

# Board of Education Regular Meeting

Tuesday, May 21, 2013 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. Recognition: Madison Police Department •  
Chief Jack Drumm • Commander John Rich •  
Detective Phil Rosati • Officer Alexandra  
Blackwell • Officer Bill DeGoursey • Office Jeff  
Mazzetta

II.B. Connecticut Association of Boards of  
Education (CABE) Student Leadership Awards • Sina  
Analoui, Walter C. Polson Middle School •  
Isabella Crocker, Walter C. Polson Middle School  
• Kate Boudreau, Daniel Hand High School • John  
Ovian, Daniel Hand High School

II.C. National Teacher Day (May 7, 2013)  
Madison Education Association Co-Presidents • Mary  
Helen Braceland • Mary Ellen Babik

II.D. Public Participation

## III. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report

**Speaker(s):** Jane  
Butler and John Ovian

## IV. Superintendent's Report

**Speaker(s):** Thomas R.  
Scarice

IV.A. 2013-2014 Kindergarten Enrollment Update

IV.B. National School Nurse Day (May 8, 2013)

IV.C. Grades 5-8 Developmental Guidance Program

## V. Board Members' Comments

## VI. Board Committees / Liaison Updates (Ref. Bylaw #9450)

VI.A. Planning Committee

**Speaker(s):** Members:  
Jean Fitzgerald,  
Chair; Bill Clorite;  
Pam Meier

VI.B. Personnel Committee

**Speaker(s):** Members:  
John Dean, Chair;  
Cindy Wood, Vice  
Chair, Robert  
Ruggiero

VI.C. Policy Committee

**Speaker(s):** Members:  
Seth Klaskin, Chair;  
Ryan Suerth; Cindy  
Wood

VI.C.1. Discussion: 2014-2015 School Year  
Calendar

VI.D. Finance Committee

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

Cindy Wood

VI.E. LEARN Liaison

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

VII. **Audience Reponse to Information Presented (Ref. Bylaw #9540.10)**

VIII. **Consent Agenda (Ref. Bylaw #9540.2 and #9540.8)**

VIII.A. Bills Payable:2011-2012 Budget -  
\$1,096.68 and 2012-2013 Budget - \$528,298.16

VIII.B. Line Transfers:\$64,057.95

VIII.C. Donation: Cost of Approximately \$3,500  
for a Geotechnical Report of the Daniel Hand High  
School Baseball Field from Madison Baseball, LLC

IX. **Action Item: Minutes of the May 7, 2013 Board  
of Education Meeting (Ref. Bylaw #9540.9)**

X. **Textbook Adoption: Chemistry AP Edition Update  
to Eleventh Edition McGraw Hill, 2014 Honors  
Chemistry Science Grades 10-12 Daniel Hand High  
School**

XI. **Textbook Adoption: Basic Chemistry, Fourth  
Edition / Daniel Hand High School Chemistry  
Level 2**

XII. **Appointment of Stephen Fuest to the Cable  
Advisory Council of South Central Connecticut,  
effective 7/1/2013**

XIII. **Old Business**

XIV. **New Business**

XV. **Future Agenda Items**

XVI. **Meetings of Importance**

XVII. **Adjournment**

**Madison Public Schools  
Board of Education Meeting  
May 7, 2013  
7:30 PM  
Town Campus Hammonasset Room**

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**Meeting Minutes**

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**1. Call to Order / Attendance**

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

Present: Bill Clorite; John Dean, Jean Fitzgerald; 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

**2. School / Community Session**

**Public Participation:**

**Mr. Matthew Oman, Student at Daniel Hand High School**

Mr. Oman spoke on a matter related to the DHHS Varsity Hockey ice hockey coach. He asked the Board if there was a process to reverse the resignation of the coach.

**Ms. Loreen Brown of Blueberry Hill Drive**

Ms. Brown spoke on a matter related to the DHHS Varsity Hockey coach. She asked the Board if there was a process to reinstate the ice hockey coach.

