

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2015

Present: Dr. Deidre Gifford, Mr. David Osborne, Dr. Yan Sun, and Dr. Victor Mercurio.

Absent: Mrs. Gail Wilcox

Developing a Charge for the Policy Committee

Mr. Osborne will craft a Charge for the Policy Committee, which will go before the entire School Committee for approval.

Review of Policy #5130: Professional Code of Conduct

This policy was crafted last year, but not formally discussed by the Policy Committee. Dr. Gifford provided background details regarding the need for this policy. Edits to #16 and #20 will be made as follows:

#16- Language may be revised from “misuse” to “should not engage.” Language regarding personal relationships may be added. R.I. Law regarding student/teacher relationships and supervisor/subordinate will be researched and added if deemed appropriate. The Committee asked about internal relationships/or with family members of students.

#20-An additional sentence will be added. “Opinions regarding disputes between faculty and administration should not be discussed in the classroom” (This statement could be added in the next CBA).

Mr. Osborne will make the suggest edits and then the policy will be forwarded to Attorney Oliverio. The Committee asked if the Superintendent would handle a violation of this policy. Also, the Committee asked if *The Trust* provides PD regarding ethics (in a webinar) or if there is a possibly having staff members sign off on the policy. Dr. Mercurio will review the questions with Attorney Oliverio.

Review of Policy #1140: Selection of Ad Hoc Committees and School Committee Advisory Committees from the Community

Dr. Mercurio provided the background details regarding the selection process. Suggested revisions were provided regarding the selection of members and the application process. The Committee asked that the lottery be conducted in open session at School Committee meetings. Language may also be added regarding members who are “no shows” for consecutive meetings. Mr. Osborne will work on edits for this policy.

Review of Policy #1125: School Committee By-Laws

This item was tabled.

Review of Policy # 9305: Naming of Buildings and Other School Department Sites

It is unclear when this policy was drafted and possibly approved by the School Committee. Dr. Gifford provided background information regarding the impetus for a policy of this type. A distinction will be made in the policy between temporary memorials and permanent sites. Mr. Osborne will work on the edits for this policy.

Consideration of New Policy: Public Comment Policy

This item was tabled for a future meeting.

Concerns/Other

Dr. Mercurio explained there might be a need to craft/revise academic policies in the future. Policy Committee meetings will be scheduled on select Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. for the balance of the school year. At the next meeting, the Committee will be assigned policies for revision.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

CHRISTINE DIMEGLIO
SECRETARY