

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 14, 2023 @ 3:30 PM

Attendees: Denise Day, Matt Bacon, Dan Klein, James Morse, Suzanne Filippone, Wendy DiFruscio. Absent:

Dan Klein opened the meeting asking for clarification as to the status of policy GBEB – Staff Conduct with Students, that was suggested to be placed on this agenda and was left off. Since it was not on the agenda, Dr. Morse asked for copies to be made and shared with the committee. There was a discussion surrounding the procedure process that we should implement moving forward and Dan stated that he would bring up what the committee discussed to the full Board at the next School Board meeting for their thoughts. Dan requested that we plan three meetings ahead and provide a list of policies that will be coming up for review. Additionally, since Policy GBEB – Staff Conduct with Students was not shared prior to the meeting with the full Board it will be added to the next Policy Agenda. At this point Dan moved the meeting forward.

Policy IHAM – Health Education and Exemption From Instruction – Suzanne began by stating at the end of the last school year the committee asked for a review of the policies and associated procedures by the health educators. The revised version on this policy and subsequent procedures is included in this back up. Jim asked if the latest technical advisory from the state pertaining to teaching about sexuality was reviewed by the health educators. Suzanne confirmed that it was. The committee reviewed the suggested changes and made a recommendation to remove repetitive language from both this policy and its procedure. A brief discussion ensued surrounding clarifying that the state would not change our definitions, asked if notification is given to opt – out is in the syllabus, and whether this is strictly a high school policy and if the word “building” should be placed before principal. The subsequent procedure was reviewed as well as procedure IHAMA-R for changes and comparability to the health education policy. It was determined that this policy will be ready for a first read and that the procedures will be included with the packet for information only to the Board.

Policy JJIB – Interscholastic Sports was reviewed as a possible policy to link the Spectator and Parent Expectations to it as its procedure. After reviewing and discussing it was determined that the pronouns will be removed and replaced for gender neutrality and cross references and legal references listed under the spectator expectations would be added to this policy. This policy will be classified as reviewed.

Policy (TBD) Spectator and Parent Expectations – it was determined that this policy was unique enough to be a stand-alone policy and will be recoded to JJIB-A. The wording was reviewed, and numerous suggested changes were made to the policy language as well as the procedure. The current Student-Athlete/Parent Handbook penalty language will be added as the new last paragraph and the handbook will be added to the cross references. This policy will be sent to the Board for a first read and the procedure will be included with the packet for information only to the Board.

Policy GCBD - Sabbatical Leave – Denise mentioned that previously Tom Newkirk had reservations about the number of sabbatical’s that were allowed to be approved and felt that the language was too restrictive. Suzanne explained that there were salary ramifications of floating two salaries and benefits as well as the coverage needed within one year. It was suggested that the language surrounding the number of leaves granted in one year would be changed to up to two half year or one full year and one half year. This policy also will be updated for gender neutrality. Suzanne reminded the committee that the updated language will need to be incorporated into the Guild Agreement when it comes up for negotiations. The old procedure has been revamped and the new procedure is what will be used moving forward. This policy and procedure are ready for a first read.

Policy JLCE – Emergency Care and First Aid – this policy was also a requested policy from the previous spring to be reviewed by the District nurses. Various District policies were used for reference along with the NHSBA version so that the language surrounding Narcan can be incorporated into the revised policy. The existing version was included for comparison and the revised version is also included. The committee reviewed the revised version and the added Narcan language. Revisions were made to include “or designee” following Superintendent in the third paragraph of the added Narcan language and the last sentence of the added Narcan language was removed. It was determined that the existing policy will have the Narcan language added to it and be sent for a first read. The revised version will be sent back to the policy committee at their next meeting to give the full Board a chance to review the nurse’s suggested language as well as the revised Narcan revisions.

There was no additional questions and the meeting ended at 4:45 PM – Next meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy L. DiFruscio