

CHESHIRE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Held Virtually via YouTube Live Stream

May 4, 2021 – 6:30 PM

Public access made available through live streaming via Cheshire Public Schools

YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com/cheshirepublicschools.

Public comments were accepted at CPSCovid19@cheshire.k12.ct.us.

Committee Members Present: Adam Grippo, Chair; Kathryn Hallen; Tim White

Administrators Present: Jeffrey Solan, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

I. CALL TO ORDER – 6:35 P.M.

Mr. Grippo called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

II. Public Comment via CPSCovid@cheshire.k12.ct.us.

None.

III. Review Policies for a First Reading.

Dr. Solan introduced revisions to Policy #5141 Student Health Services. He noted that our District Nurse Coordinator reviewed this policy and is recommending changes to bring it up to date with state statute. Dr. Solan noted that this policy will need to be reviewed again in the future because of the recent rulings regarding mandatory vaccinations and the elimination of religious exemptions. Other revisions being made are in regard to sports physicals for students. Beginning next year, we will be requiring sports physicals before the sports season begins.

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

MOVED to move Policy #5141 to the full Board for a first reading.

VOTE: The Motion passed unanimously 3-0.

IV. Review Policies for a Second Reading.

The Committee reviewed the following policy for a second reading. There were no changes since the first reading.

6159 Instruction - Individualized Education Program/Special Education Program

As a result of a State of Connecticut court decision, all students with disabilities who have not yet turned 22 years of age and who have not received a regular high school diploma remain eligible for special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) up until their 22nd birthday. Previously, the exit age of these students was 21. The following language will be added to the policy:

“Students receiving special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) remain eligible for such services up until their 22nd birthday or until they graduate from high school with a regular high school diploma, whichever comes first. The adult student

or his/her parent/guardian will be asked by the District if the student wishes to receive the special education and related services outlined in their Individualized Education Program (IEP) until they turn 22 years of age or they graduate with a regular high school diploma, whichever comes first.”

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

MOVED that Policy #6159 Instruction - Individualized Education Program/Special Education Program be brought to the full Board for a second reading.

VOTE: The Motion passed unanimously 3-0.

V. Review Policies for a Third Reading.

The Committee reviewed the following policies for a third reading. There were no changes since the first reading.

3170 – Business – Budget Implementation

Updated title from Director of Management and Personnel to Chief Operating Officer.

3300 – Business – Expenditures, Expending Authority, Purchasing Guides

Updated title from Assistant Superintendent for Management Services to Chief Operating Officer and updated terminology.

3326 – Business – Paying for Goods and Services

Updated title from Director of Management and Personnel to Chief Operating Officer.

3516 – Business – Accident Prevention and Reporting

Updated titles to reflect current positions.

3541.45 – Business – Student Transportation Insurance

Updated title from Director of Management Services to Chief Operating Officer.

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

MOVED that Policies 3170 – Business – Budget Implementation; 3300 Business – Expenditures, Expending Authority, Purchasing Guides; 3326.1 – Business – Paying for Goods and Services; and 3541.45 – Business – Student Transportation Insurance be brought to the full Board of Education for a third reading and approval.

VOTE: The Motion passed unanimously 3-0.

VI. Other.

Student Activity Accounts

Dr. Solan said that Mr. Masciana has set up a meeting with one of the auditors. We should have more information in the near future.

Minority Educator Recruitment Plan

Dr. Solan said the State has adopted a law that requires districts to create a Minority Educator Recruitment Plan. Over this summer, the district will develop a plan and bring it to the Board for adoption. He noted that he our district has an informal plan in place and aggressively tries to recruit persons of color to diversity our staff. Unfortunately there are not many candidates of color graduating in our area. He said through his work with Southern Connecticut State University, they have learned there are not many students of color entering into the field of education. Mr. White discussed possible outreach programs for students who are graduating from Cheshire High School. Dr. Solan said there are just not many of students leaving to enter the field of education, especially students of color.

VII. Adjournment.

On a Motion by Ms. Hallen and seconded by Mr. White, it was unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Adam Grippo, Policy Committee Chair

Attest: _____
Carol Jesensky, Board Clerk

Filed with the Cheshire Town Clerk's Office on: 5/18/2021.