

Wappingers Central School District Legislative Action Committee Meeting
Monday, April 29, 2019
5:30 p.m. – Public Session
District Office, 25 Corporate Park Drive, Multi-Purpose Room
Hopewell Junction, NY 12533

Legislative Action Committee Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Eddy Sloshower, Peggy Kelland, James Spencer, Linda Rappaport, Karen Karath (arrived 5:38 pm), Marie Johnson, Allison Conti, Alberta Pedro

Not Present: Jayna Bryant (JJ), Michaela Rumley (RCK)

Public: There was one member of the public was present.

1. Chairman Eddy Sloshower called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.
2. Approve Minutes - The Committee reviewed the March 25 minutes. Motion to approve the minutes made by Peggy Kelland, second by Allison Conti. Unanimous. Motion approved.
3. Update on Student Survey - Chairman Eddy Sloshower provided a brief overview of the status of the Board Committees policy. Mr. Sloshower asked the Committee for next steps regarding the Common Core Survey. The Committee discussed several options such as:
 - since the Board Committee policy had not been modified after second reading, ask administration to send out the survey to the graduating seniors in an effort to begin to gather data and feedback, as the graduating classes progress;
 - mimic the same process used by the Community Communications Committee whereby the survey was field tested initially by various staff members prior to dissemination of the survey to the public; Board approval was granted after the field testing of the survey and review by administration.

The Committee agreed to follow the same process as the survey for the Community Communications Committee. The Common Core survey was sent to administration and principals, however the administration requested that it be

sent to the Policy Committee. Ms. Kelland said that the survey should go to the administration prior to Board approval. The Common Core survey was already field tested by the student who shared it with her friends and gathered their feedback. The Committee hopes to request Board approval at the May 23 Board meeting and send out the survey to students after the Memorial Day break on May 28. Students would have two weeks to complete the survey; due June 10. The Committee felt that the timing of Board approval of the Common Core Survey would make it ideal as an exit survey.

It was suggested that perhaps NYSSBA may have information about other districts which may have done a survey on Common Core and how they presented it to students. The administration may feel that the survey, as originally written, would put the District in a compromising position since they are bound to uphold the laws and regulations of the State and Federal government. The Committee felt that it is important to hear from students about the transition academically and emotionally by gathering data on how the students have adapted to the change in the standards. The Committee agreed that the survey should contain questions with multiple choices so the Committee doesn't make personal interpretations of the responses. The Committee agreed to review and revise the survey, as follows:

Hello Graduates of 2019: You are the first graduating class of the Common Core/Next Generation Standards. We are asking for your participation in this survey so we can have a better understanding of what your experiences were during this transition. We appreciate your feedback. Thank you. Legislative Action Committee.

1. What was the effect of the change to the Common Core Math curriculum on your learning? Harder, Easier, the Same. Please explain.
2. What was the effect of the change to the Common Core ELA curriculum on your learning? Harder, Easier, the Same. Please explain.
3. How has your relationship with the Common Core curriculum changed over time? Better, Worse, the Same. Please explain.

Next Steps:

- On behalf of the Legislative Action Committee, the District Clerk will send the three revised questions to Superintendent Carrion, Deputy Superintendent Bonk, Assistant Superintendent Cardwell and Assistant Superintendent Lolkema requesting review and approval of the survey to

be sent to graduating seniors only, in anticipation of requesting an agenda item for Board approval at the May 23 Board meeting.

After compiling the data across a number of years, the Committee was in favor of sending the data to the State and local legislators.

4. Review and Work on Diversity Presentation

This agenda item was tabled to the next Committee meeting.

5. Potential New Topics

Bill in NYS Assembly to initiate a NYS teaching certification to include dyslexia which will save the district money and help students. The District currently provides the dyslexia training to staff members.

6. Schedule next meeting date - The next Legislative Action Committee meeting is scheduled for June 10 at 5:30 p.m. at District Office Multipurpose Room.

7. Adjournment

- a. The meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.