

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

Monday, December 9, 2019	Fall Data Update
Monday, January 13, 2020	Budget Presentation
Wednesday, January 15, 2020	Budget Workshop

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