

CHESHIRE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING
Humiston Board Room
February 24, 2020 – 6:30 PM

Committee Members Present: Adam Grippo (arr. 7:15), Chair; Kathryn Hallen, Tim White

Other Board Members Present: Faith Ham

Administrators Present: Marlene Silano, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

CALL TO ORDER – 6:35 P.M.

Mr. White called the meeting to order and led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

I. Review Policies for Second Reading.

The Committee began their review of the following policies and bylaws:

Bylaw 9130 - Committees. The Committee continued their review of this revised policy which includes descriptions of each of the standing committees. Committee members reviewed the functions of the Liaison, Transportation and Public Information Committees. Members unanimously agreed to eliminate the obsolete Liaison Committee. Mr. White suggested rolling the responsibilities of the “Transportation Committee” into the Planning Committee. Ms. Silano said she will check to see if this action would affect any other policies or procedures. Members discussed the functions of the Public Information Committee which was utilized for the Communication Plan. They discussed whether that Committee could also be eliminated. Ms. Ham, who is on the Public Information Committee and was in the audience, commented that she and Mr. Martelli have discussed the function of this committee and would like it to stay active should the need arise for the Board to have a different message to the community than the district.

Other additions to this policy include adding an “Audience” or “Public Comment” section to each committee agenda. Wording is also added that the committee will make reasonable efforts to provide for video broadcast and/or recording of meetings whenever possible and permissible.

Bylaw 9321 - Time, Place, Notification, Type of Meetings. The only change to this policy is to note that the Board Secretary shall supervise meeting notifications.

MOTION by Ms. Hallen, seconded by Mr. Grippo.

MOVED to bring forward to the full Board of Education Bylaw #9130 Committees, and Bylaw 9321 - Time, Place, Notification, Type of Meetings for a second reading.

VOTE: The Motion passed 3-0

II. Review for Third Reading.

The Committee reviewed the following policies for a third reading with no substantive changes since the first reading:

4118.5/4218.5 Personnel - Responsible Use Policy – Computers, Network, Accounts, and Related Technology. This policy is recommended by the district’s Technology Committee regarding employee use of the district’s computer systems and electronic communications.

5112 Students - Ages of Attendance. Changes to this policy are a result of changes to Public Act 19-179 concerning homeless students. Regarding proof of residency, if the student claims that he or she is homeless, then the party claiming ineligibility has the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that the student denied schooling is not homeless in accordance with the federal law. The Committee will continue their review of this policy at the next meeting.

5118.2 Students - Homeless Students. Changes to this policy are also a result of changes to Public Act 19-179 concerning homeless students. Language states that any homeless child or youth denied school accommodations shall continue in attendance or be immediately enrolled in the school selected by the child in the school district. The district must provide a written explanation of the reason for the denial along with information regarding the right to appeal.

6142 Instruction - Basic Instruction. The Committee continued their review of this policy. Changes to this policy include adding computer science to the program of instruction.

MOTION by Ms. Hallen, seconded by Mr. White.

***MOVED** to bring forward to the full Board of Education policy #4118.5/4218.5 Responsible Use Policy – Computers, Network, Accounts, and Related Technology; #5112 Ages of Attendance; #5118.2 Homeless Students and #6142 Instruction - Basic Instruction for a third reading.*

VOTE: The Motion was approved unanimously 3-0

III. Adjournment.

There being no further business, it was unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Grippo, Policy Committee Chair

Attest: _____
Carol Jesensky, Board Clerk

Filed: 2/28/2020.