

Board of Education Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, March 16, 2010 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.
- III. School Community Session- 7:30 p.m.
  - III.A. Recognitions:
    - III.A.1. Choiwing Yeung, Walter C. Polson Middle School Grade 7 Student; Merit Award Winner in the 22nd Annual Lions International Peace Poster Contest
    - III.A.2. Professional School Social Workers Month: Ben Schreiber; Allan Uzwiak; Linda Young; Angela Ahern; Scott Cochran; Erin Corbett; Christy Modine
  - III.B. Public Participation
- IV. Board of Education Student Representatives' Report
- V. Superintendent's Report
  - V.A. Board of Finance Action on 2010-2011 Board of Education Budget
  - V.B. Report on Out of State Travel
  - V.C. Discussion: Durham School Services Contract Addendum
- VI. Board Members' Comments
- VII. Board Committees / Liaison Updates
  - VII.A. Planning Committee
  - VII.B. Personnel Committee
  - VII.C. Policy Committee
  - VII.D. Finance Committee
  - VII.E. LEARN Liaison
- VIII. Audience Response to Information Presented
- IX. Consent Agenda (9.1-9.3) (Ref. Bylaw #9540.2 and 9540.8)
  - IX.A. Bills Payable: \$277.02 (08-09); \$442,369.34 (09-10)
  - IX.B. Line Transfers: \$10,505.14
  - IX.C. Donation: \$1,085 to Walter C. Polson Middle School for Cultural Arts Programs from the Polson School PTO
- X. Action Item: Minutes of the March 2, 2010 Board of Education Meeting
- XI. Action Item: Revised 2010-2011 School Year Calendar (Ref. Policy #6030)
- XII. Action Item: Addendum to the Transportation Agreement between the Madison Public Schools and Durham School Services
- XIII. Old Business
- XIV. New Business
- XV. Future Agenda Items
  - XV.A. Technology Update - Infinite Campus and Finals site Update
- XVI. Meetings of Importance
  - XVI.A. March 23, 2010: Personnel Committee Meeting; 5:30 p.m., Central Office Room B

XVI.B. March 24, 2010: Planning Committee Meeting; 7:30 a.m., Central Office Room B

XVI.C. March 24, 2010: M.A.D.E. in Madison - Presentation of Results of Youth Survey; 5:00 p.m, Town Campus Hammonasset Room

XVI.D. March 31, 2010: Personnel Committee Meeting; 5:30 p.m., Central Office Room B

XVI.E. April 6, 2010: Finance Committee Meeting; 6:00 p.m., Central Office Room B

XVI.F. April 6, 2010: Board of Education Meeting; 7:30 p.m., Town Campus Hammonasset Room

XVI.G. April 26, 2010: Budget Public Hearing; 7:30 p.m, Walter C. Polson Middle School Auditorium

XVII. Adjournment

---

**Madison Public Schools  
Board of Education Meeting  
Central Office Room B  
March 2, 2010  
7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

---

---

**Executive Session Agenda**

---

---

**1. Executive Session (7:00 p.m.)**

**1.A. Personnel Issues**

- **Status of Open Positions**

**1.B. Legal Issues**

- **Student Discipline Updates**

**Adjournment (7:30 p.m.)**

Board of Education Meeting  
March 2, 2010  
Town Campus

Meeting Minutes

1. The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Chairperson Coffey at 7:05 p.m.

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

Also present: David J. Klein, Superintendent; Anita Rutlin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

2. Executive Session

MOTION: by Coffey, seconded by Wood to enter Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. to discuss personnel and legal issues.

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

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

Personnel matters involving confidential issues were discussed.

Legal issues were discussed.

MOTION: by Dean, seconded by Fitzgerald to adjourn Executive Session at 7:35 p.m.

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

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

The public session of the Board of Education meeting was called to order by Chairperson Coffey at 7:35 p.m. Ms. SCoffey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

3. School / Community Session

3.1. Recognitions:

**3.1.1. Participants of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Nutmeg Bowl**

<b><i>Island Avenue Elementary School</i></b>	<b><i>Kathleen H. Ryerson Elementary School</i></b>
<i>Payton Bartz</i>	<i>Liam Akers</i>
<i>Emily Clorite – First Place</i>	<i>Ian Frankel, Jr. – Third Place</i>
<i>Dorritt Sampson</i>	

<b><i>J. Milton Jeffrey Elementary School</i></b>
<i>Jade Chin</i>
<i>Christopher Hartmann</i>
<i>Elizabeth Howland</i>
<i>Alexandra Minutillo</i>
<i>Audra Montesi</i>
<i>Katherine Shaughnessy</i>
<b><i>Dr. Robert H. Brown Middle School</i></b>
<i>Clare Gagliano</i>

**Nutmeg Bowl Committee Co-Chairs:**

- ***Jane Ash, E. C. Scranton Memorial Library Children's Room Librarian***
- ***Sandra Bizier, Island Avenue Elementary School Library Media Specialist***

Mr. Klein welcomed the students and their parents in attendance and thanked them for coming. He then asked Ms. Anita Rutlin, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment to speak about this event.

