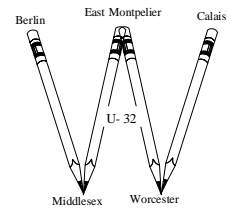


# Washington Central Unified Union School District

*WCUUSD exists to nurture and inspire in all students the passion, creativity and power to contribute to their local and global communities.*

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Jennifer Miller-Arsenault  
Interim Superintendent



## WCUUSD Policy Committee Approved Minutes 2.8.22 4:30-6:30 PM Central Office, 1130 Gallison Hill Rd. Montpelier Via Video Conference

**Present:** Jennifer Miller-Arsenault, Michelle Ksepka, Aaron Boynton, Amy Molina, Scott Thompson, Chris McVeigh, Mark Kline, Lindy Johnson

1. **Call to Order: Chris McVeigh called the meeting to order at 4:31 PM**
2. **Agenda Revisions:** Jen Miller Arsenault advised that the D7 policy does not need to be on the agenda as the board approved this policy in December. This was an oversight. Chris mentioned adding Honoring Policy as an agenda item in light of a petition that is circulating regarding naming the U-32 gym after Dan Gandin who was a longtime teacher/coach. WCUUSD does not have a policy regarding naming and it does not fall under the Memorials policy.
3. **Approve Minutes of 11.9.21: Scott Thompson motioned to approve the minutes. Chris seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**
4. **Review Policies**
  - 4.1. **Required**
    - 4.1.1. **C4 English Learners:** Jen advised that the language in the policy we have was old. The new policy is clear, more inclusive and equitable to describe our English learners. There was some discussion surrounding how students become eligible for ELL services. This policy was recommended to be moved forward for first reading.
    - 4.1.2. **C5 Weapons/Firearms:** Jen advised that the VSBA policy only includes firearms but does not include weapons. There was some discussion as to whether firearms and weapons should be separate policies. Jen advised she would do some research as to why the VSBA policy does not mention weapons and bring it back to the next policy meeting. The consensus was that the C5 policy should stay as we have it as a combined weapons/firearms policy. Jen mentioned there was difference in wording it says "it is our intent" to comply where the other says "it is our policy". Amy Molina mentioned that we should reference the additional state law in the top section: 13 VSA 4004 Possession of dangerous or deadly weapons in a school bus, school building or on school property. This policy will be brought back to the next meeting.

**4.1.3. B5 Prevention of Employee Harassment:** Jen advised there is a slight difference in definition and there is a section in regards to training that is not included. Amy Molina advised that language in the VSBA policy differs from the WCUUSD language and suggested that we clean up the language to match the district. Scott suggested that we add: “every building will have a person designated that an employee can go to”. Chris suggested to keep both principal and the designated person. Designated employees will be called the non-discrimination coordinator. There was some discussion. This policy will go to the board for first reading.

**4.2. Recommended:**

**4.2.1. C29 District Equity Policy:** Jen advised that the board adopted the Humanity and Justice Coalition Statement. One of the key parts of the equity literacy grant is developing, implementing and monitoring policies, practices and strategies that support culturally responsive and inclusive school communities. Jen brought the policy to the committee to discuss how we bring it together with the Humanity and Justice Coalition statement and the work of the coalition. Jen advised this is the model policy of the VSBA. There was some discussion surrounding data and how it can be used when the end size is small. Lindy advised she feels this is helpful with what the coalition is doing. Chris commented that the budget has been healthy but asked if the budget were to become unhealthy, if there was a mechanism that would protect the policy and the equitable goals that it would attain or is this part of the overall equation of how we meet student’s needs in the policy? If the funds are not there how would we decide where the funds will go? Aaron suggested perhaps a section be added in reference to distribution of funds. Scott Thompson suggested that some sort of check on the policy or statement be put in so that there is some recourse if the policy is not being adhered to. There was some discussion. This will move forward for a first reading contingent on feedback from the Humanity and Justice Coalition.

**4.3. Honoring Policy:** Chris asked the committee if they felt we should have a policy around parts of our district being named after individuals who have served the district. There is a petition being circulated in reference to the U-32 gymnasium being named for former coach/employee Dan Gandin. The track at U-32 is named after Mark Chaplin and Kathy Topping. Chris suggested that criteria be formed if it were to go forward in order for the board to make a determination. He would like to have a framework for decision making. Scott Thompson agreed and suggested that the board be given the final say. Aaron Boynton suggested that maybe the board should decide if they are going to do an “all or none” decision when it comes to naming. Chris suggested that perhaps a time limit be imposed. Mark suggested perhaps the committee incorporate that the petition be submitted by a specific person. Amy advised this happens a lot in athletics, she has some additional information and suggested that there be a caveat in the policy that the board can reverse a decision. There was some discussion. This policy will be discussed further at the next meeting.

**5. Future Agenda Items:**

**5.1. Anti-Racism**

**5.2. Commitment to Humanity and Justice Statement**

**5.3. E1 Title I, Part A: Parent and family Engagement**

**5.4. Drug and Alcohol Policy**

**6. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned unanimously at 6:28 PM**

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Tuller, Administrative Assistant