

Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Policy Committee Meeting

Approved Minutes of Tuesday, November 15, 2022
Administration Building Conference Room

Committee Members Present:

Emma Eaton, Committee Chair
Eugene Marchand
Courtney Rossignol (arrived 6:05 p.m.)

Also Present:

Jennifer Beausoleil, Ex-Officio/BOE Chair (arrived 6:05 p.m.)
Dr. David J. Petrone, Superintendent of Schools

I. Call to Order

E. Eaton called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

II. VOTE: Approve minutes of May 10, 2022

MOTION: To approve the Policy Committee meeting minutes of May 10, 2022

By: E. Marchand Seconded: E. Eaton

Result: Motion passes unanimously

III. Discussion: Review New Draft Policies

III.A. NEW 5127.1 Improve Completion Rates of FAFSA

E. Eaton said this policy is in response to new laws. Dr. Petrone said Coventry has been doing this and it is not new to us.

MOTION: To send policy 5127.1 forward to be warned at a future Board meeting

By: E. Marchand Seconded: E. Eaton

Result: Motion passes unanimously

III.B. NEW 6158 Credit for Online Courses

E. Eaton reviewed the new policy.

(C. Rossignol and J. Beausoleil arrived.)

The Committee discussed various Virtual High School and Grad Point classes that are currently offered at Coventry High School.

MOTION: To send policy 6158 forward to be warned at a future Board meeting

By: E. Marchand Seconded: E. Eaton

Result: Motion passes unanimously

III.C. NEW 6171 Equitable Identification of Gifted and Talented Students

E. Eaton reviewed the new policy which is in response to new state law.

Dr. Petrone explained that all districts must have a screening process in place to test all students. Dr. Petrone said we already screen all students in third grade.

MOTION: To send policy 6171 forward to be warned at a future Board meeting

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: C. Rossignol

Result: Motion passes unanimously

III.D. NEW 6179 Advanced Course or Program Challenging Curriculum

E. Eaton reviewed the new policy, based on an update to the state law. Dr. Petrone said, this too, is already taking place at the high school. The Committee discussed criteria for taking a class. The Committee had consensus for how that language was written.

MOTION: To send policy 6179 forward to be warned at a future Board meeting

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: C. Rossignol

Result: Motion passes unanimously

IV. Discussion: Review of Policy Revisions

IV.A. 3542.4 Food Service Charging Policy

E. Eaton reviewed the changes to the policy. E. Marchand said he agreed with the new language.

MOTION: To send policy 3542.4 forward to be warned at a future Board meeting

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: C. Rossignol

Result: Motion passes unanimously

IV.B. 4116.35 Child Abuse Neglect and Sexual Assault Reporting

E. Eaton reviewed the changes to the policy. E. Marchand said this is pretty straight forward.

MOTION: To send policy 4116.35 forward to be warned at a future Board meeting

By: C. Rossignol

Seconded: E. Marchand

Result: Motion carries unanimously

IV.C. 4118.5 Employee Use of the Districts Computer Systems

E. Eaton reviewed the language changes, which brings technical terms up to date.

MOTION: To send policy 4118.5 forward to be warned at a future Board meeting

By: C. Rossignol

Seconded: E. Marchand

Result: Motion passes unanimously

IV.D. 5118.2 Foreign Exchange Students

E. Eaton reviewed the language that was cleaned up in these revisions.

MOTION: To send policy 5118.2 forward to be warned at a future Board meeting
By: C. Rossignol Seconded: E. Marchand
Result: Motion passes unanimously

IV.E. 5131.2 Student Use of the District's Computer Systems and Internet Safety

E. Eaton said these are technical edits with updated language.

MOTION: To send policy 5131.2 forward to be warned at a future Board meeting
By: E. Marchand Seconded: C. Rossignol
Result: Motion passes unanimously

IV.F. 5131.4 Use of Private Technological Devices by Students

E. Eaton said these are technical edits with updated language.

MOTION: To send policy 5131.4 forward to be warned at a future Board meeting
By: C. Rossignol Seconded: E. Marchand
Result: Motion passes unanimously

IV.G. 5141.21 Administration of Medications in Schools

E. Eaton explained that there is new language included in this policy. Dr. Petrone said the focus is on the opioid antagonist medications. He reviewed the procedures that will need to be put in place.

E. Eaton asked that on page 11, the copyright symbol be corrected to item "c)".

MOTION: To send policy 5141.21 forward with noted change to be warned at a future Board meeting
By: E. Marchand Seconded: C. Rossignol
Result: Motion passes unanimously

IV.H. 5145 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

E. Eaton noted most of these changes are technical in nature and not substantive. J. Beausoleil noted the new language added gives the district more flexibility.

