

MADISON SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY, JULY 1, 2013 – 5:00 PM  
MADISON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
RUTH V. CHICK MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
APPROVED MINUTES

Board members attending: Chairperson Jim Curran; Bruce Brooks, Wendy Grzesik, Sloane Jarell, Ray O'Brien.

Others attending: Superintendent Lou Goscinski, Principal Brian Ernest

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Jim Curran called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: Motion by Ray O'Brien to enter non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a), (b), (c), (e), & (i). Seconded by Wendy Grzesik. On a roll call vote, the board entered non-public session at 5:03 PM.

Bruce Brooks - Aye  
Jim Curran – Aye  
Wendy Grzesik – Aye  
Ray O'Brien – Aye

The Ayes have it.

- A. Personnel Matters: A memorandum of understanding regarding Keith Babb was discussed.

Motion by Wendy Grzesik to approve the memorandum of understanding, seconded by Bruce Brooks. In the absence of board member Sloane Jarell, the motion passed 4-0.

- B. Student Matters:

1. A letter from a parent to the school administration and the board dated June 18, 2013 was discussed.
2. Superintendent Goscinski discussed the idea of exploring the cost-benefit to purchasing a van for special education student needs. He said we would have to hire a full-time employee and a vehicle so it would be nice to outsource this temporarily. He said he would recommend contracting with Eldridge and possibly cost-sharing with SAU 64.

- C. Superintendent nominations by Superintendent Goscinski: The superintendent presented the following nominations to the board: Trisha Silvia, para professional; Marsha Brown, para professional; Kim Coleman, summer lead instructor; Cody Sullivan, summer counselor.

Motion by Wendy Grzesik to approve the superintendent's nominations, seconded by Ray O'Brien. The motion passed 4-0.

Sloane Jarell entered the meeting at 5:10 PM.

Superintendent Goscinski presented the nomination of Diana Haywood for reading specialist.

Motion to approve the nomination of Diana Haywood for reading specialist by Ray O'Brien, seconded by Sloane Jarell. The motion passed unanimously.

- D. Pending Claims: To be discussed later in the meeting.
- E. Confidential Building Security & Safety Report: To be discussed later in the meeting.

Motion by Wendy Grzesik to convene public session, seconded by Ray O'Brien. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC SESSION STARTS:** Chair Jim Curran called the public session to order at 5:37 PM. All present pledged allegiance to the flag.

#### ACTION AS A RESULT OF NON-PUBLIC SESSION

- A. Announcements: Approval of the superintendent's nominations for para professionals, summer lead instructor, summer counselor, and reading specialist.
- B. Approval of Agenda: Motion by Ray O'Brien to approve the agenda, seconded by Sloane Jarell. There was a request to add under Chairpersons Report: "B. Electronic vs. Paper Consumables." With this change the motion to approve the agenda passed unanimously.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Minutes of Regular School Board Meeting: 6-3-2013: Motion by Ray O'Brien to approve the minutes, seconded by Wendy Grzesik. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** None

#### GENERAL ITEMS

- A. Mike Lane (Mustang Academy Director): There was a handout and discussion by Mike Lane of what has been accomplished so far in his first six weeks as director of Mustang Academy and the Summer Recreation Program.

#### CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- A. Calendar: Next School Board Meeting: 8-5-2013 @ 5:00 PM.
- B. Electronic vs. Paper Consumables: Jim Curran explained that this should be discussed before ordering supplies for the fall. Holly Hawkins commented that it's going to be difficult to go all electronic at this moment; it's going to be a transition period, and we really need to order now. Lou Goscinski said no one will touch a tablet until the cloud is built and the teachers have training. He said you have to go ahead and purchase the things you need for the school year and we will know much better where we are at in

August. Deb Parsons asked if there was any discussion of getting reps from Everyday Math and the Treasures program to come to summer training. Lou said he was not opposed to it but they would have to come on our schedule. Principal Brian Ernest said by mid-year we will start the transition to using less paper. Lou said we will be hearing more and more from teachers of what they need to build the cloud.

A draft letter from the board to graduating seniors was read by Jim Curran and approved by the board.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: In the board packet.

