MANCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting
November 20, 2019
Manchester High School - Room 293
Freshman Center - 134 Middle Tpke East

PRESENT: Gundersen, Heinrich, Hughes, Meggers, Pattacini, Patterson, Thames

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of Schools Geary, Deputy Superintendent Curriculum & Special Services Radikas, Director of Finance Clancy, Student Representative Henry

ABSENT: Stefanovicz, Scappaticci

A. OPENING

A.1/2. Meeting Called to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
Mr. Geary called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. All in attendance participated in the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Mr. Geary.

A.3. Introduction of New Board Members
Mr. Geary welcomed new board members, Mark Gunersen and Tracy Patterson.

A.4. Elections of New Board Chair and Board Secretary
Mr. Geary called for nominations for the election of the Board of Education Chairperson. Ms. Patterson nominated Mr. Thames, which was seconded by Mr. Hughes.

7/0 - Voted in favor.

Ms. Patterson spoke of Mr. Thames’ leadership qualities and the positive direction he is leading the Board of Education. She is excited to be a part of this group and especially to be working with Mr. Thames.

Mr. Geary called for nominations for the election of the Board of Education Secretary. Mr. Heinrich nominated Mr. Pattacini, which was seconded by Mr. Meggers.

7/0 - voted in favor.
Mr. Heinrich remarked that Mr. Pattacini has been with the Board of Education for several years, both as a member and as Chairman. Mr. Heinrich thanked Mr. Pattacini for the guidance that he has offered to Mr. Heinrich as a young and new member of the Board.

A.5. Reaffirmation of Board of Education Bylaws
Secretary Pattacini moved to approve the Board of Education Bylaws and Ms. Patterson seconded the motion.

7/0 - Voted in favor.

A.6. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

APPROVED – Minutes Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of November 4, 2019. Secretary Pattacini moved and Mr. Heinrich seconded the motion.

5/0 – Voted in favor, with 2 abstentions.

B. COMMITTEE REPORTS

B.1. Policy Committee Meeting
Mr. Hughes reported the last meeting was held November 4, 2019, with the following in attendance: Mr. Thames, Mr. Hughes, Ms. Stefanovicz and Mr. Geary

The committee reviewed legislative updates that will impact Board policies. Updates to the following policies will be brought to the committee for review over the next two meetings:

- Non-Discrimination (Community)
- Smoking
- Budget Procedures and Line Item Transfers
- Code of Conduct Child Nutrition Programs - NEW
- Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug-Free Workplace
Child Abuse, Neglect, Sexual Assault Reporting
Employment and Student Teacher Checks
Non-Discrimination (Staff)
Sex Discrimination and Harassment in the Workplace
Attendance, Truancy and Chronic Absenteeism
Bullying and Safe School Climate Plan
Homeless Children and Youth
Food Allergies and/or Glycogen Storage Disease
Non-Discrimination (Students)
Physical Activity and Student Discipline
Section 504/ADA
Student Discipline
Sunscreen Application in School (NEW)
Transportation

Mr. Hughes reported that the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

C. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Mr. Geary presented four items on the Consent Calendar for Board approval.

C.1. **Personnel Actions**
Details had already been provided to the Board members with their agenda.

C.2. **Transfer of Funds**
Details had already been provided to the Board members with their agenda.

C.3. **Extended Field Trip Request Form - MHS - Italian, Culinary to Italy, April Vacation 2021.**

C.4. **Permission to Apply for Federal Head Start Grant 3/1/2020 - 2/28/2021**

The Chairman called for a motion.

Secretary Pattacini moved and Ms. Hagenow seconded the recommendation to adopt the Consent Calendar as outlined in this evening’s agenda.
There was no discussion.

**7/0 - Voted in favor.**

**D. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**

Tiffany Henry was present to report the following:

- On Friday November 22nd, there will be the first pep rally of the year
- The National Honor Society will be having their induction on November 25th
- Sock and Buskin club had their fall show “You can't take it with you”, which is a comedy. All three performances were sold out.
- Turkey Bowl was November 14th, Juniors won with a score of 35 to 21
- At the Turkey Bowl, a total of 380 non perishable food items and an additional $300 were collected at the gate for donation to the MACC charity.
- Students took time during flex on Friday to reflect on their High School career and to add onto their student portfolios.
- This weekend the MHS girls swim team swam at the LL qualifying competition. Erika Depitrio will be competing in the 50 & 100 Freestyle while Carolyn Miner, Juliana Golas, Katherine Miner, Ella Reyerson and Macy Reyerson will be competing in the team relay events.

**E. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None to report

**F. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

**F.1. Update on Humanities - Mrs. Diane Sheehan-Burns, Director of Teaching and Learning: Humanities.**

Mr. Geary introduced Mrs. Diane Sheehan-Burns, Director of Teaching and Learning: Humanities. Mrs. Sheehan-Burns, along with staff members, gave a presentation that is available on the website.

Mr. Pattacini asked if there has been a resolution to the opportunity to have more 5th grade students involved at the state level for Student Governor, as had
been when 5th graders were at the elementary schools. Mrs. Sheehan-Burns explained that in past years, when Kid Governor was run at the elementary schools, we were able to have nine student representatives at the state level, one from each school. Last year and this year, since the merging of 5th graders into Bennet Academy, we were only able to send one representative. They have reached out to appeal this restriction and hope to have it resolved for next year.

Mr. Pattacini commented that he believes this is a great opportunity that students have to apply what they learn and stand up for what they’re passionate about.

Mr. Thames mentioned that he would love to speak with students who are interested and involved with government. We should use the opportunity we have right here in town with the Board of Education to be a model for our kids.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
None.

H. NEW BUSINESS
None.

I. PUBLIC COMMENTS
None.

J. COMMUNICATIONS
Mr. Thames expressed sincere condolences to the family of Manchester Republican Town Committee Chairman John Deeb, who passed away November 5, 2019, and posthumously thanked Mr. Deeb for his services.

K. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Item</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, December 9, 2019</td>
<td>Fall Data Update</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, January 13, 2020</td>
<td>Budget Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, January 15, 2020</td>
<td>Budget Workshop</td>
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L. **Executive Session**  
**Mr. Thames** called for a motion to move into executive session for a personnel matter.

**Secretary Pattacini** moved and **Mr. Meggers** seconded the motion to move into executive session.

7/0 - Voted in favor.

**Executive Session 7:45 p.m.**

Meeting was called back to order by **Mr. Thames** at 8:02 p.m.

L. **ADJOURNMENT**  
**Mr. Thames** called for a motion to adjourn.

**Secretary Pattacini** moved and **Mr. Heinrich** seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

7/0 - Voted in favor.

**Adjournment 8:03 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Pattacini  
Board Secretary