

MSAD #8 School Board Meeting  
May 20th, 2015  
Middle School Science Room  
Warrant Signing 6:00  
Business Meeting 6:30

1. Call to order by board chair @6:30
2. Approval of minutes for the April 15th 2015 meeting - **Motion to approve the minutes of the April 15th meeting Renee Jones, Second Annette Cash 2 Yes, 2 Abstentions**
3. Communications -
  1. **DOE has announced that they are discontinuing the SBAC test and will put out another RFP next year for a new test.**
  2. **DOE has also announced that the Opt Out is an option but that LEAs need**
4. Approval of the agenda-**Motion to approve the agenda as presented Renee Jones, Second Sharon Philbrook**
5. Questions and comments from the public - **Jessica F asked about the necessity of students to complete SBAC tests if they are still in progress.**
6. Principals report - **Tim presented his report.**
7. New business
  1. Discussion and possible action on changes in the 2015/2016 calendar - **Motion to approve moving the 12/11/15 early release day to 12/18/15 and the 1/22/16 early release day to 1/29/16 to align with away games Sharon Philbrook, Annette Cash 4 Yes**
  2. Discussion on changes in the schools daily schedule -
    1. **Tim presented the discussion that we have been having about the numbers of periods in the high school schedule and at the possibility of having school Monday thru Thursday 8-3 and half days every Friday.**
    2. **Faye spoke to the board to express her opposition to the proposal for having half days on Fridays.**
    3. **Bryan asked to clarify that the proposal was a short advisory period and six academic periods.**
    4. **Annette asked about period length. They would be 40 minute periods with 25 minutes for advisory.**
    5. **Ann asked about teachers schedules. If the school day is extended to 3:00 and the short day is Friday why would the teachers be asked to stay beyond the student dismissal time on Friday**
    6. **Jess Farrelly discussed the implementation of the block schedule and the fact that the block opened up the option for offering elective classes. If we scrap the block schedule how will we be able to continue to offer blocks.**
    7. **Tina D asked about graduation requirements and if they had been increased and why a 6 or 7 period day limited the options for electives. Jess F & Bryan helped explain why that is so. This year the high school teachers decided to put their common planning time before school so there would be room for additional electives.**
    8. **Julie asked about Advisory and exactly what was included in advisory. Bryan answered the question.**
    9. **Bruce answered questions about increased graduation requirements, the geometry of how the number of periods**
    10. **Ivy asked why we are changing it. Bruce explained his perspective that we are not taking full advantage of the time allocated in the block periods and that we need to take advantage of every instructional minute available.**
    11. **Kris O observed that she is not in favor of the half days due to the need for academic time and her observation as a learning labs are not being appropriately utilized**

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12. **Rachel N observed that she has a student who is struggling with a bunch of downtime during the days and during sports trips. She would like to see more instruction happening.**
  13. **Bryan mentioned about the 2010 schedule as the period/block hybrid.**
  3. **Discussion on future senior class trips - This topic is on the agenda at the request of the Board list fall so that the Board could review class trips as a whole and see what if any changes need to be considered. The initial board concerns included the issue of 1) educational content of the trip 2) keeping the trips stateside 3) whether or not cruises or all-inclusive resorts are acceptable.**
    1. **Julie asked that the board please keep e discussion a public one. Lots of people care a lot about this issue.**
    2. **Faye brought up that when the class trips were originated in 1972 they were created to be an educational experience.**
    3. **Jenn F brought up the affordability of these trips and that a trip as extensive as these is still quite a treat for many families. There are lots of life lessons and exposure to the world is still a big deal.**
    4. **Rachel contributed her experiences chaperoning an all-inclusive trip vs. a more independent and educational trip. She also felt that the trip that had more planned activities and that the kids really enjoyed the activities that were a bit unexpected.**
    5. **Using educational tours can help.**
    6. **Sarah asked that we continue this discussion.**
  4. **Update on senior/graduation events and dates - Kathy presented the dates for the end of year events.**
  5. **Discussion and possible action on unpaid leave requests**
    1. **Motion to approve an unpaid leave of absence for Meagan Miller for the 15-16 school year. Renee Jones, Second Annette Cash - 5 yes**
    2. **Motion to approve an unpaid leave of absence for Bryan Feezor for the 15-16 school year. Renee Jones, Second Bruce Philip - 5 yes**
    3. **Jess Farrelly asked that we please hire a long term sub for math that can teach AP Calculus.**
  6. **Action on personnel matters**
    1. **Acceptance of any resignations -None**
    2. **Action to approve any appointments -**
      1. **Motion to approve the nomination of Kate Bishop for a 1 year teaching position for French & Social Studies Renee Jones, Second Kathie Young 5 - yes**
      2. **Motion to approve the nomination of Wanda Davis Oakes for the position of Guidance Counselor. Renee Jones, Second Bruce Philip 5-yes**
8. Old Business
1. **Superintendents Report-**
    1. **District budget meeting is May 27th.**
    2. **If anyone wants a yearbook there are 23 left.**

**Annette wanted to talk about a few things she would like the Board to consider as she retires from the Board**

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1. **Annette does not believe that we are ready to consider a Supt - Principal combination. She believes that at this point there are too many issues being driven by student and teachers interests and that we are not focusing enough on the basics of education.**

2. **We are spending too much time on the proficiency based, standards based movement. We need**

3. **The money in the school budget goes to salaries**

4. **She sees us slipping back into making sports too much of a priority. We need to stop that and stop releasing kids from classes to go to games.**

5. **She would like to see teachers giving kids fewer chances to make things up and redo their work. The kids need to be held more accountable for getting things done right the first time.**

6. **We talked about senior class trips. Keep working on getting it right.**

7. **We need to offer something other than French. She would love to see us offering Spanish.**

8. **Who is in charge of checking on the bus and making sure damages are reported.**

9. **Set date and room choice for the June meeting - June 17th at 6:30 in the MS Science room**

10. **Adjournment - Motion to adjourn at 7:58 Annette Cash, Second**

**Called back to order at 7:59**

**Motion to approve the minutes of the April 15th meeting Renee Jones, Second Annette Cash 3 Yes, 2 Abstentions**

**Motion to adjourn again at 8:00 Annette Cash, Second Renee Jones 5 - yes**