Ms. Rutlin also welcomed the students, as well as Ms. Bizier and Ms. Ash, who coordinated the event. She commended the students for their diligence in reading all of the Nutmeg books. She also commended Ms. Bizier and Ms. Ash, and all of the District and Scranton Library staff, for helping the students learn to love reading.

Ms. Ash explained how the Nutmeg books are chosen, and stated that Scranton Library works in cooperation with the school libraries to make the books available throughout the year to as many students as possible. Ms. Bizier commented that there are two students from Connecticut on the Nutmeg Selection Committee, and one of them is from Walter C. Polson Middle School. She also stated that Mr. Larry Halpern, Library Media Specialist at Jeffrey School is on the Nutmeg Committee for this year. She praised the program as a wonderful inspiration for students to read.

Ms. Bizier and Ms. Ash then introduced the student participants and assisted in presented them each with a Certificate of Recognition signed by Mr. Klein and Board Chair Becky Coffey.

***3.1.2. Connecticut Board of Education Member Appreciation Month***

Mr. Klein next announced that it was Connecticut Board of Education Member Appreciation Month. He commended members of the Board for the work they do for the students in the District and their support of quality public education. He stated that members of the Board are great ambassadors for the community, and that the District is very fortunate to have such dedicated people on the Board of Education who devote many hours to the Madison Public Schools. The Board members were each presented with a modest token of appreciation for their service.

**3.2. Public Participation**

None at this time.

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

The Student Representatives were not able to attend the meeting.

**5. Superintendent's Report**

**5.1 Enrollment Update**

Mr. Klein reported that enrollment as of today is at 3,676; remarkably close to the ADS projection of 3,673. He noted that kindergarten registration was held last week and there are 80 kindergarten students registered for the 2010-2011 school year. The ADS projection for kindergarten in 2010-2011 is 149. Mr. Klein expressed his appreciation for the families who have already enrolled.

## 5.2. February 25, 2010 Public Hearing on the 2010-2011 Board of Education Budget

Mr. Klein thanked members of the Board who were able to attend this meeting. He commented that it was a nice evening and he felt the response to the proposed school budget was very favorable. He will continue to keep the public informed prior to the May referendum.

## 5.3. Report on Out of State Travel

Mr. Klein reported on some upcoming field trips which will take students out of state, all involving Daniel Hand High School students.

## 6. Board Member Comments

Ms. Coffey commented that she had a wonderful time on Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> reading to students at Island Avenue Elementary School in celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday. She remarked that the students she read were very attentive and wonderful listeners. She then commented on the green eggs and ham breakfast enjoyed by the guest readers, including Superintendent Klein and First Selectman McPherson.

Ms. Coffey next stated that she and a couple other Board members would attend CAFE's A Day on the Hill event the following day.

Ms. Frey stated that she had attended the Penguin Plunge on Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. A group from Daniel Hand High School, made up of students, staff and administrators, participated. They raised over \$17,000 for Special Olympics, the highest amount raised by any group, and over \$60,000 was raised in total. Ms. Frey commented that it was a wonderful community service project and noted that Mr. Klein was one of the 'plungers'.

## 7. Reports from Board Committees / Liaisons

### 7.1. Planning Committee

Ms. Frey reported that the Committee met on February 24<sup>th</sup>. Madison Police Chief Jack Drumm attended the meeting for a discussion on a potential School Resource Officer Program. Chief Drumm shared an outline of the program and discussed the potential benefits to the District. The intent program is for the program to be a true partnership between the Madison Police Department and Madison Public Schools students and their parents to ensure safer schools, successful students and productive citizens. Ms. Frey explained that the role of a School Resource Officer would not be to enforce District Policy but to serve as a law related educator and advisor for students, parents and staff regarding legal issues, and to foster a positive relationship between students and law enforcement officials. Ms. Frey stated that if the District goes forward with this program, it will not clone a School Resource Program in another community but will be developed specific to Madison. Finally, she commented that it would be a District wide position, and something all of our schools would benefit from.

