

# Board of Education Regular Meeting

Tuesday, April 2, 2013 7:30 PM

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

<b>I. Call to Order / Attendance</b>	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Debra Frey, Chair
<b>II. Executive Session</b>	
II.A. Discussion: Candidate for the position of Daniel Hand High School Principal	
II.B. Adjourn Executive Session	
<b>III. School / Community Session</b>	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Debra Frey, Chair
III.A. Public Participation	
<b>IV. Student Representatives' Report</b>	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Jane Butler and John Ovian
<b>V. Superintendent's Report</b>	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Thomas R. Scarice
V.A. Report: 2013-2014 Kindergarten Registration	
V.B. Teacher Evaluation Plan Pilot Update	
<b>VI. Board Members' Comments</b>	
<b>VII. Reports from Board Committees / Liaison</b>	
VII.A. Planning Committee	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Members: Jean Fitzgerald, Chair; Bill Clorite; Pam Meier
VII.B. Personnel Committee	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Members: John Dean, Chair; Cindy Wood, Vice Chair; Robert Ruggiero
VII.C. Policy Committee	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Members: Seth Klaskin, Chair; Ryan Suerth; Cindy Wood
VII.D. Finance Committee	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Members: Bill Clorite, Chair; Jean Fitzgerald; Cindy Wood
VII.E. Ad-Hoc Community Relations Committee	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Members: Ryan Suerth, Chair; Pam Meier; Cindy Wood
VII.F. LEARN Liaison	<b>Speaker (s) :</b> Liaison: Robert Ruggiero
<b>VIII. Audience Response to Information Presented</b>	
<b>IX. Consent Agenda</b>	
IX.A. Bills Payable: \$2,239.70 - 2011-12 Budget and \$960,347.50 - 2012-13 Budget	

IX.B. Line Transfers: \$22,439.29

IX.C. Budget Expenditure Report

IX.D. Donation: \$1,125 to K. H. Ryerson  
Elementary School from the K. H. Ryerson PTO to  
fund field trips for all classes

IX.E. Donation: \$3,800 to Island Avenue School  
from the Island Avenue School PTO to fund spring  
field trips

X. **Minutes of the March 14, 2013 Board of  
Education Special Meeting**

XI. **Minutes of the March 19, 2013 Board of  
Education Meeting**

XII. **Appointment of the Daniel Hand High School  
Principal**

XIII. **Schedule the Daniel Hand High School  
Commencement Ceremony**

XIV. **Old Business**

XV. **New Business**

XVI. **Future Agenda Items**

XVII. **Meetings / Dates of Importance**

XVIII. **Adjournment**

**Madison Public Schools  
Board of Education Special Meeting  
March 14, 2013  
Conference Room B**

---

---

**Meeting Minutes**

---

---

**1. Call to Order / Attendance**

The public meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Chairman Frey at 6:05 p.m. Chairman Frey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Bill Clorite; John Dean; Jean Fitzgerald; Debra Frey; Seth Klaskin; Pamela Meier; Robert Ruggiero; Cindy Wood.

**2. Executive Session**

MOTION: by Meier seconded by Klaskin to enter Executive Session at 6:20 p.m. for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent's Evaluation and the Board of Education's Self-Evaluation.

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

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

- **Discussion: Superintendent's Evaluation**
- **Discussion: Board of Education Self-Evaluation**

MOTION: by Wood seconded by Klaskin to adjourn Executive Session at 8:30 p.m.

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

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

**3. Meeting Adjournment**

MOTION: by Dean seconded by Ruggiero to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

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

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0



**Madison Public Schools  
Board of Education Meeting  
March 19, 2013  
Town Campus Hammonasset Room**

**Meeting Minutes**

**1. Call to Order / Attendance**

The public meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Chairman Frey at 5:30 p.m. Chairman Frey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Bill Clorite; John Dean; Debra Frey; Seth Klaskin; Pamela Meier; Ryan Suerth; Cindy Wood.

Also Present: Thomas Scarice, Superintendent of Schools, Anita L. Rutlin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, district administrators; community members.

**2. Executive Session**

MOTION: by Dean seconded by Wood to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the appointment of Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment at 5:30 p.m..  
AYES: Clorite, Dean, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Suerth, Wood  
NAYS: None  
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

**2.1. Candidate for the position of Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment.**

MOTION: by Dean seconded by Klaskin to adjourn Executive Session at 7:30 p.m..  
AYES: Clorite, Dean, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Suerth, Wood  
NAYS: None  
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

**3. School/Community Session**

**3.1. Recognition**

- Joshua Stokes, Daniel Hand High School Senior  
Grand Prize Winner  
C-SPAN's 2013 StudentCam Competition
- Luke Arsenault, Daniel Hand High School Career and Technology Education Teacher  
Faculty Advisor  
C-SPAN 2013 StudentCam Competition

Superintendent Scarice introduced Josh Stokes, Daniel Hand High School Senior as well as Luke Arsenault, Daniel Hand High School Career and Technology Education Teacher. Superintendent Scarice congratulated Josh for being

the leader who won the grand prize worldwide for his video submission to CSPAN. Josh's video was a piece on "What Are the Main Issues Facing the President – Unemployment". CSPAN awarded as cash prize to Josh and cash prize to Daniel Hand High School.