**3. Student Representatives' Report**

Ms. Butler stated that the students are currently in the middle of their AP exams.

Ms. Butler also stated that last weekend the play "Grease" was a great success. There were approximately 163 students in the cast and the crew.

Ms. Butler stated that the Junior prom will be held this Saturday.

Ms. Butler stated that the art show was held today and that tomorrow the ribbons will be presented to students.

Mr. Ovian stated that the Senior Auction was a great success. There was one group that ended up auctioning themselves three times and raised \$900.

Mr. Ovian noted that field trips and senior trips are starting.

Mr. Ovian stated that the girls and boys tennis, softball, lacrosse and track all have winning records. Mr. Ovian also stated that they are all on track to go to states.

Superintendent Scarice asked if Mr. Ovian and Ms. Butler attended the meet and greet for the new high school Principal Mr. Anthony Salutari. Mr. Ovian stated he did not get to personally meet with him because there were so many people at the event. Ms. Butler stated that Mr. Salutari said that he would be arranging to meet with some students in the near future.

#### 4. Superintendent's Report

##### 4.1. Grades K-4 Language Arts Program Update (*on file*)

Pamela Khairallah, Denise Chabot, Stacey Collins, Michelle Horn, Renee Pardo presented an update of the readers and writers workshop model implementation for grades K-4. Samples of student work, teacher work, and video clips of classroom instruction were included in the presentation.

##### 4.2. Durham School Services Contract Extension

Arthur Sickle, Director of Administrative Services and Stephen Schmuck, Durham School Services Regional Manager - New England Region

Mr. Sickle recommended that the contract with Durham School Services, L.P. be extended through the 2017-2018 school year. Mr. Sickle stated that Madison Public Schools has a great relationship with Durham School Services, L.P. Mr. Sickle proceeded to present to the Board the rate increases over the next 5 years.

Mr. Sickle stated there will be new video camera equipment installed in the buses and that they will have two weeks of archive capability.

Mr. Sickle stated there will be a total of 32 new vehicles.

Ms. Wood asked if different size buses will be needed for Kindergarten. Mr. Sickle stated that the same buses will be used for Grades K-4.

Ms. Wood also asked the current age of the buses. Mr. Sickle stated that the average year of the fleet is just under 10 years old with the oldest bus being 12 years old. The addition of the new equipment will result in the average of the equipment being brought down to just over 5 years old at the start of the agreement.

Mr. Schmuck stated that the technology has improved as well as the maintenance on the newer vehicles and there will also be an improvement on the cost of fuel.

Action on the contract extension will be included on the agenda for the June 4, 2013 Board meeting.

##### 4.3. Optional Healthy Food/Snacks Certification

Arthur Sickle, Director of Administrative Services and Jason Wallace, Manager of Food Services

Mr. Sickle presented the information regarding the *Healthy Food/Snacks Certification*. Mr. Sickle stated that State reimbursement is .10 cents per meal, which is approximately \$16,000. Mr. Sickle recommended that the Board "opt out" of the program again for the 2013-2014 school year.

Mr. Sickle and Mr. Wallace confirmed that the a la carte choices currently available in the elementary schools would in fact meet the optional, more stringent requirements of the Healthy Food Certification Program.

Mr. Sickle stated there are no changes slated for next year's food plan.

##### 4.4. Teacher Evaluation Plan Update

Superintendent Scarice stated that he met with the Commissioner last week and that some modifications have been made to the Madison Teacher Evaluation Plan. Superintendent Scarice distributed revisions.

Atty. Klaskin asked if the Commissioner was receptive of the plan. Superintendent Scarice stated that the plan defines what is right for the Madison Public Schools.

Superintendent Scarice noted that the core requirements of the legislation include 19 separate areas. Madison currently complies with 14 areas. Mr. Dean asked what the worst case scenario if the district did not fully comply with all areas of the core requirements. Superintendent Scarice stated that there is a provision in the law that enables the State Board of Education to waive requirements if it is deemed that a district is in substantial compliance with the core requirements. Mr. Dean asked Superintendent Scarice how many other Districts are currently working on their own plan. Superintendent Scarice responded many district have decided to develop their own plans and that he has been contacted by fifteen other districts regarding the Madison plan.

