

New Hanover County Board of Education

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
TITLE IX COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

APRIL 1, 2019

2:30 PM

BOARD OF EDUCATION CENTER

MEETING CALLED BY	Dr. Tim Markley, Superintendent
RECORDER	Crystal Buie, Administrative Assistant
BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Chair Lisa Estep and Member Nelson Beaulieu, Board Representatives
ATTENDEES	Dr. Rick Holliday, Dawn Brinson, Wayne Bullard, Kristin Jackson, Dr. Maggie Rollison, Amy Oots, Tanya Jordan, Judy Stubblefield, Jayne Emma, Adrienne Gale, Katrina Creech, Sheriff Ed McMahon, Chief Deputy Ken Sarvis, Leslie Cohen, Andrea Stough, Amy Feath, Janie Dowda, Robert McGee, Amber Resetar.

Agenda

Introduction: Welcome & Committee Members Introductions Presented by Board Chair Lisa Estep *
Dr. Tim Markley

Discussion Items: Presented by Dr. Markley, Mrs. Estep
and Committee Members

DISCUSSION	<p>Mrs. Estep reviewed the purpose of the Title IX Committee. Dr. Markley and Mrs. Estep introduced community member Jackie White, a retired educator from UNC-Greensboro, who worked with University's Title IX Office. Mrs. White gave a quick overview of her background and Title IX experience.</p> <p>NHCS Student Support Services Director Kristin Jackson, NHCS Behavioral Specialist Judy Stubblefield and Family Life/PE Lead Teacher Jayne Emma gave a presentation that outlined their respective areas as related to Title IX, sexual harassment and bullying.</p> <p>Ms. Emma shared that NHCS parents trust the district's Family Life Education Program. She reviewed the curriculums that are offered. In 5th grade, the program is Growth and Changes is offered, and there is a 98% participation rate; the curriculum includes sexual harassment. The middle school program is Stepping Stones and My Life, and it is offered in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. The curriculum reviews permission in the 6th grade; in 7th grade, sexual harassment, consent, and abuse are covered. How to respond and report are also covered. In 8th grade, safe dating, refusal skills, consent and assertive statements are included. Ms. Emma shared that health is offered during one semester of high school, typically in the 9th grade. High school students receive 9-weeks of PE and 9-weeks of health instruction. The health curriculum includes how consent is defined and what actually is consent. Topics can be opted out of health if parents did not want students to participate.</p> <p>There was a discussion about the limited amount of time that high school students receive health instruction and did the requirements need to be expanded.</p> <p>Ms. Stubblefield reviewed Board of Education Policy – 8307 - PROHIBITION AGAINST HARASSMENT AND BULLYING BY STUDENTS. Ms. Stubblefield shared that</p>
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bullying/harassment training had occurred with principals, assistant principals, school counselors, social workers, in-school suspension teachers, school resource officers and bus drivers. Policy 8307 was included in all training materials. Ms. Stubblefield reviewed the definition of sexual harassment. There was a discussion about the terms' – bullying, harassment and sexual harassment definitions and if they were defined by local, state or federal. It was confirmed that the NHCS follows the required state statute, which meets federal guidelines. Ms. Stubblefield reviewed the parent notification process when a situation occurred. She shared that there are typically over 300 referrals – bullying, harassment, or discrimination – not all found to be true, though at least that many are received and reviewed/investigated. All school reports are reviewed by Ms. Stubblefield. If there are any missing pieces/information, Ms. Stubblefield returns the report back to the school for the information to be completed/finalized.

Ms. Jackson reviewed the behaviors that are perceived as sexual harassment. There was a discussion about when law enforcement is involved – very sexual acts, parent's request, pictures/video. Ms. Emma included that child pornography is covered in the Family Life Education curriculum. There was a discussion regarding offenders returning to school after serving out of school suspension days and if there were any action steps/support that was provided. There was a discussion about NHCS' investigation and when local law enforcement and Department of Social Services get involved. New Hanover County Sheriff Ed McMahon shared that if school personnel suspect that the act is criminal to immediately contact the school's assigned SRO. Law enforcement and DSS can best determine if a sex crime has occurred. NHC Sheriff's Office goal is to make everyone safe, and if appropriate, the offender will be charged accordingly.

There was a discussion regarding educational support beyond law enforcement and DSS involvement that may include written protocols for education (what can be done) and supporting resources (resources that can be obtained).

Dr. Markley recommended to break into the sub committees. Mrs. Estep recommended that before doing so the committee should set its next meeting date/time. The meeting was scheduled for Monday, April 22nd, 2:30 PM, at the Board of Education Center.

At 3:36 PM, the committee broke into its subcommittees – Education, Policy and Resource – to meet.

At 3:59 PM, the Title IX Committee reconvened as a group. Each subcommittee gave a report.

Policy: UNC-Wilmington Title IX Officer Amber Resetar reported that the Policy Subcommittee was reviewing what NHCS was currently doing. A Google document was going to be created with a draft policy for the subcommittee members to share their comments/edits. A goal was to create a policy that would be clear for all of those that would be accessing it.

Education: NHCS Student Support Services Director Kristin Jackson reported that the Education Subcommittee had reviewed the three school levels – high school, middle school and elementary and discussed creating an awareness campaign for each level. There was concern that an awareness campaign at the elementary would be more difficult due to the nature of the topic without tainting.

The approach for elementary may be more parent/adult education to help support parents with talking to their children.

Resources: Carousel Center Executive Director Amy Feath shared four things that the Resources Subcommittee discussed that would be beneficial – website, links to community resources, parent feedback form and student feedback form - to support a safe, productive space.

Dr. Markley reminded the group of the next meeting on Monday, April 22nd, 2:30 PM – Board of Education Center. He asked for everyone to review the district’s new website, which was launching on April 15th, before the April 22nd meeting.

Mrs. Estep asked the committee to please share any items/information that they would like discussed with her before the next meeting.

Dr. Markley thanked everyone for their participation and the great work that had been contributed during the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:03 PM.

NEXT MEETING

APRIL 22, 2019

2:30 PM

Board of Education Center