

Board of Education Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, November 11, 2008 7:30 PM Eastern

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. Public Participation
- IV. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report
- V. Superintendent's Report
  - V.A. Update: 2008-2009 Enrollment
  - V.B. Middle School Schedule Overview - Dr. Robert H. Brown Middle School, Walter C. Polson Middle School
  - V.C. Discussion: Madison Technology Plan, 2009-2012 - First Version
  - V.D. Distribution: 2007-2008 Strategic School Profile
- VI. Board Members' Comments
- VII. Board Committees / Liaison Updates
  - VII.A. Planning Committee
  - VII.B. Personnel Committee
    - VII.B.1. Discussion: Ratification of Agreement between the Madison Public Schools and The Association of Madison Administrators
  - VII.C. Policy Committee
    - VII.C.1. Technical Revision: Policy #4121, Substitute Teachers
  - VII.D. Finance Committee
  - VII.E. Community Outreach Committee
  - VII.F. LEARN Liaison
- VIII. Audience Response to Information Presented
- IX. Consent Agenda (9.1 - 9.4)
  - IX.A. Bills Payable: \$13,319.28 (07-08); \$875,812.98 (08-09)
  - IX.B. Line Transfers: \$48,910.07
  - IX.C. Budget Expenditure Report as of November 5, 2008
  - IX.D. Application for Beginning Educator Support and Training (BEST) Program Mentors
- X. Action Item: Minutes October 21, 2008 Meeting (Ref Bylaw #9540.8)
- XI. Action Item: Agreement between the Madison Public Schools and The Association of Madison Administrators (Ref. Bylaw #9540.8)
- XII. Action Item: Madison Technology Plan, First Version (Ref. Bylaw 9548.8)
- XIII. Old Business
- XIV. New Business
  - XIV.A. Textbook Adoption Preview (November 11-18, 2008) (Ref. Policy #6100.10)
- XV. Future Agenda Items
  - XV.A. Curriculum Renewal Process

XVI. Meetings of Importance

XVII. 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.

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Board of Education Meeting  
October 21, 2008  
Town Campus

Meeting Minutes

1. The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Chairman Robert Hale at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Bill Clorite; Becky Coffey; John Dean; Harriet Gowanlock; Robert Hale; Seth Klaskin; Robert Ruggiero;  
Also present: David Klein, Superintendent; Anita Rutlin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment.

2. Executive Session

MOTION: by Coffey seconded by Dean to enter Executive Session at 7:00 p.m. to discuss personnel and legal issues.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Gowanlock, Hale, Klaskin, Ruggiero

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Personnel matters involving confidential issues were discussed.

Legal matters were discussed.

MOTION: by Ruggiero, seconded by Clorite to adjourn Executive Session at 7:20 p.m.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Gowanlock, Hale, Klaskin, Ruggiero

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

The public session of the Board of Education meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Hale at 7:33 p.m. Chairman Hale led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Bill Clorite; Becky Coffey; John Dean; Harriet Gowanlock; Robert Hale; Seth Klaskin; Robert Ruggiero

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

Chairman Hale requested that all present pause for a moment of silence to honor the memory of Mr. Mark Hershnik.

3. School / Community Session

Public Participation

None at this time.

**4. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report**

(Thomas Presti and Anna Balakrishnan)

Ms. Balakrishnan reported that PSAT's were held on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> and went very smoothly. She also commented that Homecoming will be on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Presti reported that Early Action for seniors is fast approaching on November 1<sup>st</sup>. He was also happy to report that the Cross Country Team placed fourth at the SCC's this past Thursday.

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Mr. Presti reported that a guest motivational speaker will visit Daniel Hand on October 27<sup>th</sup> to talk with students about making good choices. The speaker is a high school teacher and coach, and the author of a book called "10 Seconds Will Change Your Life Forever". His wife was killed by a drunk driver and he speaks to students about the power of their decisions.

## **5. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Klein informed the Board that they will be receiving invitations to a recognition event on November 4, 2008. This event is to recognize the Custodial and Maintenance Employees who take care of the buildings and grounds of the Madison Public Schools.

### **5.1. Presentation: Class of 2008 Summary Report (Jean Baker and Barbara Britton)**

Jean Baker, Director of Guidance at Daniel Hand High School, presented a report on the Class of 2007 (on file) and a PowerPoint presentation (on file) summarizing the report.

Ms. Baker reported that of the 319 graduates in 2008, 88% of the class went on to a four year college. 101 students were accepted to colleges ranked as "most" competitive with 42 students attending those schools. For schools ranked as "highly" competitive, 225 acceptances were reported, with 61 students attending those colleges. The four top indicated majors for the class of 2008 are Health Sciences and Science / Pre-Med (75); Business and Finance (42); Mathematics / Engineering (36) and Arts / AV Technology and Communications (35).

Ms. Baker stated that she hopes to address the Board again in February 2009 to discuss the updated Guidance Curriculum and share the ongoing activities in the Guidance Department.

The Board thanked Ms. Baker for an informative presentation.

### **5.2. Overview: November 4, 2008 Professional Development Activities (Anita Rutlin)**

Ms. Rutlin stated that final reviews of the schedule for the November 4<sup>th</sup> Professional Development activities will occur in the next few days. She outlined some of the topics and activities that are planned for that day:

- Workshops for Special Education and Student Services;
- A Grief Assistance Plan;
- Curriculum work in various departments;
- Technology Training, primarily at the elementary level, based on recommendations from the NEASC studies;
- A workshop on Differentiating Instruction at the middle school level.

