENGAGE Learning, 2007;
ECE/UCONN 3267 Intermediate French: French 6
Honors; World Languages Grade 12, DHHS

IX.D.3. 3) Cinema for Spanish Conversation; Third
Edition; Focus Publishing / R. Pullins, Company,
2010; Spanish 6 - Spanish Conversation through
Cinema; World Languages Grade 12, DHHS

X. **Action Item: Minutes of the April 27, 2011
Board of Education Special Meeting**

XI. **Action Item: Minutes of the May 3, 2011 Board
of Education Meeting**

XII. **Action Item: Approval of the 2012-2013 School
Year Calendar (Ref. Policy #6030)**

XIII. **Old Business**

XIV. **New Business**

XV. **Future Agenda Items**

XVI. **Meetings of Importance** **Speaker (s) :**
Chairperson Coffey

XVI.A. May 25, 2011: Planning Committee Meeting;
7:30 a.m., Central Office Room B

XVI.B. June 7, 2011: Policy Committee Meeting;
6:30 p.m., Central Office Room B

XVI.C. June 7, 2011: Board of Education Meeting;
7:30 p.m., Town Campus Hammonasset Room

XVII. **Adjournment**

**Madison Public Schools
Board of Education Meeting
Town Campus Hammonasset Room
April 27, 2011
Special Meeting Minutes**

1. Call to order

The special meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Chairwoman Becky Coffey at 6:35 p.m.

Present: Bill Clorite; Becky Coffey; John Dean; Jean Fitzgerald; Debbie Frey; Seth Klaskin; Pamela Meier; Robert Ruggiero

Also present: David Klein, Superintendent; Anita Rutlin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment; Senator Edward Meyer and State Representative Noreen Kokoruda; District Administrators; community members.

Invited guests: Members of the Board of Selectmen; Board of Finance; Madison Property Owners Association; and Parents Representative Council.

2. Discussion with Senator Edward Meyer and State Representative Noreen Kokoruda on legislative proposals under consideration during the current session.

Senate and House Bills

- SB 1038: Individualized Education Programs (Pre-PPT Meetings with Parents / Guardians & Sharing of Information)
- SB 1040: Vocational Technical Schools (Jurisdictional Issue)
- HB 1106: Establishment of the Department of Early Education and Child Development
- HB 6385: Minimum Budget Requirement (Reduction of \$3,000 per student in communities experiencing declining enrollment)
- HB 6585: Age of required school attendance (Currently until 17 years old with potential change to 18 years of age)

Other Issues of Interest / Concern

- Implementation timeline of Public Act 10-111: School Reform Legislation passed in July 2010
- Funding of Education Cost Sharing (ECS)
- Funding of Special Education Excess Cost Reimbursement (ECR)
- Tuition Payments for Part-time Interdistrict Magnet School Programs: Definition of Maintenance of Effort
- Kindergarten Entry Age Change Proposal
- School Construction Project Approval Process – Creation of new Department of Construction Services
- Carbon Monoxide Detectors in Schools

3. Adjournment

MOTION: by Dean, seconded by Clorite to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Fitzgerald, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Ruggiero

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

Submitted for approval at the May 17, 2011 Board of Education Meeting

Board of Education Meeting
May 3, 2011
Meeting Minutes

1. The public session of the Board of Education was called to order by Chairperson Coffey at 7:30 p.m. Ms. Coffey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Bill Clorite; Becky Coffey; John Dean; Jean Fitzgerald; Seth Klaskin; Pamela Meier; Robert Ruggiero; Cindy Wood

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

2 School / Community Session

2.1 Recognitions:

2.1.1 National Teacher Appreciation Day (May 3, 2011)

Ms. Coffey noted that it is Teacher Appreciation Week, and today is Teacher Appreciation Day. She stated on behalf of the Board that they all have a great respect and admiration for the teachers and what they do each day.

Mr. Klein echoed Ms. Coffey's remarks and stated that Madison is very fortunate to have such exceptional educators in our schools and the students are the direct beneficiaries.

Mr. Ruggiero commented that our culture is unique in that educators make an honest attempt to provide a fair education to all. He stated that he doesn't believe most people understand how big this challenge is and he commended the educators who optimistically and honestly work to meet the challenge.

2.1.2 National School Nurse Day (May 11, 2011)

Mr. Klein next commented that National School Nurse Day will be recognized next week. He stated that Madison has a Registered Nurse in each of our school buildings and they do a terrific job of caring for our students.

2.2. Public Participation

None at this time.

3. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report
(Andrew Chapman and Jessica Buller)

Mr. Chapman reported on the following:

- AP testing is going on this week and next;
- The Honors Breakfast was held last week. Cody Noonan and Morgan Brennan were the seniors who spoke.
- The Earth Aid Teacher Talent Show, put on by the Environment Club, was held last Wednesday and was a great success.

