

**BOE Policy Committee Minutes**  
**Monday, July 15, 2024 , 9:30 am - 11:00 am**  
**Municipal Building, BOE Conference Room**  
**3 Primrose St. Newtown, CT 06470**

**CALL TO ORDER** Meeting was called to order at 9:30 am

**IN ATTENDANCE** Doria Linnetz, Don Ramsey, Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote, Anne Uberti, Sarah Connell

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**APPROVE MINUTES** Don Ramsey made a motion to approve the minutes of July 1, 2024. Doria Linnetz seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Policy 5112 - Ages of Attendance

Prior to this meeting, Ms. Connell reached out to CABA for clarification on why they did not include language regarding the waiver school's can provide to parents. CABA responded that once we get beyond the first year transition challenges, their thinking was not to "promote" waivers for future school years as they believe the September 1 date is reasonable and should be upheld.

Ms. Uberti and Dr. Paddyfote disagreed with this reasoning because it is in CT statute to provide a waiver.

The committee agreed to combine Newtown's current Policies (5111 and 5112) and use CABA's model policy for the template. Ms. Uberti and Dr. Paddyfote would work on the necessary edits and bring them back to the committee at the next policy meeting.

Ms. Connell also provided the committee with the residency forms that should be attached in the regulation. The committee had no issue with the current forms and agreed to include them in the regulation.

Policy 5118 - Nonresident and Tuition Students

Ms. Linnetz asked Ms. Connell to include this policy in the agenda after the Board had had a discussion about it at the previous BOE meeting. The committee did not find any issues with the policy and Ms. Linnetz will send the Board the policy for their reference.

Ms. Linnetz stated that it would be helpful for the Board to receive policies that directly relate to topics on the BOE agenda. Ms. Connell said that she could review the agenda with Ms. June and provide policies for that meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Policy 6141.312 - Migrant Students

Ms. Connell received this policy from CABE, as it is a required policy on their list. The committee understands that it is an important topic and believes it would be best to review Shipman and Goodwin's policy before adopting.

### Policy 614.61 - Grading System

Ms. Connell received this policy from CABE, as it is a required policy on their list. Ms. Uberti asked to bring these policies to the Principals so they can review before the committee starts editing. It is important that they are a part of the process when editing this policy. The committee agreed and Ms. Uberti will put these policies on the first A-Team meeting agenda.

### Policy 6154 - Homework/Make Up Work

Ms. Connell received this policy from CABE, as it is a required policy on their list. Newtown has a current (but outdated) policy (Policy 8-404). Like the policy above, Ms. Uberti asked to bring these policies to the Principals so they can review before the committee starts editing. The committee agreed and Ms. Uberti will put these policies on the first A-Team meeting agenda.

## **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Dr. Paddyfote reported that she will speak with Shipman and Goodwin regarding the purchase of their policy services. This will give Newtown access to Shipman and Goodwin's policy book and can help provide input on Newtown's existing policies.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

Ms. Linnetz asked the committee if they had any information regarding cell-phone policies. She heard the surrounding towns were starting to look at these policies and wondered if Newtown should do the same.

Mr. Ramsey and Ms. Linnetz stated that there are many studies that cell phone use attributes to an increase in mental health issues.

Ms. Uberti said that Reed Intermediate and Middle School students are not allowed to have cell phones in the building. She believes that the high school does have a practice in place for students with their cellphones but would have to reach out to Dr. Longobucco for what that practice is.

The committee also believes that it would be beneficial to have high school students provide their input on this policy as it would directly affect them. Ms. Uberti is certain that Dr. Longobucco always receives input from students when making a practice or policy change.

Mr. Ramsey made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Linnetz seconded. Motion was unanimously approved. Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

**\*\*THESE ARE DRAFT MINUTES\*\***