

# Board of Education Regular Meeting

Tuesday, August 16, 2011 7:30 PM

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

## I. Call to Order / Attendance

## II. School / Community Session - 7:30 p.m.

### II.A. Public Participation

## III. Superintendent's Report

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

### III.A. Enrollment Update

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

### III.B. Overview: 2010-2011 Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) Results; 2010-2011 Connecticut Academic Performance Test (CAPT) Results

**Speaker (s):** Anita Rutlin

### III.C. Other

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

## IV. Board Members' Comments

## V. Board Committees / Liaison Updates

### V.A. Planning Committee

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

### V.B. Personnel Committee

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

### V.C. Policy Committee

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

#### V.C.1. Revised Policy #5090.3.6.1.1, Bullying

**Speaker (s):** Seth Klaskin

### V.D. Finance Committee

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

### V.E. LEARN Liaison

**Speaker (s):** Liaison: Robert Ruggiero

## VI. Audience Reponse to Information Presented

## VII. Consent Agenda (7.1 - 7.7) Ref. Bylaw #9540.2 and #9540.8)

### VII.A. Bills Payable: \$241,602.45 (10-11); \$389,892.85 (11-12)

### VII.B. Line Transfers: \$2,849.00

### VII.C. Line Transfers: \$740,722.46

### VII.D. Budget Expenditure Report as of August 11, 2011

VII.E. Donation: \$3,984.63 to Island Avenue Elementary School for the purchase and installation of a kiln from the Island Avenue PTO.

VII.F. Donation: \$1,362.48 to Island Avenue Elementary School; proceeds from the Stop & Shop A+ School Rewards Program

VII.G. Donation: \$3,466.50 to Dr. Robert H. Brown Middle School for student planners from the Brown School PTO.

VIII. **Action Item: Minutes of the July 19, 2011 Board of Education Meeting**

IX. **Action Item: Revised Policy #5090.3.6.1.1, Bullying (Ref. Policy #9620)**

X. **Old Business**

XI. **New Business**

XII. **Future Agenda Items**

XII.A. Update: Teacher Evaluation Renewal (Kelly Spooner): September 6, 2011

XII.B. Update: Data Teams (Anita Rutlin / Elementary Principals): September 20, 2011

XIII. **Meetings of Importance**

**Speaker(s):**

Chairperson Coffey

XIII.A. August 24, 2011: District Convocation / Welcome Back; 8:00 a.m., Daniel Hand High School

XIII.B. August 29, 2011: First Day of School for Students

XIII.C. September 6, 2011: Finance Committee Meeting; 6:30 p.m., Central Office Room B

XIII.D. September 6, 2011: Board of Education Meeting; 7:30 p.m., Town Campus Hammonasset Room

XIV. **Executive Session**

XIV.A. Pending Litigation

XV. **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  
July 19, 2011  
Meeting Minutes

1. The public meeting 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: Becky Coffey; John Dean; Jean Fitzgerald; Debra Frey; Seth Klaskin; Pam Meier

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

Mr. Clorite entered the meeting at 7:31 p.m.

2. School / Community Session

2.1. Public Participation

Mr. Gus Horvath, 34 Aylesbury Circle commented that he is disheartened that Mr. Klein is leaving Madison. He stated that members of the Board may not be aware of some of the issues he has brought to Mr. Klein's attention over the past couple of years. Mr. Klein has always listened to his concerns and asked Mr. Horvath to give him time to investigate and take action if appropriate. Mr. Horvath stated that this attentiveness and willingness to listen is typical of what Mr. Klein has done for and in the Madison Community. He remarked that he is very sad to see Mr. Klein go but wishes him well in his new position.

Ms. Coffey thanked Mr. Horvath for his comments.

Ms. Joan Kirsch, Madison Springs Drive addressed the Board regarding some issues she is concerned about. The first pertains to CT Public Act 08-160 dated July 1, 2009. This act favors in school suspensions and recommends out of school suspensions on a very limited basis only. Ms. Kirsch stated that she has brought this issue to the District's attention in the past. Ms. Kirsh next stated that she believes Board of Education Policy #5110.31 has not been followed by Daniel Hand High School Administration, and she has brought this violation to the attention of Superintendent Klein. Lastly, Ms. Kirsch referred to the Madison Public Schools Athletic Handbook for 2009-2013 and stated that there is a section stating that a coach may not use his or her position for personal gain. She stated her opinion that coaches should not be allowed to coach their own child and asked that the district avoid this situation in the future.

