

**Suffield Board of Education
Policy Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
April 22, 2021 at 5:30 pm
via Zoom**

Attendees: Debra Dudack, Jamie Drzyzga, Brain Fry and Superintendent Timothy Van Tassel, Ed. D.

Absent: Scott Lingenfelter and Susan Mercik Davis

I. Call to Order: 5:31 pm

II. Policies for Review and Discussion:

1. **Policy/Regulation #5141.1 - Child Abuse, Neglect and Sexual Assault:** Subcommittee members discussed proposed changes to this policy, which are in accordance with state statute, in alignment with guidance from the Connecticut Department of Children and Families, and recommended by our legal counsel. The policy will now head to the full Board for consideration on 30-Day Read. The regulation does not need approval from the full Board, per Board bylaws.
2. **Policy #5144 - Student Discipline:** Subcommittee members discussed proposed changes to this policy, which are recommended by our legal counsel and include language pertaining to virtual hearings as well as items that our legal counsel recommends are included in this policy that our existing version did not contain. The policy will now head to the full Board for consideration on 30-Day Read.
3. **Discussion regarding intake process of the subcommittee in reviewing policies at Board or community members' request:** Subcommittee members discussed adopting a formal intake process for items that Board or community members would like to have reviewed, such as ensuring requests from Board members are submitted in writing with concerns and proposed solutions documented before an item is added to a subcommittee agenda. Requests from community members would continue to be vetted by the Superintendent and referred to the subcommittee as deemed necessary. Subcommittee members suggested that such an intake process could be beneficial for additional subcommittees and may also serve as a model for consideration of requests for workshops and discussion items at full Board meetings. The Policy chair is going to do additional research and present language for consideration at the next Policy subcommittee meeting.

III. Adjournment

The subcommittee meeting adjourned at 5:56 pm.