

BOE Policy and Legislation Committee
Sept. 24, 2020 5:30 PM
Virtual via Zoom
Minutes prepared by Ann Sweeney

Committee attendees:
Commissioners:
Ann Sweeney, Chair
Liz Brown
Karen Harvey
Charles Stango

Presenters/ Staff
Dr. Ruffin
Darren Schwartz
Kathleen Gabrielson
Atty. Tara Shaw

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm.

Item 1: Revisions to Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect, and Sexual Assault Policy (5141.4)
Presented by Darren Schwartz

Mr Schwartz explained that state law now allows, under very limited circumstances, for district staff to file reports of child abuse and/or neglect electronically. Staff have been informed to rule on the side of extreme caution when considering reporting electronically. The revised language states that electronic reports are acceptable when a “situation is of a non emergent nature” Mr.Schwartz explained that non emergent nature means the child is not in immediate risk or danger. Current policy 5141.4 will be updated with the additional language as well as updated legal references

Motion to recommend approval of revisions to Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect and Sexual Assault Policy #5141.4

Made by: Karen Harvey 2nd by: Liz Brown
Yeas-4 Nays-0 Abstentions-0
Vote was unanimous.

Item 2: Revisions to Individualized Education Program/Special Education Program (6159)
Presented by Kathy Gabrielson, Atty. Shaw

Ms Gabrielson stated that a successful lawsuit challenged CTs practice of releasing Special Education students at the end of the month of their 21st birthday. The court ruling extends that to age 22.

Atty Shaw stated the new language clearly redefines date as “the students 21st year inclusive”

Ms Gabrielson stated the ruling may be appealed, but is currently law. She does not see a negative financial impact at this point, but there may well be in the future.

Ms Gabrielson and Atty Shaw also recommended minor revision to language regarding the timelines for evaluation for and implementation of IEP’s to better reflect state requirements. Policy language and legal references will be revised/updated.

Motion to recommend approval of revisions to Individualized Education Program/Special Education Program Policy #6159.

Motion: Karen Harvey. 2nd Liz Brown
Yeas-4 Nays-0 Abstentions-0
Vote was Unanimous

Item 3-Setting of October Meeting
Presented by Ann Sweeney

October meeting will be on Thurs. Oct. 22nd, 5:30 pm

Liz Brown requested review of a new suspension policy from CABA. Ann Sweeney stated she would look up the policy and review with the Supt.

Motion to adjourn-Karen Harvey 2nd Charles Stango

Yeas-4 Nays-0 Abstentions-0

Motion passed unanimously.

Adjourned at 5:53 pm.