Ms. Buller reported on these additional items:

- Students from the choral program went to Virginia Beach last weekend to participate in the annual Music Festival. They won first place in every category they were eligible for.
- The Uganda Club showed the movie "Tony" before the April break. It is about the plight of child soldiers in Uganda.

-
- The Showboat Talent show is coming up soon; students auditioned for it before break.

4.1. Enrollment Update

Mr. Klein reported that enrollment currently stands at 3,610; which is 27 students more than the ADS projection of 3,583.

For the 2011-2012 school year, enrollment is currently at 3,429; 23 under the ADS projection of 3,452. With regard to kindergarten, the ADS projection is 123 and we currently have 120 children registered. Mr. Klein commented that he fully expects this number to change and it could increase or decrease. He reminded the Board that class sizes are very manageable so there is no need to panic if enrollment does exceed projections.

4.2. Report on Out of State Travel

Mr. Klein reported on upcoming out of state field trips for students.

4.3. Discussion: Optional Healthy Snacks Program (Arthur Sickle and Jason Wallace)

Mr. Klein first stated that he received emails from some Island Avenue School parents asking us to participate in this optional program, and that Mr. Sickle and Mr. Wallace will explain why they recommend we don't participate. Mr. Klein stated that the emails were received late in the day, which is why they were distributed to Board members just before the start of the meeting.

Mr. Klein then introduced Mr. Arthur Sickle, Director of Administrative Services, and Mr. Jason Wallace, Director of Food Services for Chartwells to talk about this program.

Mr. Sickle reminded the Board that the district is required annually to consider participation in the State of Connecticut Healthy Foods Program as it pertains to certain items available in school cafeterias. Mr. Sickle explained that by participating, the district would receive 10 cents per meal sold, but would have to agree not to offer certain ala carte food items. In doing so, however, the district would likely lose money overall.

Mr. Sickle explained that our food services program has been and continues to move toward offering more healthful options to our students. If we chose to participate in this program, approximately 16 items currently offered would be affected. He explained that food services is a huge system and he did not think it was wise to impose any further restrictions.

Discussion ensued. Atty. Klaskin stated that while he believes that Chartwells is doing an excellent job, he thinks it would be beneficial for some formal analysis to be done as to how participating in the program would affect sales and profits. Ms. Coffey noted that participation in the program would affect food sold at bake sales, athletic concessions and other fund raisers, including the events held at the elementary schools. Mr. Sickle stated that he met with Mr. Tom O'Donnell, Regional Manager of Chartwells, who told him that other districts under his management do participate in the program and are losing money. Mr. Sickle stated that it can't be certain that the losses are completely attributed to participation and it would be very difficult to determine what savings or losses might be realized in Madison. Several days of testing were conducted at Daniel Hand High School and all indications are that revenues would likely be reduced more than the state reimbursements would supplement.

Discussion turned to the choices available to our students. Mr. Sickle and Mr. Wallace explained that while it is not yet mandated, Chartwells has aligned their corporate goals to meet or exceed the Gold level standards set in proposed legislation by the United States Department of Agriculture. Mr. Wallace also noted some of the steps being taken toward offering healthier choices – offering a greater variety of fruits and vegetables each day; increasing the amount of whole grains in menu items; offering more legume based meals; and offering menu items with less sugar, salt and fat. Mr. Sickle noted that our menus have been trans-fat free for four years. Mr. Sickle also stated that while the nutritional goals of the Gold level standards will be met, participation rates in Madison are unlikely to ever comply with the Federal Gold standard.

Atty. Klaskin questioned if profitability might increase even if sales decreased, as we would purchase less. Mr. Wallace responded that inventories are kept at minimal levels in order to have the freshest food available, so there is very little waste, and again, it is very difficult to gage what the losses might be. He noted that there is much more of a variety in choices at the middle school and especially the high school level, though it is difficult to offer a large variety at the elementary schools.

Mr. Clorite asked how many students buy lunch each day; Mr. Wallace responded that it averages 35-40% per day in each school. Mr. Sickle commented that while the District is most definitely concerned about the nutritional values of the food in our cafeterias, we are only providing one meal per day to 35-40% of the students for 183 days a year.

Ms. Meier complimented Chartwells and their capable staff and stated that she felt if anyone was that upset by the menu offerings in our schools, they could pack their child's lunch. She stated that she saw no reason to try to legislate an operation with good intentions and motives.

Mr. Klein concluded the discussion by commenting that our food services company is trying to achieve very high standards and the decision really comes down to whether or not we think what we are doing now is irresponsible. If not, he sees no reason to make changes to the way we are doing things.

Ms. Coffey stated as there was no further discussion, she wished to amend the motion as originally printed on the meeting agenda. It current reads:

To decline to participate in the State of Connecticut's Healthy Snacks Certification Program for the 2011-2012 School Year.

Ms. Coffey then read the amended motion:

To decline to participate in the optional State of Connecticut Healthy Foods Certification Program for the 2011-2012 School Year.

