

BOE Policy Committee Minutes
3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT
May 10, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m.

IN ATTENDANCE: Michelle Embree Ku, Rebekah Harriman-Stites, Joe Erardi, Jean Evans Davila, Mark Gerace, Rebecca O'Brien of Whitsons, Louisa Emery of Whitsons, Keri Snowden (8:02 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.), Anne Dalton (8:02 am – 9:10 am), Lorrie Rodrigue (9:10 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: M. Ku made a motion to approve the minutes of March 30, 2017, R. Harriman-Stites seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Action	Follow-up
<p>Policy 5131.911/Policy 5131.914 – School Climate Policy and Plan – K. Snowden informed the committee that the Safe School Climate Committee endorsed the draft policies and plan after they made a few revisions to the section on teen dating violence. The High School representatives felt the SRO should be included on the team reviewing a complaint. J. Erardi will send out the draft policies to all parents for their input. The committee agreed to forward Policy 5131.911, Policy 5131.914 and the Safe School Climate Plan that were endorsed by the Safe School Climate Committee to the Board of Education for approval.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The policies and plan will be moved to the Board of Education for approval.
<p>Policy 5141.25 – Life-Threatening Allergies and Glycogen Storage Disease Management (Food Allergy) – J. Erardi informed the committee that he met with the Leadership Committee and they did not want the policy to restrict food in the classrooms. The schools at have educational related events that include food. The Leadership Committee was in favor of in-school birthday celebration being food free. A. Dalton will review the policy for change and report back at a future committee meeting. A. Dalton and M. Gerace will look at Southington's Plan and incorporate what is needed into a plan suitable for Newtown Public Schools.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A. Dalton will review the policy for change and report back at a future committee meeting. • A. Dalton and M. Gerace will review Southington's Plan and incorporate what is needed into a plan suitable for Newtown Public Schools.

<p>Policy 5141.213 – Opioid Overdose Prevention (Emergency Administration of Naloxone) – A. Dalton informed the committee that all schools have Narcan. She also told the committee that the nurses have been trained in administering the Narcan. A discussion took place on whether we needed a separate policy on Narcan or if we could add Narcan to a current policy that has standing orders for prescription medication.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Reilly will look at our current policies to see if there is a policy on standing orders of prescription medication. • A. Dalton and M. Pompano will be invited back to a future policy meeting to discuss this policy.
<p>Policy 6142.101 – Student Nutrition and Physical Activity (School Wellness Policy) – M. Gerace informed the committee that he worked with the District Wellness Committee to draft a policy for Newtown. The Wellness Committee used the policy provided by CAFE. They changed the section on Goals for Physical Activity to make it more specific for Newtown. The Wellness Committee liked the idea of adding a section to the policy on Goals for Social-Emotional Wellness. The Policy Committee agreed they liked adding this section too. M. Gerace will work on a list of social-emotional wellness goals and incorporate them into the policy. M. Gerace will bring back an updated draft of the policy to a future policy meeting. A discussion took place regarding removing the wording of “MyPlate” from the policy because there has been discussion from the U.S. Department of Agriculture on replacing the “MyPlate” food guidelines. The Whitsons representatives reported that Newtown opted not to participate in the National School Lunch Program at the High School.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Gerace will draft a list of social-emotional wellness goals and incorporate them in the policy.

NEW BUSINESS:

<p>Policy 6146 – Graduation Requirements – L. Rodrigue informed the committee that beginning with the Class of 2021 she has proposed adding a 24 credit requirement. New requirement being added is Senior Year Experience²¹. In reviewing the policy the committee removed the outdated language by removing the section on Demonstration of Requirement Competencies and Notification. A discussion took place on the legal references. M. Reilly will send the updated policy to CAFE and ask them to update the legal references.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Reilly will send the updated policy to CAFE and ask them to update the legal references.
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A motion was made by M. Ku to forward policy 5131.911/Policy 5131.914 – School Climate Policy and Plan with recommended changes to the Board of Education for review. R. Harriman-Stites seconded. Motion was approved.

A motion was made by M. Ku to postpone discussion on all policies listed under Unfinished Business and Unfinished New Business. R. Harriman-Stites seconded. Motion approved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - DISCUSSION/ACTION POSTPONED TO A FUTURE MEETING:

Policy 5113.2 – Truancy – Review regulation for changes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. Erardi will meet with L. Rodrigue to discuss the Administrative Responsibilities and Method of Reporting.
Policy 5114 – Suspension/Expulsion: Student Due Process – Review revised policy for changes and in conjunction with Policy 5131 and 5144.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. Erardi will review policy with L. Rodrigue.
Policy 5114.21 – Conduct Code for Participation in Extracurricular Activities – Review for changes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. Erardi will meet with L. Rodrigue and M. Memoli and bring back policy suggestions to the committee.

UNFINISHED NEW BUSINESS - DISCUSSION/ACTION POSTPONED TO A FUTURE MEETING:

Policy 3515 – Community Use of School Facilities – Review for changes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M. Pompano will review policy with the committee.
Policy 3542.43 – Food Services Charging Policy – review revised mandated policy and administrative regulation to consider.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review update from CABE.
Policy 4112.52/4212.52 – Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) – review new and recommended policy and administrative regulation. This policy or Policy 4112.2/4212.5 fulfills the FBI mandate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review update from CABE.
Policy 4112.5/4212.5 – Security Check/ Fingerprinting - review new and recommended policy and administrative regulation. This policy or Policy 4112.52/4212.52 fulfills the FBI mandate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review update from CABE.
Policy 5141.251 – Accommodating Students with Special Dietary Needs – review new policy, administrative regulation and forms. Policy is not required.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review update from CABE.
Policy 6172 – Alternative Education Program – review revised policy and new administrative regulation. Policy is mandated if district has an alternate program.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review update from CABE.
Policy 6172.4 – Parent and Family Engagement Policy for Title I Students – review required updated policy and School-Parent Compact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review update from CABE.
Policy 5131 – Conduct and Discipline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review in conjunction with Policy 5114 and 5144.
Policy 5144 – Discipline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review in conjunction with Policy 5114 and 5131.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by M. Ku and seconded by R. Harriman-Stites. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Submitted: Michelle Ku, Policy Committee Chair