

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 26, 2020

4:00 p.m.

Remote via Google Meet

(the meeting was recorded and uploaded to the Policy Committee webpage for viewing by the public)

Attendees: Peggy Kelland, Michael Lopez, Eddy Slosower, John Lumia, Dwight Bonk, Alberta Pedro

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Chairman Peggy Kelland.

Chairman Kelland introduced the Policy Committee Members:

Peggy Kelland, Board Member and Chairman of the Policy Committee

John Lumia, Board President

Michael Lopez, Board Member

Eddy Slosower, Board Member

Dwight Bonk, Deputy Superintendent of Human Resources

Alberta Pedro, District Clerk

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1. **Approval of Minutes** - Motion made by John Lumia to approve the Policy Committee Minutes of March 4, 2020. The motion was seconded by Michael Lopez. Vote taken.

Yes: Peggy Kelland, Michael Lopez, Eddy Slosower, John Lumia, Dwight Bonk, Alberta Pedro

Motion carried.

2. **Items Tabled From Last Meeting**

Student Cell Phone Policy

The Policy Committee reviewed the sample policy from the Red Hook school district. The Committee members discussed the need to ensure that the policy does not prohibit learning for special education students. There is a need to consider differentiation of the policy to accommodate different learning needs. It was agreed that the use of personal cell phones for instructional purposes or as per an Individual Education Plan (IEP) is appropriate. Other than that, personal cell phones should be kept in lockers or backpacks for the duration of the school day. Students taking out cell phones and using them to video or take pictures of other students often leads to student privacy issues and bullying. There also

needs to be administration and faculty buy-in so that the same message is conveyed to the students across the district. The Policy Committee especially liked the last paragraph from the sample policy. The District Clerk was requested to seek advice from the Office of Special Education and the school attorney regarding the differentiation for students with disabilities.

Discussion: 1500-R Facility Usage (non payment of invoices)

Attorney recommendation was provided to the Policy Committee for review. The Policy Committee discussed adding a penalty to invoices that were not paid in a timely fashion. A motion was made to approve revisions to policy 1500 and 1500-R, in that invoices would be due upon receipt and then a 5% late fee will be charged after 30 days. This late fee would be compounded monthly. Non-payment of invoices would result in an organization not being able to rent facilities in the future.

Chairman Kelland asked for a consensus of the Committee.

Yes: Peggy Kelland, Michael Lopez, Eddy Slosower, John Lumia, Dwight Bonk,

No: Alberta Pedro

Motion carried. Policy 1500 (1500-R) recommended for First Reading.

Discussion: SEPAC/SEPTA

The District Clerk provided the committee members with an excellent resource on SEPTA/SEPAC. The information provided could make what this looks like in Wappingers really special. The Committee requested more time to review the packet.

The motion to table made by Eddy Slosower and seconded by John Lumia.

Vote taken.

Yes: Peggy Kelland, Michael Lopez, Eddy Slosower, John Lumia, Dwight Bonk,

Alberta Pedro

Motion carried.

3. Continue 3 Year Policy Review

The Policy Committee discussed the following policies on the agenda:

Policy	Discussion
1530 - Smoking and Other Tobacco Use on School Premises	No changes. Reviewed 5/26/20.

1740 - Relationship with Nonpublic Schools	No changes. Reviewed 5/26/20.
1900 - Title I Parent and Family Engagement	Minor grammatical changes were made. Recommendation for First Reading.
1920 - Relations with Persons with Disabilities	No changes. Reviewed 5/26/20.
NYSSBA Policy Installment 2	
2520 - Board Member Training	<p>The Policy Committee discussed the need for board member training. Training could be provided in-house without the need for attorneys, hiring consultants, or attending fee-based workshops.</p> <p>A motion was made by John Lumia, and seconded by Michael Lopez to add the following paragraph to the policy.</p> <p><i>Training for Board members could include topics such as: legal responsibilities, Board-Superintendent roles and responsibilities, goal setting, cost savings, Superintendent evaluation, community relations, collective bargaining and negotiations, use of Board committees, budget development, facility projects, and participating in Board meetings.</i></p> <p>Vote taken. Yes: Peggy Kelland, Michael Lopez, Eddy Slosower, John Lumia, Abstain: Dwight Bonk No: Alberta Pedro Motion carried.</p> <p>Dr. Bonk abstained as this is a Board of Education matter. As District Clerk, Ms. Pedro voted no because it is difficult to get board members to commit to attending a retreat and mandating additional training would not be successful. Board members also expressed that if a board member wanted to meet with administration to discuss any of the</p>