MOTION: by Meier, seconded by Wood to amend the Motion for Agenda Item #10 as stated by Ms. Coffey.

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

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

4.4. Other

Mr. Klein had nothing further to report on.

4. Board Members' Comments

Ms. Coffey stated that she and Mr. Klein attended a ceremony at the State Capitol on April 28th at which Island Avenue Elementary School was the recipient of the 2011 Connecticut Summer Savers Award for energy savings achieved through the solar panels that were installed last summer. Ms. Coffey stated that Director of Facilities William McMinn and State Representative Noreen Kokoruda were also in attendance. They were presented with a plaque which will be displayed at Island Avenue School.

Atty. Klaskin also commented on the recent distinction of the Daniel Hand High School Technology Education program being chosen as the Connecticut Program of the Year. Mr. Klein stated that Technology Education Teacher Dan Grenier recently attended the National ITEEA Conference to represent Daniel Hand.

6. Reports from Board Committees / Liaisons

6.1. Planning Committee

No report.

6.2. Personnel Committee

Mr. Dean reported that negotiations with MAESS are on going and two meetings are scheduled for next week.

6.3. Policy Committee

The committee has not met. They have a meeting scheduled prior to the next Board of Education meeting on May 17th and expect to move forward with the recommended 2012-2013 calendar at that time.

6.4. Finance Committee

Mr. Clorite stated that the Committee met earlier in the evening. They reviewed the current year budget and Mr. Clorite reported that the district is in very good shape and the Administrators are doing an excellent job monitoring accounts.

Mr. Clorite also commented on the April 25th Public Budget Hearing and expressed his appreciation for the many community members who came out to speak in favor of the budget. Ms. Coffey and other Board members commented on the budget presentation given by Board of Finance Chair Kathy Stahelski and remarked that she did an excellent job explaining LOCAP.

6.5. LEARN Liaison

No report.

7. Audience Response to Information Presented

None at this time.

8. Consent Agenda

8.1. Bills Payable: \$4,463.96 (09-10); \$1,230,105.88 (10-11)

8.2. Line Transfers: \$49,057.04

8.3. Budget Expenditure Report as of April 27, 2011

8.4. Textbook Adoption (*Reference Policy #6100.10*)

Repase y escriba: Curso avanzado de gramatica y composicion
Sixth Edition (Spanish and English Edition)
John Wiley and Sons, Inc., Higher Education, 2010
ECE / UCONN 3178 Intermediate Spanish Composition: Spanish 6 Honors
World Languages Grade 12
Daniel Hand High School

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

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

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

9. Action Item: Minutes of the April 5, 2011 Board of Education Meeting.

MOTION: by Klaskin, seconded by Ruggiero to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2011 Board of Education Meeting.

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

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

10. Action Item: State of Connecticut Healthy Foods Certification Program

MOTION: as amended by Fitzgerald seconded by Wood to decline to participate in the optional State of Connecticut Healthy Foods Certification Program for the 2011-2012 School Year

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

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

11. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

12. New Business

12.1 Textbook Adoption Preview (May 3-17, 2011)

Ms. Rutlin noted the following textbook available for preview in her office

Collage: Revision de grammaire

Fifth Edition

McGraw Hill Higher Education, 2011

ECE / UCONN 3267 Intermediate French: French 6 Honors

World Languages Grade 12

Daniel Hand High School

Autour de la literature: Ecriture et lecture aux cours moyene de francais

Fifth Edition

Houghton Mifflin CENGAGE Learning, 2007

ECE / UCONN 3267 Intermediate French: French 6 Honors

World Languages Grade 12

Daniel Hand High School

Cinema for Spanish Conversation

Third Edition

Focus Publishing / R. Pullins Company, 2010

Spanish 6 – Spanish Conversation through Cinema

World Languages Grade 12

Daniel Hand High School

13. Future Agenda Items

Mr. Klein noted the following upcoming presentation.

13.1. NAVIANCE Presentation for Grades 5 & 6: Scheduled for May 17, 2011

14. Meetings of Importance

Ms. Coffey referred to the list of upcoming meetings on the agenda, most importantly noting the May 17th Budget Referendum. She urged all Madison residents to vote on the budget.

Mr. Klein stated that the Daniel Hand High School Class of 2011 Graduation has been scheduled for Thursday, June 23, 2011. This year it will be held on the Town Green rather than on the lawn of the Congregational Church. This will provide a flatter surface and allow for more space. There will be tented areas in case of rain. In the event of severe weather, the graduation exercises will be postponed to the following morning – June 24th at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Klein stated that he believes it will be a wonderful setting and a very memorable event for the Class of 2011.

15. Adjournment

MOTION: by Dean seconded by Meier to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Fitzgerald, Klaskin, Meier, Ruggiero, Wood

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

Submitted for approval at the 05/17/11 Board of Education Meeting
dmd