Ms. Coffey thanked Ms. Kirsch for her comments.

3. Superintendent's Report

3.1. Enrollment Update

Mr. Klein reported that current enrollment for the 2011-2012 school year is at 3,440 with an ADS projection of 3,455. The most significant difference is in kindergarten – ADS projected 126 and there are 143 students enrolled at this time. Mr. Klein noted that while this does not take the issue of declining enrollment off the table, it also does not present a challenge with our current staffing profile.

3.2. Other

Mr. Klein stated that some excellent work has been done in the area of teacher evaluations, and the Steering Committee for this initiative will present an update to the Board in August.

Mr. Klein also reported that the District has embarked on work with Data Teams, which are directly linked to RTI (Response to Intervention) and SRBI (Scientific Research-Based Interventions). Mr. Klein explained that Data Teams analyze data collected and determine where there is room for improvement. He clarified that the purpose is

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not to fix individual students but how to best address issues through effective teaching strategies and setting goals for school improvement. Dr. Mike Wasta of the Leadership and Learning Center presented at a meeting of the SRBI Committee last week, and he will continue to work with the district on this important initiative. A presentation on this work will be made to the Board in August or September.

#### 4. Board Members' Comments

Ms. Coffey expressed her deep disappointment regarding Mr. Klein's departure from the Madison Public Schools. She stated that it has been a great privilege to work with him and described him as a strong leader, a prudent manager and an excellent communicator. Ms. Coffey remarked that while she is sorry to see Mr. Klein leave, she wishes him the very best in his new endeavor.

Mr. Klein thanked Ms. Coffey and stated that Madison has been the highlight of his career. He remarked that the community could not have been more supportive and gracious, and his leaving is about nothing more than pursuing a very unique and different opportunity. He commented on the great students, staff and the community at large and their support of public education. He stated that as a PreK-12 district, Madison is as good as it gets, and his new position will be much different. Mr. Klein told the Board that it has been an honor and a privilege to serve with and for them and for the Madison community.

Atty. Klaskin reiterated Ms. Coffey's comments and stated that he too is sad to see Mr. Klein go, but wishes him the best of luck. Atty. Klaskin also expressed his appreciation to the district for its help to get out the word about a recent event at the Arts Barn, which was a Disney Radio Tour with an anti-bullying message. Atty. Klaskin stated that it was planned at the last minute and there was a very good turn out thanks to the school district allowing it to be communicated to families via the e-Notify system.

#### 5. Reports from Board Committees / Liaisons

##### 5.1. Planning Committee

Ms. Frey reported that the Committee met recently on the following topics:

- They received a brief update from Director of Facilities William McMinn; summer building projects are ongoing and a more complete report will follow.
- They reviewed the preliminary LOCAP and Planned and Cycled Maintenance schedules for the upcoming year. The committee will continue their review and fine tune the schedules before bringing them to the Board of Education in November.
- The committee continues their discussions on enrollment and facilities utilization.
- A letter has been sent to Madison Police Chief Drumm from the Planning Committee requesting more information on the proposed school resource officer but no reply has been received to date.

##### 5.2. Personnel Committee

Mr. Dean reported that while the committee has no planned activities in the summer, they will begin negotiations with the AMA (Association of Madison Administrators) in September.

##### 5.3. Policy Committee

Atty. Klaskin deferred the report to Ms. Meier, as he was detained in traffic and missed some of the meeting.

Ms. Meier stated the discussion focused primarily on new legislation which impacts bullying policies. Our current policy is being reviewed by legal counsel to see if it is in line with the new legislation and also for the protocols regarding school specific plans. The main change in the legislation is the definition of bullying.

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Ms. Meier also reminded the Board that a new Policy #4141, Social Networking, is on the agenda for approval tonight.