Superintendent Scarice commented that when candidates applying for positions in the Madison Public Schools are asked what attracted them to Madison, the response has been that they are excited about the direction of the Madison Public Schools.

#### **4.5. Kindergarten Enrollment Update**

Superintendent Scarice reported that there are 126 Kindergarten students currently registered for the 2013-2014 school year.

#### **4.6. 2013 Summer Reading List: *Dig Into Reading (on file)***

Dawn Fiorelli, Program Coordinator for Library Media Services presented the Summer Reading List to the Board.

#### **4.7. Superintendent's Book Discussion Update**

Superintendent Scarice reported that 25 people attended the May 1, 2013 Superintendent's Book Discussion. He also reported that the meet and greet with author Allison Zmuda is scheduled for May 13, 2013 at 7:00pm in the Town Campus Hammonasset Room. The event will include a live Twitter feed.

### **5. Board Members' Comments**

Atty. Klaskin stated that the play Grease was great. He also reminded everyone to vote in the Referendum scheduled on May 14, 2013.

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

#### **6.1. Planning Committee**

Members: Jean Fitzgerald, Chair  
Bill Clorite  
Pam Meier

Ms. Fitzgerald reported that the boilers at Walter C. Polson Middle School are scheduled to be replaced. Mr. Clorite stated that they are replacing two large boilers with four smaller one. Mr. Clorite also stated that they will be switching to gas.

Ms. Fitzgerald noted that in order to make fields safer for the student's playing field hickey, lacrosse, etc. there has been discussion about installing fencing at a couple of fields. Ms. Fitzgerald also stated that there has been discussion about possibly installing cement stairs at the Polson softball field.

Ms. Fitzgerald spoke about the donation made to the Walter C. Polson Middle School to fund the gym renovation project. Ms. Wood asked what the overall cost of the project would be? Ms. Nobitz, Director of Finance said she would obtain that information for them.

**6.2. Personnel Committee**

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

Mr. Dean stated that they are meeting several times during the month of May regarding the M.A.E.S.S. and NAGE contracts which are up for renewal June 30, 2013.

**6.3. Policy Committee**

Members: Seth Klaskin, Chair  
Ryan Suerth  
Cindy Wood

The next meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2013. Atty. Klaskin reminded people to vote at the Referendum on May 14, 2013.

**6.4. Finance Committee**

Members: Bill Clorite, Chair  
Jean Fitzgerald  
Cindy Wood

Mr. Clorite stated that the 2013/2014 budget is going well. Mr. Clorite reported that to date the Special Education budget is on track. Mr. Clorite also stated that the snow removal may be slightly over budget. He also mentioned that the food service budget might be in the red this year.

**6.5. LEARN Liaison**

Liaison: Robert Ruggiero

No report.

**7. Audience Response to Information Presented**

No comments were offered.

**8. Consent Agenda**

**8.1. Bills Payable: \$631.86 – 2011/2012 Budget and \$821,745.32 – 2012/2013 Budget**

**8.2. Line Transfers: \$27,631.33**

**8.3. Budget Expenditure Report as of May 2, 2013**

**8.4. Donation: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to Rock Cats Baseball Game from Dr. Robert H. Brown Middle School PTO to Dr. Robert H. Brown Middle School**

**8.5. Donation: Enhance the Walter C. Polson Middle School Gym Renovation Project**

MOTION: by Dean seconded by Klaskin to approve Consent Agenda.

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

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

**9. Action Item: Minutes of the April 23, 2013 Board of Education Meeting**

MOTION: by Fitzgerald seconded by Klaskin to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2013 Board of Education Meeting.

