

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 14, 2023 @ 3:30 PM

Attendees: Denise Day, Matt Bacon, Dan Klein, James Morse, Wendy DiFruscio. Absent: Suzanne Filippone,
Guest: Giana Gelsey left at 3:55 PM

Dan Klein began the meeting by informing the committee that Board Member Giana Gelsey asked to join the beginning of the meeting to report out on her research on related policies pertaining to hate speeches. Dan moved Policy IMC – Controversial Topics, Speakers, and Programs up on the agenda for reference.

Jim asked Dan for the context for moving this forward. Dan stated that with the increase in the reporting of hate speeches throughout the District he wanted to bring it back to the committee for additional review and a possible stand-alone policy.

Giana informed the committee that she did extensive research and review of suggested NHSBA policies, along with other district policy search and could find nothing specific on hate speeches. She did suggest two policies that the committee could review for possible adoption by the Board. They were KFA and EBCC. Currently the Dover School District is working on adopting Policy EBCC, but it is not final yet.

A brief discussion ensued that pertained to Title 9 and Due Process requirements, various RSA's that could apply, and adding hate speech language to various policies. The committee thanked Giana and she let the meeting at 3:55 PM.

The committee returned to the posted agenda and Policy GBEB.

Policy GBEB – Staff Conduct with Students – this policy was placed on hold at the last meeting for legal review with a discussion pertaining to facilities used by third parties who violate this policy and how do we protect ourselves. Legal review was given, and it was suggested that a second opinion by legal representation happen and invite them to the next meeting for additional input. This policy was once again placed on hold.

Jim asked the policy chair to provide suggested question for the attorney review prior to the January meeting.

Policy IMC – Controversial Topics, Speakers and Programs – the committee reviewed the policy and made suggested changes. They asked that the policy be sent to the DEIJ Director as well as the middle and high school Social Studies Department for their review. This policy was placed on hold.

Policy GCG – Job Sharing/Part-Time/Substitute Professional Staff Employment – Jim explained that this policy can be deleted as we do not have job sharing and that part-time and substitutes are covered under the Districts CBA's. This policy will be sent to the Board for deletion.

Policy GCI - Professional Staff Development Opportunities and Policy GCK – Staff Assignment and Transfers will be placed on a future Policy Agenda.

There were no additional questions and the meeting ended at 4:50 PM – Next meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2024 at 2:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy L. DiFruscio