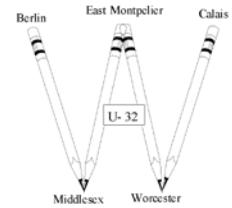


# Washington Central Unified Union School District

*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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Bryan Olkowski  
Superintendent



## WCUUSD Policy Committee Meeting Minutes Approved 2.15.21 4:30-6:30 pm

**Present:** Superintendent Bryan Olkowski, Jody Emerson, Michelle Ksepka, Jim Garrity, Jaiel Pulskamp, Chris McVeigh, Dorothy Naylor, Amy Molina, Kelly Bushey, Kevin Richards

- 1. Call to Order:** Chris McVeigh called the meeting to order at 4:39 p.m.
- 2. Approve Minutes of 1.26.21:** Dorothy Naylor moved to approve the minutes from January 26, 2021. Seconded by Chris McVeigh, this motion carried unanimously.
- 3. Review Policies**
  - 3.1. C2 Student Alcohol and Drugs:** Superintendent Olkowski shared that he believes the implementation of this policy could create some confusion with administrators; he noted that both C2 and C5 appear to be “zero tolerance” policies and he believes that this could create legal challenges. He spoke about some students under special education regulations who are entitled to manifestation determination hearings. He asked whether the committee and the board would like to consider some amendments to these policies, given those issues. Chris McVeigh asked whether there has been difficulty administering this policy to date. Superintendent Olkowski indicated that, to date, there has not. Discussion followed around the procedures for this policy, which exist in the student handbook. Chris McVeigh suggested that the procedures be spelled out in the body of the policy. Superintendent Olkowski suggested having some type of “notice” that students have read and understand the policy. Jody Emerson reviewed that a variety of strategies have been in place over the years to review the handbook with students. The procedures for this policy are consistent, district-wide. Chris McVeigh suggested to add more specific language to the body of the policy, referring to possible penalties, versus including the entire procedure into the policy. The committee will reconsider this policy, as amended (as discussed) at the next meeting.)
  - 3.2. C5 Weapons and Firearms:** Superintendent Olkowski noted that this model policy in VSBA was updated in December 2020. He reviewed the current policy, especially Part A: With Regards to Students. He noted the issue of manifestation

determination (especially related to item #c in this section.) Discussion followed around the issue of manifestation determination for students with disabilities, and how this might apply to this policy as written. Specifically, the issue of whether the board can or should make disciplinary decisions when manifestation determination is in play. Kelly Bushey spoke about her experience at manifestation hearings. Chris McVeigh suggested that the policy be changed to indicate that a manifestation hearing happen before board action, and he discussed with those present how to change the verbiage to reflect how it applies to students with disabilities or students who are suspected of having disabilities. Chris McVeigh suggested adding language to the policy to include “Student who has been referred for special education evaluation, is currently eligible for special education or has a 504 plan, or a student who the principal suspects might have a disability...” Some discussion followed about whether it is necessary to include procedure in this policy, for example, after Part A paragraph that begins with “However, with the prior...” The committee agreed, after the sentence that begins with “However, with the prior written consent.....” to add:

“For a student who has been referred for a special education evaluation, is currently eligible for special education or has a 504 plan, or a student who the principal suspects might have a disability, then a manifestation determination hearing (reference from special education regulations) must occur before any board hearing.” Jody Emerson suggested also changing the language to: “The student is disabled, or may be disabled, and the misconduct is related to the disability, as determined during the manifestation meeting held prior to the hearing.” under #C in the policy (Part A).

Chris McVeigh suggested amending the language in the policy and then taking it to the board to see what is their will. Jaiel Pulskamp indicated that she is in favor of whatever is less punitive, and she would like to dictate as little as possible what teachers and administrators *have* to do. Jody Emerson noted that in her tenure at U32, there have been no expulsions due to weapons violations.

Dorothy Naylor indicated that she feels having a manifestation hearing before board involvement seems like the most direct and sensible practice.

Chris McVeigh will edit the language in the policy as discussed; he also believes it should be highlighted when the board is considering, the difference between “dangerous weapon” and “firearm” as well as the different language of “may” or “shall.”

Superintendent Olkowski asked whether the board would like to consider hiring a hearing officer for board hearings. Chris McVeigh suggested bringing this to the full board as well.

- 3.3. F46 Flag Raising Policy:** Superintendent Olkowski reviewed the policy which was adopted approximately a year ago. He asked how to ensure that the policy is likely to withstand a challenge. He asked whether there is an application procedure in place. He had provided a draft “WCUUSD Flag Request” form for discussion. Superintendent Olkowski indicated that the “Exclusionary Criteria” in the procedures may be unclear or leave room for inconsistencies. Some discussion followed around the registration process, for example, “registered as hate speech by a nationally recognized organization.” Jaiel Pulskamp indicated that her understanding is that the board does have some discretion. Discussion followed around how student groups are formed at WCUUSD. Include language: “student groups, i.e., class, club, etc.” Chris McVeigh suggested that Superintendent Olkowski share a memo sharing what counsel Bernie Lambek had provided, and then addressing this at the next Policy Committee meeting after considering the guidance. Chris McVeigh suggested inviting Bernie Lambek to the next Policy Committee meeting for his input around the Flag Raising Policy.

- 4. Review of Technology Policies:** (these policies were not addressed in light of the late hour.)
  - 4.1.** F40 Change Management
  - 4.2.** F43 Backups
  - 4.3.** D3 District Take Home Device & Personal Device Policy
  - 4.4.** F44 Password Management Policy
  - 4.5.** F45 Acceptable Use
  - 4.6.** F47 Electronic Mail
  - 4.7.** F48 Incident Response Policy & Plan
  - 4.8.** B8 Electronic Communication Between Employees and Students
  
- 5. Future Agenda Items:** Next Policy Committee Meeting: Wednesday, March 10, 4:30 - 6:30.
  
- 6. Adjourn:** The committee adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Stoudt, Committee Recording Secretary