

Minutes

Policy Committee Meeting
Waterford Board of Education
15 Rope Ferry Road
April 11, 2016

Present: Ms. Benvenuti, Mr. Merriman, Ms. Nazarchyk

Absent: None

Staff: Mr. Giard, Superintendent; Mr. Powers, Assistant Superintendent

Ms. Nazarchyk established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. Ms. Nazarchyk called for a moment of silence for Madeline Guarraia.

Motion: That the Policy Committee approve the minutes of March 7, 2016.
Benvenuti, Nazarchyk: 2-0

Mr. Powers reviewed the current policy 4112/4212 – Appointment and Conditions of Employment with the committee as the full Board asked for the committee to review the current language with respect to hiring guidelines. Mr. Merriman entered at 5:38 p.m. The committee discussed that the Board of Education would be specifically mentioned because they have direct influence over a Superintendent, whereas other Town officials would not be able to directly influence hiring decisions. Mr. Giard spoke about ensuring that Human Resources has a solid process in place to screen applicants fairly and hire the most qualified candidate. The hiring process for different certified and non-certified positions were discussed and the committee agreed that the district's process combined with the policy as written were adequate. Ms. Nazarchyk will provide the full Board with an update that the committee reviewed the policy but felt no changes were warranted at this time.

The committee reviewed the next two policies, 4112.6 – Personnel Records (Certified) and 4212.6 – Personnel Records (Non-certified), which have been split to separate certified and non-certified staff. Because these personnel records are separately classified, they are subject to different aspects of FOIA. These two policies will move to the Board for a first reading.

Policy 4115.2 – Concussion Training and Management for Athletic Coaches includes statutorily driven changes. Most notable of those changes is that student athletes and parents/guardians must review the district's concussion education plan and that parents/guardians must sign an informed consent form for participation. This policy will move to the Board for a first reading.

Changes in policy 4118.237/4218.237 – Employee Use of the District's Computer Systems (Acceptable Use Policy) relate to an employee's online privacy. The Board may not require an employee to provide the login and/or password for a personal online account and the revisions clarify the limited circumstances under which the Board may access a personal online account. This policy will move the Board for a first reading.

The next policy reviewed was 5114 – Student Discipline. Language affected by public act revisions have been included and a sample expulsion agreement has been added to the regulation. This policy will move to the Board for a first reading.

Policy 5141.4 – Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect, and Sexual Assault has been revised to include language that DCF must be notified when any student is a victim of sexual assault by a school employee. The changes, based upon legal revisions, also clarify training requirements for school employees. The committee agreed that this policy will move to the Board for a first reading.

The committee reviewed the changes to policy 5141.6 – Restraint and Seclusion. These changes were based upon legal changes and discussion ensued about various scenarios in which restraint and/or seclusion would be appropriate. This policy will move to the Board for a first reading.

The committee reviewed the rationale for the proposed deletion of policy 6173 – Homebound Instruction. The current policy is outdated and the requirements for homebound instruction are provided by Connecticut regulation. The regulation does not require the Board to maintain a written policy and the regulation provides for a very clear, concise process for the provision of this type of instruction. The committee agreed to move this policy to the Board for proposed deletion.

Motion: That the Policy Committee adjourn its meeting at 6:21 p.m.
 Benvenuti, Merriman: 3-0

Respectfully submitted,
Ms. Nazarchyk
Recording Secretary