MOTION: To send policy 5145 forward to be warned at a future Board meeting
By: E. Marchand Seconded: C. Rossignol
Result: Motion passes unanimously

IV.I. 5146 Physical Activity, Undirected Play, and Student Discipline

E. Eaton reviewed the changes to the policy. Dr. Petrone said these are minor adjustments due to push back received after the new law was passed.

The Committee discussed details related to recess and PE class.

MOTION: To send policy 5146 forward to be warned at a future Board meeting
By: E. Marchand Seconded: C. Rossignol
Result: Motion passes unanimously

IV.J. 6164 Curricular Exemptions

E. Eaton noted the changes to this policy. Dr. Petrone said this adds an additional opt out for parents related to gun safety. J. Beausoleil confirmed that these opportunities to opt out are all included in the law - they are not specific to Coventry. To further clarify this, J. Beausoleil asked that the second line down be adjusted to read "*per state statute*, the Board Coventry Board of Education (the "Board") shall permit curricular... "

C. Rossignol asked how or when parents are to opt out. Dr. Petrone said parents can opt out anytime in advance of the instruction; it does not need to take place at the beginning of the school year.

MOTION: To send policy 6164 forward to be warned at a future Board meeting

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: C. Rossignol

Result: Motion passes unanimously

IV.K. 9111.2 Code of Conduct for Board Members

Dr. Petrone said the original language was very minimal. J. Beausoleil said Shipman and Goodwin is recommending this for many districts. E. Eaton and E. Marchand agreed. C. Rossignol said she believes much of it is subjective.

J. Beausoleil said the only real recourse is censure, which does not have any real "teeth" to it.

MOTION: To send policy 9111.2 forward to be warned at a future Board meeting

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: E. Eaton

Result: Motion passes 2-0-1 (C. Rossignol abstains)

E. Marchand asked C. Rossignol what her reservation was. C. Rossignol said the language is overarching and could be taken in different ways. E. Marchand asked if she had any suggestions. C. Rossignol said she needs time to sit on it and asked if it could be held back for further discussion at Policy.

The Committee agreed to revisit the policy before sending it forward to the full Board.

MOTION: To add a motion to rescind the passed motion to send policy 9111.2 forward to the full Board

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: C. Rossignol

Result: Motion passes unanimously

MOTION: To rescind the motion sending policy 9111.2 to the full Board

By: C. Rossignol

Seconded: E. Marchand

Result: Motion passes unanimously

IV.L. 9360 Construction and Posting of Agenda

E. Eaton reviewed the changes to the policy. Dr. Petrone said that the majority of the language is from the new law for electronic meetings. J. Beausoleil reviewed the language regarding adding an item to the agenda and that email is now allowed.

C. Rossignol noted page 1, under Construction and Posting of Agenda, section B, item 2 and asked that it be clarified as **72 business** hours. The Committee agreed that it would be 72 business hours consistently for requests and that business would be added to notification timeframes.

MOTION: To send policy 9360 forward with noted changes to be warned at a future Board meeting

By: C. Rossignol

Seconded: E. Marchand

Result: Motion passes unanimously

IV.M. 9362 Time, Place, and Notice of Meetings

The Committee again agreed that the language related to requests should be consistent at 3 business days or 72 business hours.

J. Beausoleil asked that on page 1, section 2, item A, it be noted that a request can also be made via email.

MOTION: To send policy 9362 forward with noted changes to be warned at a future Board meeting

By: C. Rossignol

Seconded: E. Marchand

Result: Motion carries unanimously

IV.N. 9367 Quorum and Voting Procedures

E. Eaton said these are also changes related to the new law.

J. Beausoleil asked that the last two sentences of item 1.B. be made into its own section, which would make it section C. [Section 1, Quorum, would have sections A, B, C, and D.]

MOTION: To send policy 9367 forward with noted changes to be warned at a future Board meeting

By: C. Rossignol

Seconded: E. Marchand

Result: Motion carries unanimously

IV.O. 9368 Meeting Conduct

E. Eaton asked for any questions. The committee discussed the details of this policy. ["Business" was added to notification timeframes and "email" was noted as an avenue allowed to submit requests.]

MOTION: To send policy 9368 forward with changes to be warned at a future Board meeting

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: C. Rossignol

Result: Motion passes unanimously

IV.P. 9368.2 Minutes

E. Eaton asked for any questions. ["Business" was added to notification timeframes.]

MOTION: To send policy 9368.2 forward to be warned at a future Board meeting

By: C. Rossignol

Seconded: E. Marchand

Result: Motion passes unanimously

V. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

By: E. Marchand

Seconded: C. Rossignol

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: February 22, 2023