

Pending Approval

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Minutes
September 27, 2012
Policy Committee
Waterford Board of Education
15 Rope Ferry Rd., Waterford, CT 06385

PRESENT: Mrs. McCarty, Mr. Egan, and Mr. Kenney
ABSENT: Mr. Brunelle, and Mrs. Nazarchyk
STAFF: Mr. Powers, Asst. Superintendent; and Mrs. Cumming, recording clerk

The meeting was called to order at 6:27 p.m. The first item of business was approval of minutes.

Motion: That the Waterford Policy Committee moves to approve minutes of the December 15, 2011 meeting.
Egan, Kenney—Unanimous

Mr. Powers reviewed policies proposed for focus and a tentative timeline for policy review during the 2012-13 school year. Eleven policies were proposed for revision, either as a result of legislation or because updates are needed. Mr. Powers distributed a memo outlining the proposed policies as well as a tentative timeline, a list of possible policy committee meeting dates, and the 2012-13 school year calendar for reference purposes.

The tentative timeline outlined a specific month(s) for policy review prior to presentation to the Board of Education for first and second readings. Ideally, the policy committee will have reviewed all policies by April to allow action by the Board of Education in May and/or June.

The list of proposed meeting dates was reviewed. Mr. Powers explained that some policies may require more than one meeting for proper deliberation. Mr. Powers reviewed the rationale behind the revision of the proposed policies.

Policy 4115.3, Coaches Evaluations, was not completely reviewed last year, and is slated for review in October.

A new policy is proposed to address Civility/Respectful Communications and Actions. Mr. Powers explained that this policy was not legislatively driven but instead originated as a result of discussion during non-certified bargaining unit negotiations.

Policy 5141.25, Accommodating Students with Special Dietary Needs (Food Allergy Management) and Policy 5141.21, Administering Medication, will be reviewed together and school nurses may be invited based on policy committee input.

Policy 4112.5, Security Check/Fingerprinting, is slated for review in December, followed by Policy 5141.4 Child Abuse, in January.

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A new policy to address Restraint and Seclusion is required as a result of legislation, though the district currently adheres to state requirements.

Policy 6141.321, Computers: Use of the Internet, Other Computer Networks and Internet Safety (Acceptable Use Policy), and a new policy to address Use of Private Technology Devices by Students, were scheduled for review in February to permit possible adoption prior to the opening of the new high school.

Policy 5113, School Attendance, is slated for review in March to consider guidance from the State Dept. of Education on applying the concept of “unexcused absence”.

Lastly, Policy 1324, Solicitation of Funds, was suggested for update to specify criteria for approving and supervising fundraising activities by students.

Discussion followed regarding possible sequencing changes to the tentative timeline. Policy 5141.25, Accommodating Students with Special Dietary Needs (Food Allergy Management) and Policy 5141.21, Administering Medication, were suggested for a change in the sequence to allow for review in October.

Likewise, Policy 6141.321, Computers: Use of the Internet, Other Computer Networks and Internet Safety (Acceptable Use Policy), and a new policy to address Use of Private Technology Devices by Students, were suggested for change in the sequence to allow for review in December.

Brief discussion followed on drug testing and Mr. Powers explained that, as part of the collective bargaining process, a provision was included for random drug testing in the custodial/maintenance contract. There is also a procedure in place that requires all employees to have a pre-employment physical. Policy 4112.5, Security Check/Fingerprinting, will be re-sequenced for review later in the schedule to allow for review of other model policies and input from legal counsel.

Discussion followed on possible meeting dates for policy committee. The following dates were selected for policy committee review with additional dates to be announced.

October 11, 2012

Prior to the October BOE meeting (date change from October 25 to be announced at 9/27 BOE meeting)

November 1, 2012

December 6, 2012

Motion: That the Waterford Policy Committee adjourns its meeting at 6:53 p.m.
Egan, Kenney—Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Joyce Cumming
Recording Clerk