Josh said that he felt that unemployment is an important issue facing all Americas. At that time Superintendent Scarice played the video.

Superintendent Scarice then said how proud he was of Josh. He also stated that it's great when kids have a vision and put their ideas into action.

### **3.2 Public Participation**

No comments were offered.

### **4. Student Representatives' Report**

Presenters: Jane Butler and John Ovian, Daniel Hand High School Students

Ms. Butler reported that the CAPT testing was continuing through 3/20/13. The trimester two exams are currently taking place and the trimester three begins on Friday 3/22/13. Ms. Butler noted that the band will be leaving for Disney early Thursday morning and returning on Sunday. Ms. Butler also noted that the cast and crew of Grease continue to work hard.

Ms. Frey asked about the date of the spring musical. Ms. Butler noted that it is scheduled for May 2, 3 and 4.

Mr. Ovian reported that the show Choir was the grand champion at the Nutmeg State Choral Festival winning best choral sound and best male soloist. Mr. Ovian noted that the spring sports are starting up and that tryouts are being held this week and next. Mr. Ovian also noted that scholarships are in full swing with the major deadline being April 6. Also, students are starting to hear back from colleges and that most will receive their letters for the regular decision round on or before April 1.

MOTION: by Klaskin seconded by Meier to change the order of the agenda to take action on the appointment of the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment.

AYES: Clorite, Dean, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Suerth, Wood

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

### **5. Action Item: Appointment of the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment**

MOTION: by Meier seconded by Klaskin to appoint Gail Dahling-Hench as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment effective July 1, 2013.

AYES: Clorite, Dean, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Suerth, Wood

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Superintendent Scarice introduced the newly appointed Assistant Superintendent Gail Dahling-Hench. He stated that Mrs. Dahling-Hench is an incredible fit to the district. He welcomed Ms. Dahling-Hench on behalf of the Administrative team. Ms. Dahling-Hench's effective start date will be July 1, 2013.

Ms. Dahling-Hench stated that she was thankful for the appointment and thanked the committee. Ms. Dahling-Hench also thanked Ms. Anita Rutlin for her years of contributions.

## **6. Superintendent's Report**

Thomas R. Scarice

### **6.1. Report: Out of State Field Trip**

Superintendent Scarice reported there are two upcoming out of town field trips. The first trip is scheduled for 48 students to go to New York City and visit China Town. The second scheduled trip is for approximately 97 seniors to go to New York City and visit the Metropolitan Museum and the Cathedral of St. John the Devine.

### **6.2. Update: 2013-2014 Budget**

Superintendent Scarice reported that the percent increase in the 2013-2014 comprehensive budget is 2.41% due to some savings in the health insurance line item. A list of school district budget increases for the 2013-2014 school year, compiled by the Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents (CAPSS), was distributed.

### **6.3. Report 2013-2014 Kindergarten Registration**

Superintendent Scarice reported there are currently 113 students registered for Kindergarten. He expects more student will be enrolling over the summer.

## **7. Board Members' Comments**

No comments were offered.

## **8. Reports from Board Committees / Liaison**

### **8.1. Planning Committee**

Members: Jean Fitzgerald, Chair  
Bill Clorite  
Pam Meier

Ms. Frey spoke on behalf of the Planning Committee. She discussed a donation of a 12' x 20' Cape Style Storage Building to the Daniel Hand High School Baseball Program from Madison Baseball, LLC.

### **8.2. Personnel Committee**

Members: John Dean, Chair  
Cindy Wood, Vice Chair  
Robert Ruggiero

Mr. Dean reported that negotiations for cafeteria employees would be held on March 28, 2013. He also reported that negotiations for M.A.E.S.S. are scheduled on May 4, 2013.

### **8.3 Policy Committee**

Members: Seth Klaskin, Chair  
Ryan Suerth  
Cindy Wood

Atty. Klaskin reported:

The Policy Committee held a special meeting last night to address the 2012-2013 Academic Calendar in light of last week's snowstorm that resulted in a school closing. Recall that the Board voted at our last meeting to reduce the number of instructional days this year from the amount stipulated in our policy; 183 days, to the state mandated minimum number of 180 days, in order to accommodate the unusually bad weather we've faced this year, prior to the most recent storm.

