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BARRE SUPERVISORY UNION POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Barre Supervisory Union – 1st Floor Conference Area

March 18, 2019 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

J. Guy Isabelle (SHS) - Chair Jennifer Chioldi (BC) – Vice Chair Rebecca Kerin-Hutchins (BT) – departed at 6:53 p.m. Andrew McMichael (BC) Sarah Pregent (BC) Jon Valsangiacomo

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

John Pandolfo, Superintendent Luke Aither, Assistant Principal (SHS) Jason Derner, Assistant Director (CVCC) Erica Pearson, Assistant Principal (BTMES)

GUESTS PRESENT:

Paul Malone

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Isabelle, called the Monday, March 18, 2019, meeting to order at 6:05 p.m., which was held at the Barre Supervisory Union Central Office in the 1st Floor Conference Area.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda None.

3. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – February 18, 2019 Policy Committee Meeting The Committee agreed by consensus to approve the Minutes of the February 18, 2019 Policy Committee Meeting.

4. Review of BSU Policy Manual Index

A copy of the BSU Policy Manual Index (dated 03/11/19) was distributed. Mr. Pandolfo provided an overview of the Policy Manual Index. Policy A1 – Role and Adoption of School Board Policies needs to be considered and should be written for a single board. This policy should be approved directly by the BUUSD Board. Approval should be obtained in May 2019.

Policy D14 – Social/Digital/Online Communications for Staff - Mr. Pandolfo is currently working on drafting this policy and will present it at some time in the future, most likely, to the BUUSD Board. Mr. Pandolfo advised regarding policies slated for First Reads at Thursday's BSU Board Meeting, as well as those slated for Second and Final Readings and adoption.

5. Discussion of Policies

5.1 E32 – Video Surveillance Policy

A copy of Policy E32 was distributed. Additionally, copies of the SHS Video Surveillance Policy (ECA), and policies from multiple other schools were also distributed. It was noted that many of the sample policies included for review are 'procedure heavy' and include information regarding rights of individuals vs. rights of districts. Mr. Malone noted that the purpose of video surveillance is to prevent intruders, and to keep students and staff safe. Since the introduction of video surveillance at SHS, vandalism has been greatly curbed. Mrs. Pregent likes the disclaimer piece in the Rutland City Public Schools Policy. It is felt that students/staff/parents/community members should be aware that presence of video surveillance should not give the expectation that anyone is monitoring the surveillance cameras and they should not assume that someone will immediately respond to incidents in progress. Brief discussion was held regarding Burlington School District Policy (D 21), #5 pertaining to requests for reviewing a video recording. Mr. Aither believes parents should shoulder the cost of 'blurring faces', in the event they are allowed to view a video. It was noted that video is usually only shared in accordance with court orders or subpoenas. Mr. Pandolfo will amend the draft policy by adding legal references and some of the language from the Rutland Public Schools Policy. The Committee agreed to present a First Reading of the amended version to the BSU Board at their meeting on 03/21/19.

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5.2 F35 – Entrance Age for Admission to Kindergarten Policy

A copy of the policy was distributed. Copies of the BCEMS Policy (JA) and BTMES Policy (JEB) were also distributed. Brief discussion was held. The Committee agreed to present a First Reading of this policy to the BSU Board on 03/21/19.

5.3 H30 – School-Community Relations Policy

A copy of the policy was distributed. The policy presented for review is the Model Policy. The Committee agreed to present a First Reading of this policy to the BSU Board on 03/21/19.

5.4 A1 – Role and Adoption of School Board Policies Policy

A copy of the policy was distributed. A copy of the VSBA Model Policy (A30) was also distributed. The policy being presented this evening is very similar to the Model Policy. Brief discussion was held regarding section #4 - Policy Adoption. Second Readings are required when policy Agenda Items cannot be warned 10 days in advance. As meeting agendas are not normally published at least 10 days in advance, it is believed that the BUUSD will continue with its protocol of having First and Second Readings. This policy will be presented to the BUUSD Board, and will not need to be presented to the BSU Board.

5.5 F36 – Intra District School Transfer Policy

A copy of the policy was distributed. Copies of policies from numerous other schools were also distributed. There is currently no policy in existence (within the BSU) for intra-district transfers. The policy will be necessary under the BUUSD and will need to be aligned with the Articles of Agreement. Ms. Pearson wants assurance that procedures are aligned at BCEMS and BTMES. It is possible that there will be issues with alternative programs, if they are housed at only one of the elementary/middle school. Due to the current Articles of Agreement, the BUUSD may not be able to house programs for specific needs, at only one of the schools. Lengthy discussion was held regarding the implementation portion of the policy. The policy will be presented to the BUUSD Board only, as it does not pertain to the BSU. It is anticipated that it will be presented in May 2019.

5.6 D14 – Social/Digital/Online Communications for Staff

Mr. Pandolfo is in the process of drafting this policy. It will most likely be presented to the BUUSD Board.

5.7 Policy Coding

Mr. Pandolfo advised that in preparation for the merged district, the new VSBA codes will be used on policies under the BUUSD. Mr. Pandolfo advised regarding VSBA coding structure; 0 - 19 = Required, 20 - 29 Recommended, and 30 - 39 Consider.

6. Other Business

It was noted that the majority of outstanding BTEMS policies have been absorbed in other places, e.g. the Procedure Manual. It will be important to make sure that procedures that were built in to policies are not 'lost' when the policies go away. New laws may mandate that additional policies are written. Board related policies may also need to be written/adopted.

If another meeting of the BSU Policy Committee is required, it is tentatively scheduled for Monday, May 20, 2019.

The BUUSD Policy Committee will most likely be configured of administrators, Board Members, and community members. A primary contact for each BUUSD Committee will most likely be the BUUSD Board Director. If the BUUSD Board is agreeable, Mr. Pandolfo would like Mr. Valsangiacomo to continuing working on the Policy Committee.

7. Adjournment On a motion by Mrs. Chioldi, seconded by Mr. McMichael, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Andrea Poulin