

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 12, 2023 @ 3:30 PM

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

Denise began the meeting by reviewing the agenda items and suggesting that Policy BEDH- Public Comments at Board Meetings be moved to the end of the agenda as there will probably be some discussion surrounding this policy.

Policy BGA – Policy Development System – This is a recommended policy. The revised language under section A. was reviewed and additional suggestions were made for a smoother flow to the sentence. The revision reads as: ...process for policy approval and shall take place over two meetings with a first and second read. The Board... Under Section G. removal of the word “for” was made. This policy is ready for a first read.

Policy BGB – Policy Adoption - was revised to incorporate Policy BGC – Policy review and Evaluation into a new procedure for Policy BGA with a new title for the procedure of Policy Review/Evaluation/Adoption. A review of this procedure resulted in minor removal of two words and a tense of an exiting word. This new procedure will go to the Board as a review only.

Policy BGC – Policy Review and Evaluation – was consolidated into a procedure and will be deleted. This is ready for a first read.

Policy BIB – Board Member Development Opportunities was reviewed and compared to the procedure for this policy. It was determined that the current procedure (BIB-R) has the same context as a section on the existing policy. It was determined that the policy will change by removing the mid-section beginning with “In order to and straight through to 4. The last sentence will remain as part of the policy. This policy and procedure will go back to the policy committee for a second review.

Policy BIE – Board Member Indemnification – was reviewed with no changes. This status will be updated on the policy.

Policy KEB – Public Complaints about School Personnel, Employees, Students or Administration of the School Board – was reviewed with no changes. This status will be updated on the policy.

Denise returned the meeting to Policy BEDH – Public Comments at Board Meetings – The committee asked for clarification that the 30-minute time frame did not mean that the Board needed to wait 30 minutes at the start of their meeting for a public comment section, even if no one or a limited number of residents were there to speak. Confirmed that changes to this policy require a public hearing of the Board before action can be taken, clarified the definition of a resident speaker, and at which meetings of the Board that public comment needs to happen.

A lengthy discussion ensued with numerous suggestions and possible changes to both the policy and procedure using the RSA as a guideline. This policy and procedure will be revised and will be sent back to the committee with the suggested changes before proceeding to the Board for review and then a public hearing.

In terms of Procedure BEDH-R1 Public Comment Speaker Sign in Form – removal of the QR Code was suggested as a hard copy is available at the meetings along with the Board Information Pamphlet.

There was no additional questions or comments. Meeting ended at 4:40 PM – Next meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy L. DiFruscio