AYES: Clorite, Dean, Fitzgerald, Frey, Klaskin, Suerth

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: Meier and Wood

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

**10. Action Item: Dates of the February 2014 Break to February 17 and 18, 2014.**

MOTION: by Atty. Seth Klaskin on behalf of the Policy Committee to change the dates of the February 2014 Break to February 17 and 18, 2014.

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

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

**11. Action Item: Notation to the school year calendar regarding calendar adjustments that will be made due to unscheduled school closings**

MOTION: by Atty. Seth Klaskin on behalf of the Policy Committee to add a notation to the school year calendar regarding calendar adjustments that will be made due to unscheduled school closings

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

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

**12. Action Item: Madison Public Schools Teacher Evaluation Plan.**

MOTION: by Klaskin seconded by Meier to adopt the Madison Public Schools Teacher Evaluation Plan.

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

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

**13. Action Item: Grades K-4 Bridges Mathematics Program for implementation in the 2013/2014 School Year. Phase 1 will be Grades K-2 in 2013/2014 and Phase 2 for Grades 3-4 in 2014/2015.**

MOTION: by Klaskin seconded by Dean to adopt the Grades K-4 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Bridges Mathematics Program for implementation in the 2013-2014 School Year. Phase 1 will be Grades K-2 in 2013-2014 and Phase 2 for Grades 3-4 in 2014-2015.

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

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS: Wood

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

**14. Action Item: To opt out of the Healthy Food/Snacks Certification**

MOTION: by Jean Fitzgerald on behalf of the Planning Committee to Opt Out of the Healthy Food/Snacks Certification.

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

NAYS: None

ABSTENTIONS:

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

**15. Old Business**

Ms. Frey asked Superintendent Scarice to provide a timeline regarding discussion and action on the draft of the district vision statement. Superintendent Scarice indicated that he wanted newly hired administrators to have input. Consequently, he is estimating a mid-summer timeframe.

**16. New Business**

**Textbook Adoption Preview (May 7 – May 21, 2013)**

Assistant Superintendent Rutlin presented the Board with information about the two Chemistry textbooks and stated that there will be a copy of each of them in her office for review over the next two weeks.

**Chemistry**

AP Edition Update to Eleventh Edition

McGraw Hill, 2014

Honors Chemistry

Science Grades 10-12

Daniel Hand High School

**Basic Chemistry**

Fourth Edition

Pearson, 2014

Chemistry Level 2

Science Grades 10-12

Daniel Hand High School

**17. Future Agenda Items**

**18. Meetings / Dates of Importance:**

<b>Meetings / Dates of Importance</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Planning Committee Meeting	May 9, 2013	7:30 AM	Conference Room B
Budget Referendum	May 14, 2013		
Policy Committee Meeting	May 21, 2013	6:30 PM	Conference Room B
Board of Education Meeting	May 21, 2013	7:30 PM	Hammonasett Room
Memorial Day	May 27, 2013		
Finance Committee Meeting	May 28, 2013	7:30 AM	Conference Room B
Planning Committee Meeting	May 30, 2013	7:30 AM	Conference Room B

**19. Adjournment**

MOTION: by Dean seconded by Fitzgerald to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 p.m.

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

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

<b>Meetings / Dates of Importance</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>
Memorial Day Holiday	May 27, 2013		
Finance Committee Meeting	May 28, 2013	7:30 AM	Conference Room B
Planning Committee Meeting	May 30, 2013	7:30 AM	Conference Room B
Board of Education Meeting/Retiree Recognition	June 4, 2013	6:30 PM	DHHS Dining and Assembly Hall
Finance Committee Meeting	June 11, 2013	7:30 AM	Conference Room B
Planning Committee Meeting	June 12, 2013	7:30 AM	Conference Room B
Policy Committee Meeting	June 18, 2013	6:30 PM	Conference Room B
Board of Education Meeting	June 18, 2013	7:30 PM	Hammonasset Room
Planning Committee Meeting	June 20, 2013	7:30 AM	Conference Room B
Finance Committee Meeting	June 25, 2013	7:30 AM	Conference Room B