

Beekmantown Central School District

Policy Committee

Place: **Superintendent's Office**

September 13, 2013

Minutes

Attendees: Eric Anderson, Board Member
Andrew Brockway, Board Member
Ed Marin, Board Member
Daniel Mannix, Superintendent

Others: Nelly Collazo, HS Principal
Amy Campbell, MS Principal
Jennifer Duffy, Counselor
Eric Parmeter, Intern
Marilyn Dwyer
Kelly LaFountain

Meeting called to order at 9:00 am.

1. Valedictorian/Salutatorian Policy (related policies: 4710) – Potential new Policy
 - There were several concerns about recognizing a Valedictorian/Salutatorian that included: lack of a weighted grading system for CAP and AP classes, closeness of final GPA (sometimes only 1/100th of a point separates two individuals), and others.
 - The district will still develop a policy that articulates how the district will recognize high academic achievers, which may or may not include Valedictorian/Salutatorian. Currently Honor Graduates (above a 90% average) are recognized at graduation.
 - In a future year, the Policy Committee will look into the grading policy to see if CAP and AP classes along with other factors should be incorporated into a student's GPA. Any change to the grading policy would be phased in with a new cohort.

2. Public Comment Policy (related policies: 1230, 1400, 2310, 2340, 2342)
 - No changes to current policy of having 10 minutes of public comment at the beginning and end of regular meetings.
 - Have some board members be available 15 minutes before the meeting, for the public to ask questions and make comments.

- Create a drop box for people to put in questions or comments that can be addressed at future meetings or even in-between meetings. There is currently a policy that allows a member of the public to ask to have an item added to our agenda. This can help facilitate these additions in a timely fashion.
3. Mobile Device Use Policy (related policies: 4526, plus MS and HS Student Handbooks) – Potential new Policy.
- Currently, the board does not have an official policy on mobile device use by students. However, the MS and HS have policies in the student handbooks. Principal Campbell and Principal Collazo, did an excellent job explaining the reason for the differences in policy between the MS and HS and the reasoning behind each policy. All in attendance agreed with the current policies implemented at the MS and HS level.
 - NYSSBA has a recommended Mobile Device Use Policy that the committee will review.
 - The district has plans to have WIFI available throughout the district, so the board will need to have a Mobile Device Use Policy that balances the academic needs of the students against the potential for misuse by students.
 - Future Policy Committee Meetings will work on the creation of the policy with input from building administrators.
4. Policy Review – NYSSBA has sent us a list of recommended policies to review or add. In addition, we have many policies that have not been reviewed for many years. How do we want to proceed?
- The Policy Committee is going to address the NYSSBA recommended policies at the next several meetings, since some of these policies are required by law and require annual review.
 - The Policy Committee has assigned each member of the committee plus Superintendent Mannix a particular section of the policy manual. Each individual will review their sections and report back to the full committee to establish a priority list for policy review.

Respectfully Submitted,
Eric Anderson