

Wappingers Central School District Legislative Action Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 19, 2019
5:45 p.m. – Public Session
District Office, 25 Corporate Park Drive, Multi-Purpose Room
Hopewell Junction, NY 12533

Legislative Action Committee Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Eddy Slosower, Peggy Kelland, James Spencer, Linda Rappaport (arrived 5:47 p.m.), Karen Karath, Marie Johnson, Allison Conti, Alberta Pedro, Jayna Bryant (JJ)

Not Present: Michaela Rumley (RCK)

Public: No one from the public was present.

1. Chairman Eddy Slosower called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.
2. Approve Minutes - Motion to approve the January 23rd committee minutes made by Karen Karath, second by Peggy Kelland.
Motion Passed. Unanimous.
3. Progress of Effects on Common Core on Graduating Seniors - Student Project - Chairman Slosower requested that the administration send the survey to seniors. The Policy Committee is reviewing whether surveys should be approved by the Board before being sent out to the public, including parents, students and the community. Some members expressed that Board committees are responsible to gather information and therefore should be permitted to send out surveys. If a survey is sent by a Board committees to students, an introductory email to parents could inform them of the survey before going out to students.

President Kelland shared that surveys by Board committees was discussed at both the Policy Committee and Community Communications Committee. It was felt that since there is expertise on the Community Communications Committee they would be willing to review any Board committee survey and provide recommendations back to the other committee before the survey is submitted for Board approval. The Community Communications Committee appreciates the opportunity to offer input as sometimes it is helpful to consider the order or

make up of the questions. Concerns were expressed about the limited amount of time to work on goals for the year. Referring a draft survey to the Board for approval or another committee for input would delay the process of sending out the survey. Previous surveys prepared by Board committees did not require Board approval and were sent out after administrative review. The Legislative Action Committee's survey to seniors on the common core is an opinion survey that would provide administration with feedback. Additionally, Board committees can not direct administration or staff to work without the majority vote of the Board. Mr. Slosower indicated he would email the Superintendent and Board Officers requesting approval of the relevant policy at the next available board meeting.

4. Continue Discussion on Diversity - Student Project - The Committee reviewed the draft presentation on diversity. The Committee suggested adding the Wappingers District demographics to the page with the State demographics. The Committee clarified that the issue with diversity is more than inclusion but is also cultural understanding and acceptance. Perhaps an interest questionnaire could be included with registration packets to help bridge the gap for a new student. Suggested additional items to include in the presentation were hiring practices, curriculum, etc. The Diversity project is from the student perspective and this should remain the focus. The students were advised to focus on where do you feel separated and what are the things that would make you feel included. Target for June 3 for Student Diversity Presentation to the Board.
5. Update on Special Education Survey Powerpoint - The powerpoint provides the breakdown of the responses received from the second round of surveys sent to staff. Committee members M. Johnson and A. Conti have selected responses from the survey that they feel reflect the majority of the opinions received from staff. The Committee will provide the Board with an update of the Special Education/Response to Intervention Presentation. Mr. Slosower will request March 18 for 10 minutes at District Office.
6. Schedule next meeting date - The next Legislative Action Committee meeting is scheduled for March 25 at 5:30 p.m. at District Office Multipurpose Room.
7. Adjournment
 - a. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.