By policy, we set our calendars two academic years in advance. When we set this year's calendar two years ago, we stipulated that additional days would be added to the end of the year, through June 30, in the event that we exceeded the number of allowable weather closings. Based on our published calendar, the community planned accordingly and our faculty, staff and students counted on having the February and April vacations off. While the Policy Committee discussed removing vacation days from April break, we felt that doing so would not be fair to the many folks who made plans based on our published calendar. While we considered modifying that policy retroactively,

we set the April break and noted on the published calendar that additional days would be tacked on at the end of the year, so we feel we need to honor that policy this year. The Committee will be reviewing our policy and recommending changes for future calendar years based on our experience this year, but that will only impact future academic calendars. As a result, the last day of school this year will be Tuesday, June 25, assuming no more bad weather closings.

That said, we recognize that the bad weather this year causes some hardships as the school year creeps closer to July. These hardships are felt most acutely among the seniors, many of whom have college orientations or other college programming that begin in the last week of June. After listening to the concerns of the community and the affected families, we thought it would be especially cruel to allow this unusual year to deprive students of the ability to attend both their high school commencement ceremony and their college initiation. Therefore, although our policy requires us to wait until April 1<sup>st</sup> to vote on the date for the Daniel Hand commencement ceremony, the Policy Committee wishes to forecast that it plans to move at our April 2<sup>nd</sup> Board meeting that we set the commencement ceremony for June 21<sup>st</sup>, regardless of whether there are any other bad weather closings this Spring. Note that the mandatory 180<sup>th</sup> day of instruction continues to fall on Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, and that will continue to be the last day of school, which will be a half day.

Over the next couple meetings the Policy Committee will bring some action items to the Board, seeking to adjust our policy for future years. One of the issues we intend to address is the manner in which days are added onto the calendar to accommodate school closings.

#### **8.4 Finance Committee**

Members: Bill Clorite, Chair  
Jean Fitzgerald  
Cindy Wood

Mr. Clorite reported that the excess cost reimbursement from the state was 76% which is slightly below what was expected. Mr. Clorite explained that selected vendors have been approved to receive payment in advance of Board of Education approval. He reported that the Budget Public Hearing is scheduled on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at the Walter C. Polson Middle School and the Budget Referendum is scheduled on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### **8.5. Ad-Hoc Community Relations Committee**

Members: Ryan Suerth, Chair  
Pam Meier  
Cindy Wood

Mr. Suerth reported an Ad-Hoc Community Relations meeting is scheduled on March 28, 2013.

#### **8.6. LEARN Liaison**

Liaison: Robert Ruggiero

No report.

### **9. Audience Response to Information Presented**

Mr. Bennett Pudlin of Salt Meadow Lane stated that he approved the Board of Education's 2013-2014 budget. He thanked the Board members for all of their efforts.

### **10. Consent Agenda (Reference Bylaw #9540.2 and #9540.8)**

**10.1. Bills Payable: \$291,054.05**

**10.2. Line Transfers: \$46,883.74**

**10.3. Donation: \$7,000 to Walter C. Polson Middle School from the Walter C. Polson Middle School PTO for school beautification, school safety, and Polson Pride activities.**

**10.4. Donation: 12' x 20' Cape Style Storage Building to the Daniel Hand High School Baseball Program from Madison Baseball, LLC**

MOTION: by Frey seconded by Clorite to approve Consent Agenda.

AYES: Clorite, Dean, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Suerth, Wood

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

**11. Action Item: Minutes of the March 5, 2013 Board of Education Meeting**

MOTION: by Klaskin seconded by Wood to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2013 Board of Education Meeting.

AYES: Clorite, Dean, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Suerth, Wood

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: Frey and Dean

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

**12. Old Business**

No old business was discussed.

**13. New Business**

No new business was discussed.

**14. Future Agenda Items**

No future agenda items were requested.

**15. Meetings / Dates of Importance**

<b>Meetings / Dates of Importance</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Finance Committee Meeting	March 26, 2013	7:30am	Conference Room B
Planning Committee Meeting	March 28, 2013	7:30 a.m.	Conference Room B
Ad Hoc Community Relations Committee Meeting	March 28, 2013	10:00am	Conference Room B
Good Friday Holiday	March 29, 2013		
Board of Education Meeting	April 2, 2013	7:30 p.m.	Hammonasset Room

**16. Adjournment**

MOTION: by Frey, seconded by Dean to adjourn the meeting at 8:15p.m..

AYES: Clorite, Dean, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Suerth, Wood

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Submitted for approval at 4/2/2013 BOE meeting.  
L. Feinn