Ms. Rutlin invited members of the Board to attend any of the activities on November 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **5.3. Overview: October 13, 2008 Board of Education Retreat (Chairman Hale)**

Chairman Hale reported that he felt the October 13<sup>th</sup> Board Retreat was an excellent meeting with great interaction. He expressed appreciation for Ms. Patrice McCarthy, Deputy Director and General Council, Connecticut Association of Boards of Education, who facilitated the retreat.

## **6. Board Member Comments**

Chairman Hale informed the Board that an Ethics Workshop is being held on October 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. and open to all Madison Town Officials.

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Chairman Hale next stated that Governor Rell has scheduled a Special Session of the Legislature for November 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss special revisions to the State budget. Chairman Hale commented that he had already made calls to our State Senator and State Representatives urging them to secure the funds the State committed for Madison, specifically the Special Education Grant.

7. Reports from Board Committees / Liaisons

7.1 Planning Committee

Ms. Frey was not present at the meeting. Ms. Coffey reported in her absence that the Island Avenue Building Committee is closing out the boiler project and the roof project is moving forward; interviews are scheduled for next week to select a vendor. The Planning Committee continues to work with Mike Ott, Assistant Director of Public Works and Town Engineer on traffic safety issues. RFQ's have been received for the Facilities Study and Chairman Hale commented that a few were outstanding. The process to narrow them down will begin shortly and the Committee is gathering usage data which will be helpful once a consultant is selected.

7.2. Personnel Committee

Mr. Dean reported that legal review of the proposed AMA contract is almost complete, and he will share components of the final agreement once it has been ratified.

7.3. Policy Committee

Ms. Gowanlock reported that the Policy Committee had met earlier in the evening. They discussed a technical revision to Policy #4121, Substitute Teachers. The Committee also began their review / "wordsmithing" of the non content portions of the Code of Conduct. Finally, Ms. Gowanlock reminded the Board that the three policies related to Title 1 funds are on the agenda for Board approval tonight.

7.4. Finance Committee

Ms. Coffey reported that the Committee has not met, but a meeting is scheduled for October 28<sup>th</sup> to have preliminary discussions on the process and organization of the 2009 / 2010 budget.

7.5. Community Outreach Committee

Atty. Klaskin stated that the Committee has not met but there was some discussion at the Board Retreat as to the expectations of the Board and Administration of the Community Outreach Program.

7.6. LEARN Liaison

No report.

8. Audience Response to Information Presented

None at this time.

9. Consent Agenda

9.1. Bills Payable: \$5,221.91 (07/08); \$525,182.35 (08/09)

9.2. Line Transfers: \$2,037.80

9.3. Teacher Grant Application – National Geographic Alliance

MOTION: by Coffey, seconded by Ruggiero to approve the Consent Agenda.

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AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Gowanlock, Hale, Klaskin,  
Ruggiero,  
NAYS: None  
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

10. Action Item: Minutes of October 7, 2008 Board of Education Meeting

MOTION: by Coffey, seconded by Dean to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2008 Board of Education meeting.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Hale, Gowanlock, Klaskin,  
Ruggiero  
NAYS: None  
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

11. Action Item: Minutes of October 13, 2008 Board of Education Meeting

MOTION: by Gowanlock, seconded by Coffey to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2008 Board of Education meeting.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Hale, Gowanlock, Klaskin, Ruggiero  
NAYS: None  
ABSTENTIONS: Dean  
MOTION CARRIED: 6-0

12. Action Item: Policy #4216, Instructional Paraprofessionals

MOTION: by the Policy Committee to approve Policy #4216, Instructional Paraprofessionals.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Hale, Gowanlock, Klaskin,  
Ruggiero  
NAYS: None  
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

13. Action Item: Policy #6080.1.2. Title 1 Programs / Parental Involvement (*Reference Bylaw #9620*)

MOTION: by the Policy Committee to approve Policy #6080.1.2., Title 1 Programs / Parental Involvement.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Hale, Gowanlock, Klaskin,  
Ruggiero  
NAYS: None  
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

14. Action Item: Policy #6080.19.3.6, Instructional Paraprofessionals

MOTION: by the Policy Committee to approve Policy #6080.19.3.6, Instructional Paraprofessionals.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Hale, Gowanlock, Klaskin,  
Ruggiero  
NAYS: None  
MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

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15. Old Business

15.1. Discussion: Revised 2008-2009 School Liaisons

Island Avenue Elementary School	Bill Clorite
J. Milton Jeffrey Elementary School	Seth Klaskin
Kathleen H. Ryerson Elementary School	Robert Ruggiero
Dr. Robert H. Brown Middle School	Harriet Gowanlock
Walter C. Polson Middle School	John Dean
Daniel Hand High School	Becky Coffey

Superintendent Klein explained that a change was made to the list of school liaisons as presented after the October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Chairman Hale stated that if there was no further discussion, the 2008-2009 School Liaisons as shown on the agenda would be final.

16. New Business

No new business was discussed.

17. Future Agenda Items

- 17.1. Overview: Daily Schedules for Dr. Robert H. Brown Middle School and Walter C. Polson Middle School - November 11, 2008

Mr. Clorite asked if there would be a presentation at an upcoming Board meeting on the software update. Superintendent Klein responded by reminding the Board that our current Student Database program, SASI, will be obsolete at the end of the next school year. Mr. Art Sickle, Director of Administrative Services, and his team are looking at other options, and will report to the Board at the appropriate time.

18. Meetings of importance.

Chairman Hale referred to the list of upcoming meetings on the agenda.

19. Adjournment

MOTION: by Dean, seconded by Ruggiero to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Gowanlock, Hale, Klaskin, Ruggiero

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0

Submitted for Approval at the 11/11/08 Board of Education Meeting  
dmd

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