



Serving the Towns of Bethlehem and Woodbury

**MINUTES**

Policy Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 11, 2022; 7:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

**Committee Members Present:**

Tikva Rose, Chair

George Bauer

Jim Crocker

**Absent:**

David Butkus

**Also Present:**

Wayne McAllister, Acting Superintendent

Donna Marcinek, Director of Student Services

Wendy Nelson Kauffman, Director of Teaching and Learning

Taryn Fernandez, Assistant Principal, Nonnewaug High School

Patricia Paige, Board Clerk

**I. Call to order**

Ms. Rose called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**II. Advanced Course Participation Policy PA21-199**

Ms. Nelson Kauffman led the discussions. As required by the State of Connecticut Department of Education, Boards of Education, by July 1, 2022, must adopt a policy concerning the eligibility criteria for student enrollment in advanced courses or programs. This can include advanced courses or programs including honors classes, advanced placement classes, dual enrollment opportunities, and dual credits to name a few. The policy must contain two elements; the eligibility criteria for enrollment and an academic plan that is designed to enroll a student in one or more advanced courses or programs.

Dr. Taryn Fernandez wrote the draft policy, which will be brought before the Board at their next meeting for a first read after a review by legal counsel.

**III. Title IX**

The Title IX Student and Personnel policies were presented to the full Board as a first read at a prior meeting. At that time, several additional edits were necessary. The revised policies were brought before the committee this evening for review and consideration.

Attorney Sommaruga was solicited to provide guidance on numbering and placement of the policies on the district's webpage. He also recommended the consolidation of the discrimination and harassment policies as outlined in a memo to the Board of Education

and shared with the committee. Those recommendations were approved by the committee and will be brought to the Board for a first/second read.

**VI. Policy Organization**

Board member Jonathan Kapstein made a request to change the status of the ad hoc Curriculum Committee to a standing committee of the Board. He devised a charge, which was read into the record by Board Chair, George Bauer. The charge and the appointment of personnel to the committee were sufficient for the ad hoc designation.

To consider Mr. Kapstein's request, Attorney Sommaruga made several recommendations, one of which, suggested revising Policy 9300 to include Curriculum Committee as a standing committee. With the approval of the Policy Committee, the revised policy will be brought before the Board for a first read at their next meeting.

**V. Controversial Topics**

The policy addresses objectionable material in the classroom and was prepared by the office of Attorney Mark Sommaruga. The draft policy provides a foundation for discussion and decision-making and is scheduled for a first read of the Board at their next meeting.

**VI. Adjournment**

A motion was made by George Bauer and seconded by Jim Crocker to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m.; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia Paige  
Board Clerk

Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Patricia Paige, Board Clerk