

# Washington Central Unified Union School District

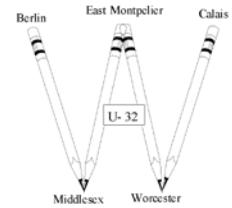
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*WCUUSD exists to nurture and inspire in all students the passion, creativity and power to contribute to their local and global communities.*

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Bryan Olkowski  
Superintendent



## **WCUUSD Policy Committee Meeting Minutes Approved 3.10.21 4:30-6:30 pm**

**Present:** Superintendent Bryan Olkowski, Michelle Ksepka, Jim Garrity, Chris McVeigh, Kelly Bushey, Bernie Lambeck, Esq. (Legal Counsel), Christina Pollard, Jody Emerson, Aaron Boynton

- 1. Call to Order: Chris McVeigh called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.**
- 2. Elect Chair of the Committee: Chris McVeigh nominated himself as Chair. Christina Pollard seconded. This motion carried unanimously.**
- 3. Approve Minutes of 2.15.21: Tabled.**
- 4. Review Existing Policies:**

**4.1. F46 Flag Policy Updated:** Bernie Lambek had provided a confidential memo for consideration regarding this policy. He had provided an edited version of the policy, and had tracked suggested changes. He invited questions or comments. Mr. Lambek had explained that the flag is considered more a forum for “board” speech versus “student” speech. He explained that even though the request is initiated by students, it is considered endorsed by the board/ school (government entity).

Jody Emerson explained that the U32 Board had first addressed this policy and had wanted the ability to decide how long a flag was to be flown. Some discussion followed around having a timeline included in the policy. Committee members agreed that having a time frame is needed. Mr. Lambek suggested that some language could be added to the time frame, e.g. “unless the board decides otherwise in this case.”

Mr. Lambek had provided a draft of very specific procedures.

Jody Emerson suggested replacing “Vermont transferrable skills” with “Student Learning Outcomes” in the procedures, for consistency.

Some discussion followed around the idea that a student group would require having a faculty advisor. Could read “faculty advisor or club advisor, if any” on the request form. If students do not have an advisor, and they have questions, they can be referred to the principal. Discussion followed around “hate symbols.”

For procedures #3, 4, 5, the group decided that “Administration” will be replaced with “Principal.” Aaron Boynton brought up the topic of building principals having to decide whether a request aligns with the criteria as stated in the policy, where there is some level of judgement required. On Item #6 in procedures, clarify “appeal to....” would like to make this clearer –appeal to the Superintendent. It will ultimately go to the board.

Chris McVeigh invited questions/ comments. He recommends bringing this edited version to the board for a first reading.

**Chris McVeigh moved to make a recommendation to the WCUUSD Board to adopt the Policy F46 as edited. Seconded by Christina Pollard, this motion carried.**

Superintendent Olkowski would like to have the procedures as discussed tonight, be presented to the board for its consideration as well.

Bernie Lambek will update the documents and include some “red lined” edited versions as well as clean copies for the board to consider.

**4.2. C2 Student Alcohol and Drugs Updated:** Superintendent Olkowski had sought legal counsel from Scott Cameron and added some language to this policy, especially around manifestation determination and disciplinary action. Chris McVeigh suggested that the language around students on IEP or Section 504 be expanded to include “or may have a disability,” similar to what had been discussed previously for Policy C5.

Jody Emerson asked, do we want the procedures to be included in the policy, as some of the edits tonight reflect moving procedures into the body of the policy?

Chris McVeigh indicated that, especially with the topic of manifestation, it is helpful to include the verbiage into the body of the policy. Superintendent Olkowski expressed his support to have the language around “manifestation” in the policy. Discussion followed around manifestation determination hearings.

Some discussion about whether the word “substantially” be struck from the language, as this is not language from special education law. Discussion followed around the language “prior to taking disciplinary action for violation...” Kelly Bushey and Jody Emerson indicated that this will tie the hands of the administration while a manifestation determination hearing is put together. Much discussion centered around manifestation hearing “trumping” discipline - is it critical that manifestation hearing happens before discipline is imposed? Is it feasible?

This discussion will be continued at the next meeting, as the committee ran out of time.

**4.3. C5 Weapons and Firearms Updated: Not discussed**

**5. Review Technology Policies:**

**5.1.** F40 Change Management

**5.2.** F43 Backups

**5.3.** D3 District Take Home Device and Personal Device Policy

**5.4.** F44 Password Management Policy

**5.5.** F45 Acceptable Use

**5.6.** F47 Electronic Mail

**5.7.** F48 Incident Response Policy and Plan

**5.8.** B8 Electronic Communication Between Employees and Students

**6. Future Agenda Items:**

**6.1.** School Choice Policy

Is this committee moving meetings to Wednesday evenings? (First Wed. of the month)

The group agreed to stay with the Tuesday meetings. Next meeting March 24, 4:30 - 6:30.

**7. Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned by consensus at 6:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Lisa Stoudt, Committee Recording Secretary