

Policy and Legislation Committee  
May 6, 2020  
Meeting conducted via Zoom video conference  
Minutes prepared by Ann Sweeney

Present:

Ann Sweeney BOE\*  
Charles Stango BOE\*  
Karen Harvey BOE\*  
Elizabeth Brown\*  
Jason Van Stone BOE\*  
Supt Verna Ruffin  
Dr. Rodriguez Deputy Supt  
Darren Schwartz Chief Academic Officer  
Will Clark COO  
Will Zhuta, IT  
Tom Van Stone BOE  
Rocco Orso BOE  
Attorney Tara Shaw

\*designates committee member

Meeting called to order at 5:32 By Chair, Commissioner Sweeney

Agenda attached.

Commissioner Sweeney noted that Items 1, 2, and 3 are in regards to grading policies for High School (6146.1), Elementary School (6146.11) and Middle School (6146.111), respectively, relative to the Covid 19 pandemic. The proposed added language would apply to/be added to all three.

Proposed additional language presented by Darren Schwartz. Language could be added to the beginning for end of policies.

**In the event that schools are unexpectedly closed under a municipal, state or federal mandate for 10 or more consecutive school days, the Superintendent will provide equitable grading procedures in the best interest of all students that account for such a closure and communicate the changes in procedures. In the event of such a closure, the Superintendent's grading procedures will supersede the following formulas and grading policies. These procedures will remain in effect, by decision of the Superintendent, until the following policy is equitable for all students.**

Discussion included question for Dr. Ruffin on why we need the added language;

Should policies contain language specific to today's crisis, or broad language that provides direction to similar but different circumstances; does it belong at the beginning or end of policies?

At the suggestion of Jason Van Stone, the last sentence was amended. Amended proposed language:

**In the event that schools are unexpectedly closed under a municipal, state or federal mandate for 10 or more consecutive school days, the Superintendent will provide equitable grading procedures in the best interest of all students that account for such a closure and communicate the changes in procedures. In the event of such a closure, the Superintendent's grading procedures will supersede the following formulas and grading policies. These procedures will remain in effect, by decision of the Superintendent, until such time the Superintendent deems appropriate.**

The committee agreed the proposed language should be placed at the end of each policy.

Discussion of current emergency grading policy referred to the Committee of the Whole workshop on 5-7-2020

Motion to recommend approval of new language to be added to Grading policies 6146.1, 6146.11 and 6146.111.

Made by: Charles Stango 2nd by Jason Van Stone

Yeas-Sweeney, Stango, Brown Van Stone

Nays-Harvey

Abstentions-none

Motion Passed 4 yeas 1 nay.

Motion to adjourn

Made by Jason Van Stone 2nd Charles Stango

Yeas-5 Nays-0 Abstained-0

Motion passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 6:05pm