- A. Principal's Letter: Jim Curran commented that the name of Heather Feddern should be added to the list of staff members who are leaving this year.
- B. Summer Program: New titles are listed for the summer program.
- C. End of Year Data: An overview of math and reading showing movement between tiers in the fall and spring. Principal Brian Ernest said these are school-wide numbers. He said he attributed the increase in referrals to increased diligence in reporting.
- D. Current Enrollment 150.
- E. RTI Self Evaluations: A discussion of the American Institutes for Research RTI (Response to Intervention) Fidelity Worksheet.
- F. SWIFT: Brian Ernest said that Madison has been selected to participate in the School-wide Integrated Framework for Transformation (SWIFT) initiative, one of two New Hampshire schools that will be in the first cohort. He said he and Christine Zimmer will be going to Washington, DC for five days of intensive training in July focusing on action planning. It was noted that the website for anyone wishing to learn more about the SWIFT initiative is [www.swiftschool.org](http://www.swiftschool.org).

Motion by Ray O'Brien to approve the technical systems provided by the Department of Education, seconded by Sloane Jarell. The motion passed unanimously.

- G. Kindergarten Enrollment: Brian Ernest said there are 16 in the incoming group. There was a discussion about class size. Brian recommending splitting them up and having two sessions. Sloane Jarell agreed that they should be split up so they get the attention they need. Christine Zimmer suggested starting with 9 or 10 kids. Brian Ernest suggested giving them the exposure to our core programs and looking at it in 6 to 8 weeks. Wendy Grzesik suggested splitting kids for the first half of the year and then halfway through the year switching to one day. Lou Goscinski said he thought we needed to make a recommendation in August. Wendy said she thought a class of 8 was too small; her idea was to have two classes in the beginning and get them what they need and then combine into one. Bruce Brooks noted that budget-wise it doesn't affect us either way, and his recommendation was to split them.
- H. Traffic Flow: Brian Ernest thanked Wendy Grzesik and Sloane Jarell for working on the issue of traffic flow for buses and parents in terms of safety and security. He said the major change is for bus students to only come out through the front door with a 3-5

minutes staggered release. Parents will wait along the side of the gym and will not have to get out of the car to pick up a child. He said students will not have to be signed out.

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. Digital 1 to 1 Learning Initiative Update: Superintendent Lou Goscinski said initially we were going to pick out a couple of people and send them to Indianapolis for training, but instead Curriculum Loft will now send someone here so that other teachers can be involved. He about 30 teachers from all three districts have volunteered to participate in training in July on their own time. He said the rollout training will be in August. He said he wanted to thank the staff for stepping up. He said the union presidents have agreed to move a teachers' workshop day from June 2014 to August 2013 and he will come to the board in August with a revised calendar and more information.
- B. End of Year Closing: Lou said teachers from all three districts got together and talked about things accomplished in each district, and he did a PowerPoint presentation that celebrated people who are retiring and moving on. He said it was a good day to end the year. He said he went to all the schools for graduation and thought it was done well and he was feeling upbeat about the future.

FINANCIAL MANAGER'S REPORT: Business Administrator Michael O'Neill is on vacation, and Lou said anyone with questions on these reports should jot them down to discuss when Mike returns.

- A. 2012-2013 Budget Expenditure & Revenue Reports: any questions, jot them down.
- B. Exceptions Report
- C. Fund Balance Projection for 2013-2013

#### SCHOOL BOARD BUSINESS

##### *Old Business*

- A. Master Plan: Updates: On the agenda as a placeholder.
- B. Summer Staffing: In board packets.

##### *New Business*

Bruce Brooks asked if an ad had gone out for a new bus driver, and Lou said it will be running in the local newspaper. Bruce noted that this can be a difficult process.

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

BOARD COMMENTS: Ray O'Brien noted that the two plots at the community garden were done by kindergarteners.

Brian Ernest thanked visitors for coming tonight. At 7:45 PM a brief recess was called.

SEALED NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: Motion by Ray O'Brien to move to non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a), (b), (c). Seconded by Sloane Jarell. On a roll call vote, the board moved to non-public session at 7:59 PM.