Ms. Frey also stated that Mr. Dan Farrell of Top Driver attended the meeting to discuss a possible driver's education program at Daniel Hand High School. Ms. Frey explained that Top Driver is a for profit organization and would be treated as such, regarding use of facilities and following Board of Education Policies. They would require use of classroom space and possibly classroom equipment at Daniel Hand. Ms. Frey stated that there are outstanding questions regarding this potential program that remain to be answered.

Ms. Frey stated that Mr. Art Sickle, Director of Administrative Services attended the Planning Committee meeting to discuss upcoming negotiations on the transportation contract.

Lastly, Ms. Frey reported that the remaining items on the Planning Committee agenda for that day were tabled due to time constraints.

### 7.2. Personnel Committee

Mr. Dean reported that the Committee has a meeting scheduled the following evening to begin MAESS negotiations.

### 7.3. Policy Committee

Atty. Klaskin stated that the next Policy meeting is scheduled for March 16<sup>th</sup> and he expects the committee will recommend a revised 2010-2011 calendar for approval to the Full Board.

### 7.4. Finance Committee

Mr. Clorite reported that Finance had met prior to this meeting and the main topic of discussion was the 2010-2011 Board of Education budget. Mr. Clorite complimented Mr. Klein on his presentation at the February 25<sup>th</sup> Public Meeting, stating that it was very well done, and in his opinion, very well received. He believes the Board of Education budget is a very thoughtful one.

Ms. Frey inquired as to whether Mr. Clorite had received any questions from members of the community pertaining to the budget. Mr. Clorite replied that he has not really received any questions, and all comments he has heard have been very positive.

Ms. Coffey also reported that Mr. Klein had given a "State of the Schools" presentation at the Annual Town Meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup>. She commented that it was very well received and she did not hear any negative comments.

### 7.5. LEARN Liaison

Mr. Ruggiero stated that LEARN is meeting next week and he will have an update at the next Board meeting.

Ms. Coffey asked Mr. Ruggiero if there was anything to report from CAFE. Mr. Ruggiero stated that CAFE is collecting budgets from around the state, and Madison falls in the middle as far as the proposed increase amount.

## 8. Audience Response to Information Presented

None at this time.

## 9. Consent Agenda

9.1. Bills Payable: \$539,539.51 (09-10)

9.2. Line Transfers: \$19,877.76

9.3. Budget Expenditure Report as of February 25, 2010

9.4. Donation: \$2,779 to Island Avenue Elementary School to provide science programs for all grades through High Touch / High Tech, from the Island Avenue PTO.

9.5. Donation: \$6,000 to Island Avenue Elementary School for field trips from the Island Avenue PTO.

MOTION: by Frey, seconded by Wood to approve the Consent Agenda.

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

NAYS: None

MOTION CARRIED: 9-0

Atty. Klaskin commented on the very generous donations from the Island Avenue School PTO.

Ms. Frey inquired about the High Touch / High Tech program. Ms. Rutlin explained that it is essentially a program in which field trips are brought in to the schools. The lessons are aligned with state curriculum, and students in all three elementary schools have access to the program.

10. Action Item: Minutes of the February 23, 2010 Board of Education Meeting

Atty. Klaskin stated that the minutes as printed in the Board packet had since been revised. He reminded the Board that the version posted on CABA E-Meeting was correct and reflected this minor revision, and that a correct copy had also been circulated via email by the Board Clerk. He clarified that the Board was voting on the revised version of the minutes.

MOTION: by Klaskin, seconded by Frey to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2010 Board of Education meeting, as amended.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Fitzgerald, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Wood  
NAYS: None  
ABSTENTIONS: Ruggiero  
MOTION CARRIED: 8-0

11. Old Business

No old business was discussed.

12. New Business

No new business was discussed.

13. Future Agenda Items

Mr. Klein stated that Mr. Clorite had requested an update on Technology in the District. He stated that he is working with Mr. Art Sickle, Director of Administrative Services, to put together a presentation which will be an educational opportunity for the Boards of Education, Selectmen and Finance to learn more about what is being done in the Technology Department. Atty. Klaskin commented that he would like to hear an update on Final Site and Infinite Campus, and Mr. Klein stated that he would work to arrange that as well.

14. Meetings of Importance.

Ms. Coffey pointed out the list of meetings on the Board agenda.

15. Adjournment

MOTION: by Dean, seconded by Meier to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

AYES: Clorite, Coffey, Dean, Fitzgerald, Frey, Klaskin, Meier, Ruggiero, Wood  
NAYS: None  
MOTION CARRIED: 9-0