

POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 19, 2019

The Policy Committee met on Tuesday, March 19, 2019, at 7:00 a.m. at the ASC office.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m.

Present: Chair Greg Harris, Jill Samonte, Kari Cremascoli, Marla Gilbert, Mark White, Michael Krugman, Fanny Vlahos, Jayne Yudzentis, Jackelyn Cadard, Jason Suchy and Melissa Jerves (non-member / secretary)

Absent: Chris Hanley, Liz Davis, Hamad Sheikh

Also in attendance was Justin Sisul, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction.

Approval of Minutes

Jayne Yudzentis moved and Marla Gilbert seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2019 meeting. Motion carried.

Policy 1150 – Community Relations – Citizens Communications to the Board

The Committee discussed proposed revisions to Policy #1150 that came out of discussion during the Board's self-evaluation workshop with IASB. "Reception of Visitors" is changed to "Public Comment," and comments are limited to three minutes per person, with a 30-minute limit for all public comment. The change in policy language is intended to better inform the public about the one-sided nature of comments at regular business meetings. It was noted that if the Board wants to limit public comment time at a particular meeting, that time limit must be established in Board policy. DGEEA members of the committee voiced concerns about limitations to public comment. The committee discussed other public engagement opportunities with the Board, such as extended comment and dialogue at workshop meetings, meetings with union representatives, and community coffees.

The committee decided to table this policy for more discussion at the April meeting.

Policy 8244 – Internal Board Operations – Determining Agenda

Revisions to this policy reflected the proposed changes in #1150, changing "Reception of Visitors" to "Public Comment."

The committee tabled this policy.

Policy 5100 – Students – Admission – Residence

This policy was reviewed and compared to PRESS. No substantive content changes are recommended in the first two pages, but the sections have been rearranged to align with PRESS. The existing policy language regarding tuition has been retained.

Policy 5101 – Students – School Admissions & Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools

This policy has been updated to align with PRESS.

Policy 5131 – Students – Student Behavior & Discipline

Jayne Yudzentis reminded the committee that discipline policies are reviewed annually by the parent-teacher advisory committee, and must also be reviewed by the board every two years. No changes to this policy are recommended at this time.

Policy 5138 – Students – Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation & Harassment

Revisions from PRESS to section 4 on page 1 have been added regarding the use of technology, including private devices if the incident is reported to school staff. The committee agreed to revise language on page 2 to read: “The District will not punish anyone because he or she made a complaint or report, supplied information, or otherwise participated in an investigation or proceeding. Any person making a knowingly false accusation may be subject to disciplinary action.” The addition of “restorative measures” on page 3 reflects current District practice. Finally, the addition of section 7 on page 4 provides for informing parents of every student involved in an alleged bullying incident and discusses available student supports.

Policy 5138.2 – Students – Sexual Harassment Prohibited

The procedures that were previously outlined in Administrative Regulation 5138.2 have been added to the policy.

Policy 6002 – Instruction – Title I Programs

This policy was reviewed, but no changes are recommended at this time.

Next Steps in Policy Manual Revision

The committee expects to review portions of the Administration section (2001, 2002, 2020, 2030.5, 2031, 2032, 2042, 2043) to better reflect current practice and update the District organizational chart. Policies 5121 – Search and Seizure and 5131.1 – Bus Conduct will also be reviewed. Two policies regarding student health may also be reviewed. Mark White, DGEEA representative, stated that at some time in the future the DGEEA intends to propose a policy regarding superintendent searches.

Reception of Visitors

No visitors were present at this committee meeting.

To do:

- Place Policies #5100, 5101, 5131, 5138, 5138.2 and 6002 on April Board agenda for first reading.
- Reschedule next Policy Committee meeting to April 30, 2019.

Jill Samonte moved and Fanny Vlahos seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 a.m.