Bruce Brooks – Aye

Jim Curran – Aye

Wendy Grzesik – Aye

Sloane Jarell – Aye

Ray O'Brien – Aye

The Ayes have it.

A. Personnel Matters: Pending Claims:

Three grievance issues were discussed related to transference to a different track, health insurance, and longevity.

There was a discussion of a request of track change to M15 by Tracey Holmes. It was noted that her paperwork was not submitted on time and the grievance was not filed on time. After discussion it was agreed that the track change request would not be honored based on the fact that she didn't file her paperwork on time according to the collective bargaining agreement.

Motion by Ray O'Brien to deny Tracey Holmes' grievance, seconded by Sloane Jarell. The motion passed unanimously.

The issue of health insurance coverage for the FY 11-12 for a kitchen worker was heard and discussed and the board said a decision will be made within 30 days and the employee will be notified of the decision.

Recess declared at 8:00 PM. The meeting reconvened at 8:07 PM.

Jim Curran had received an e-mail which he read to the board:

“Dear Mr. Curran: Because I am not attending that meeting I am having Deb Parsons be my spokesperson. Linda Walker.”

Jim said his opinion was that Linda Walker was entitled to 100% on longevity and was not entitled to top step. After discussion the board agreed on 100% longevity and no top step.

Motion by Wendy Grzesik to give Linda Walker an amended contract that gives her 100% longevity and no top step, seconded by Bruce Brooks. The motion passed unanimously.

There was a discussion of a request by Dennis Pelletier to be reimbursed for the cost of two classes that he took although his paperwork was not filed on time. Brian Ernest noted that this is a new employee who should have been teamed up with a mentor this year and he gave him his word that he would be reimbursed. Lou Goscinski said he thought the request should be honored. Wendy Grzesik said she thought this was our

mistake, not the employee's. Jim Curran suggested that the principal needs to say this is a mistake he made and he is asking the board to rectify this matter. Brian Ernest agreed with this. Jim Curran said we have discussed this matter and we will let the administration deal with it; no board action is required.

Bruce Brooks discussed the loss of one bus driver and said he had a feeling that state guidelines are not being met. Jim Curran asked about training and Bruce said the state of New Hampshire puts on a 3-day course for school bus instructors and a course to become certified as a bus driver.

There was a discussion of collective bargaining issues. It was noted that Lou Goscinski, Bruce Brooks, and Wendy Grzesik will meet on the 8<sup>th</sup> of July to go over the ground rules. Lou distributed handouts on problem-solving negotiations for the board's information. Lou asked the board to take a look at the collective bargaining agreement and to let Wendy know what you think and it will be shared with Bruce. Jim Curran noted that he thought last year with the tentative agreement that not everyone had the same story and he thought it was important for everyone to sit in the same room and hear the same story of what's in the contract. He said this should be done in a non-public session run by the bargaining team on both sides. Lou Goscinski said the language in the contract is bad and you have significant problems with language which costs everyone in terms of time and grievances.

- B. Building Security: Brian Ernest said there were two quotes, from Lakeside and Pope. Brian said he thinks Lakeside has the ability to expand and has more capability. He said Pope very strict to a one-door system and is more expensive. He said Lakeside does the Freedom school. He said there will be an RFP coming out soon and we will open sealed bids.

Motion to come out of non-public session by Wendy Grzesik at 10:30 PM, seconded by Bruce Brooks. The motion passed unanimously.

ACTION AS A RESULT OF NON-PUBLIC: Motion by Bruce Brooks to seal the second set of non-public minutes, seconded by Wendy Grzesik. On a roll call vote, the board voted to seal the second set of non-public minutes:

Bruce Brooks – Aye  
Jim Curran – Aye  
Wendy Grzesik – Aye  
Sloane Jarell – Aye  
Ray O'Brien – Aye

The Ayes have it.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 10:30 PM.

Madison School Board Meeting  
July 1, 2013  
Approved Minutes

Respectfully submitted,

Minutes approved: August 5, 2013

Madison School Board  
Page 6 of 7  
July 1, 2013

Patricia Ambrose  
Recording Secretary

Minutes approved: August 5, 2013

Madison School Board  
Page 7 of 7  
July 1, 2013