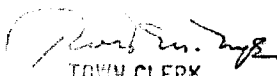


Minutes

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WATERFORD, CT

Policy Committee Meeting
Waterford Board of Education
15 Rope Ferry Road
November 15, 2011

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ATTEST: 
TOWN CLERK

- Present: Mr. Blevins, Mr. Egan, Mrs. McCarty, Ms. McLaughlin, Mr. Taglianetti
- Absent: None
- Staff: Mr. Belair, Superintendent; Mr. Melnik, Director of Finance & Operations; Mr. Powers, Assistant Superintendent
- Guests: Mr. Richard Beaney, Ms. Sheri Cote, Mr. Leon Goss, Mrs. Barbara LaFever

Mr. Blevins established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Motion: That the Policy Committee approves the minutes from the meeting held on October 27, 2011.
McLaughlin, Egan: Unanimous

Discussion began on the proposed changes to the search and seizure policy and regulations. Mr. Powers reminded the committee that the changes are a result of a presentation made to the Board of Education last spring by Sergeant Bellows of the Waterford Police Department. The intent would be to have an unannounced search by the K9 unit at Waterford High School. Two dogs would go through the school and both dogs would need to "tag" a locker, student, etc. for a further search to happen. Clarification is needed as to what constitutes "reasonable suspicion" for a search under the policy. The committee also asked for sample policies from districts that already do these types of searches and asked that the language regarding strip searches be revised so it is more stringent. Mr. Powers will confer with legal counsel and bring these clarifications and changes to the committee at its next meeting.

Next, the committee discussed corporate sponsorship. The Board of Education adopted the exploration of attaining corporate sponsorships as one of its goals for this school year. The committee was reminded in the spring of 2010, the Board of Education amended policy 1325 to allow for appreciation and acknowledgement for gifts and/or grants to be expressed in newsletters, programs, or displays in building lobbies. At the same time, the Waterford Education Foundation (WEF) amended its bylaws to allow for its gifts to be used for extra-curricular activities. This allowed WEF to award the BOE the \$10,500 that had been received for freshman sports. Mrs. McCarty brought up whether the BOE could legally receive funds directly instead of channeling the money through an outside entity, such as WEF. Mr. Powers explained that if the BOE received grants directly, it generally has to be used in that school year. In contrast, funds received from WEF could be used over multiple school years.

Mr. Taglianetti stated that the committee really needed to figure out what they wanted their policy to be. Mr. Blevins suggested that a start would be to define "sponsorship". Mr. Egan said that he has found that a lot of schools who use sponsorships have found donors who build athletic facilities. Those facilities would then, in turn, be named after the donor. Discussion then centered on basic questions such as who will be soliciting funds and what will happen if funds aren't received each year. Mr. Egan was not keen on selling

advertising and Mr. Blevins cautioned the committee to keep in mind the true value of any “advertising” the donor may receive.

The policy committee next discussed the formation of a finance committee, which the BOE adopted as a goal for this school year. Ms. Cote passed out a survey conducted by LEARN and also sample finance sub-committee agendas from other districts. Mr. Belair and Mr. Melnik both commented that they have had positive experiences working with a finance committee in other districts. There is an existing bylaw 9132 which already discusses BOE committees. During discussion, the committee decided this bylaw adequately covered the formation of a finance committee as written. The policy committee decided that the formation of a finance committee would be brought before the full BOE.

The next scheduled meeting of the Policy Committee is Thursday, December 15, 2011.

Motion: That the Policy Committee adjourn its meeting at 7:25 p.m.
Egan, McLaughlin: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Kathleen McCarty
Recording Secretary