5.4. Finance Committee

Mr. Clorite reported that the committee met on June 30<sup>th</sup> to close out the 2010-2011 budget. The numbers are not yet final pending review by the auditors, but Mr. Clorite reported that under Mr. Klein's leadership and fiscal savvy, we ended the year approximately \$200,000 in the black. Any surplus will be returned to the Town, and the Board of Education will likely request that \$90,000 be put into the reserve account established for unanticipated costs related to Special Education. That would bring the account balance to the \$250,000 threshold previously set.

Mr. Clorite also noted Agenda item #10, to grant final approval of the Island Avenue Elementary School Roof and Solar Panel Project, upon recommendation of the Island Avenue School Building Committee. Mr. Clorite noted that this is actually a committee of the Town, and once the project is accepted by the Board of Education, it will go on to the Board of Selectmen for their final approval. He also commented that under Mr. McMinn's guidance, the project came in \$120,000 under budget.

5.5. LEARN Liaison

No report.

6. Audience Response to Information Presented

None at this time.

7. Consent Agenda

7.1. Bills Payable: \$316,788.09 (10-11); \$586,390.30 (11-12)

7.2. Line Transfers: \$8,265.00

7.3. Line Transfers: \$72,428.47

7.4. Donation: AED (Automatic External Defibrillator), approximate value \$1,300-\$1,700, to the Walter C. Polson Middle School in Memory of Jordan Kinscherf, from the Daniel Hand High School Boys Lacrosse Booster Program

7.5. Donation: \$11,956.04 to the Kathleen H. Ryerson Elementary School to fund the purchase of two Smart Boards; subscription to RAZ Kids; P.E. equipment; students planners for Grades 3 and 4 and books for the Literacy Lab from the Ryerson School PTO.

MOTION: by Fitzgerald, seconded by Meier to approve the Consent Agenda.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Fitzgerald, Frey, Klaskin. Meier,  
NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Atty. Klaskin called out the two generous donations, noting in particular the extremely large donation from the Ryerson School PTO.

8. Action Item: Minutes of the June 21, 2011 Board of Education Meeting.

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MOTION: by Frey, seconded by Meier to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2011 Board of Education Meeting.

AYES: Coffey, Fitzgerald, Frey, Meier  
NAYS: None  
ABSTENTIONS: Clorite, Dean, Klaskin  
MOTION CARRIED: 4-0

9. Action Item: Policy #4141, Social Networking

MOTION: by the Policy Committee to approve Policy #4141, Social Networking.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Fitzgerald, Frey, Klaskin. Meier,  
NAYS: None  
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

10. Action Item: Final Approval of the Island Avenue Elementary School Roof and Solar Panel Project.

MOTION: by Clorite, seconded by Frey to grant final approval of the Island Avenue Elementary School Roof and Solar Panel Project, upon recommendation of the Island Avenue School Building Committee.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Fitzgerald, Frey, Klaskin. Meier,  
NAYS: None  
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

11. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

12. New Business

No new business was discussed.

13. Future Agenda Items

Ms. Anita Rutlin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment noted that she will give her annual presentation to the Board on CMT and CAPT results at the August 16, 2011 meeting.

14. Meetings of Importance

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

15. Executive Session

MOTION: by Coffey, seconded by Dean to adjourn to Executive Session at 7:58 p.m. to discuss the employment contract of the Superintendent of Schools.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Fitzgerald, Frey, Klaskin. Meier,  
NAYS: None  
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

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Ms. Coffey invited Mr. Klein and Ms. Rutlin to stay for the Executive Session and asked all others present to excuse themselves from the meeting.

Mr. Ruggiero entered the Executive Session at 8:25 p.m.

The Public Session of the Board of Education reconvened at 9:31 p.m. at which time the Board voted on the following:

MOTION: by Frey, seconded by Dean to formally accept, with regret, Superintendent David Klein's resignation effective September 30, 2011 and appoint Assistant Superintendent Anita Rutlin as Interim Superintendent for the Madison Public Schools effective October 1, 2011 until such time that a new Superintendent is hired for the District.

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

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

MOTION: by Klaskin, seconded by Fitzgerald to establish the Madison Board of Education to serve as a committee of the whole in conducting a search for a Superintendent of Schools for the Madison Public Schools to succeed David Klein in office.

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

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

## 16. Adjournment

MOTION: by Dean, seconded by Fitzgerald to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 p.m.

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

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

Submitted for approval at the August 16, 2011 Board of Education Meeting  
dmd

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