	<p>topics mentioned, they could schedule something with that administrator.</p> <p>The motion was withdrawn by Mr. Lumia. No changes. Reviewed 5/26/20.</p>
<p>0110 - Sexual Harassment 0110.1 - Sexual Harassment of Students 0110.2 - Sexual Harassment of Employees 0115-E - Student Bullying and Harassment Complaint Form</p>	<p>Attorneys advised that new updates were just released two weeks ago. Therefore, the revisions to these policies are currently under review by the attorney. The Board must approve by 8/14/20. These policies are tabled to the new committee.</p>
<p>5500 - Student Records</p>	<p>The Policy Committee reviewed the recommendations made by the attorneys. The changes are necessary to be in compliance with Education Law 2-d. The Board must approve updates to this policy by 7/1/20. The Policy Committee requested that the District Clerk ask the attorneys for language about parents/guardians with court orders. The District Clerk will share the revisions with the Committee members via email.</p> <p>Recommendation for First Reading, as amended after attorney feedback.</p>
<p>8365 - Information and Data Privacy, Security, Breach and Notification</p>	<p>Chairman Peggy Kelland indicated that she attended a webinar on Data Security. It was recommended that the Board review this policy on a regular basis as technology evolves rapidly.</p> <p>The Policy Committee reviewed the recommendations made by the attorneys. The changes are necessary to be in compliance with Education Law 2-d. The Board must approve updates to this policy by 7/1/20. Recommendation for First Reading.</p>
<p>NYSSBA Policy Installment 3</p>	

<p>4765 - Online Course Credit</p>	<p>This policy is not currently in the Board’s Policy Manual. The Policy Committee discussed whether online course credit was being considered by the District, especially with some of the local colleges. If the Board were going to consider creating an online course credit policy, it would need to consider the potential collective bargaining issues of doing so. The Committee did not have enough information to discuss at this particular time. Motion to table was made by John Lumia and seconded by Eddy Sloshower. Vote taken. Yes: Peggy Kelland, Michael Lopez, Eddy Sloshower, John Lumia, Dwight Bonk, Alberta Pedro Motion carried.</p>
<p>5100 - Student Attendance</p>	<p>The attorney did not recommend any changes to policy as the current policy is sufficient. Attendance incentives are provided by the building administration and not outlined in policy. Reviewed 5/26/20.</p>
<p>8130 - School Safety Plans and Teams</p>	<p>The District’s current policy provides a more general overview of the plans, which is sufficient according to the attorneys. The District may want to consider updating its school safety plans for next year to include epidemic/pandemic planning. These revisions can be made along with the annual review of the safety plans by the appropriate teams. The District Clerk will forward this information to Daren Lolkema, who oversees the School Safety Team and the review of the Safety Plan. Reviewed 5/26/20.</p>
<p>8131 - Pandemic Planning</p>	<p>The District does not currently maintain this policy. The attorneys do not recommend adopting it, as it is not a required policy. The Policy Committee concurred with the attorney’s recommendation.</p>

4. For the Good of the Order

Motion to add an item of discussion to the agenda made by Eddy Slosower, seconded by John Lumia.

Vote taken.

Yes: Peggy Kelland, Michael Lopez, Eddy Slosower, John Lumia, Dwight Bonk, Alberta Pedro

Motion carried.

Mr. Slosower wondered if a policy was needed to address the return of chromebooks at the end of the school year, as a result of the loaner program for the Continuity of Learning plan due the pandemic. There are processes in place for the return of library books and other district owned materials. Dr. Bonk will discuss this with the attorneys to ensure a plan is in place to return district owned technology, equipment, and materials.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:01 p.m.