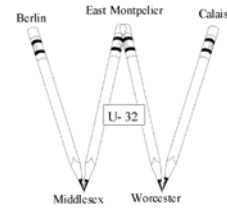


# Washington Central Unified Union School District

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

1130 Gallison Hill Road  
Montpelier, VT 05602  
Phone (802) 229-0553  
Fax (802) 229-2761

Debra Taylor, Ph.D.  
Interim Superintendent



## WCUUSD Policy Committee Meeting Minutes 6.16.20 4:30-6:30 pm

Via Video Conference\*

Link: <https://tinyurl.com/y9yvl84m>

Dial by Your Location 1-929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 955 4639 1841 Password: dKZvkuwqX7

**Present:** Chris McVeigh, Debra Taylor, Jody Emerson, Dorothy Naylor, Marylynne Strachan, Aaron Boynton

1. **Call to Order:** Marylynne Strachan called the meeting to order at 4:39 p.m.
2. **Approve Minutes of 6.9.20: Dorothy Naylor moved to approve the minutes. Seconded by Marylynne Strachan. Dorothy Naylor had suggested a few edits for clarity. This motion carried unanimously, with noted edits.**

### 3. Review Existing Policies

#### 3.1 Section C – Students

Marylynne Strachan agreed that waiting until August or the fall is appropriate, regarding Student Attendance. At that time we will have more guidance. We will revisit the Student Attendance policy in the fall.

##### 3.1.1 Current (C9, C20/C45, C46, C49):

C49: Kindergarten Entrance: The committee asked Marylynne Strachan for her input on the kindergarten entrance date. The committee discussed this issue further. Marylynne Strachan stated that she supports the September 1st deadline but thinks having a window of a few days after September 1st seems reasonable. She thinks that setting the June 1st deadline (for parents to appeal) could be challenging to parents who may have missed the deadline. Debra Taylor indicated that the best way to set a policy is to create it for the majority and not consider all of the possible exceptional cases, which can be discussed on a case by case basis.

Some discussion followed around assessment/ screening. Marylynn Strachan indicated that she doesn't feel we have universal assessments that are adequate to help with this issue of kindergarten readiness.

The committee suggested revisiting this discussion at the next committee meeting. Marylynn Strachan asked for clarification from Aaron Boynton - had he spoken with other administrators and had they expressed an opinion on the matter? He indicated that, for instance, Jennifer Miller-Arsenault feels strongly that it's appropriate to eliminate the second paragraph and create a hard and fast date of September first.

**Dorothy Naylor moved to approve the policy, eliminating the second paragraph. Seconded by Marylynn Strachan. This motion carried with two in favor, one opposed.**

This policy is ready to go to the board, after the second paragraph is eliminated, as agreed upon.

C9: Nutrition and Wellness: This policy is ready to go to the board for approval.

C20: Student Conduct and Discipline: The committee considered this updated version. Chris McVeigh spoke about in school and out of school suspension - that students should be provided due process in both cases, to share their side of the story.

Jody Emerson will wordsmith that portion of the policy to make it clear that students have an opportunity to share their side of the story.

On the school bus portion, Chris McVeigh suggested some clarity in the verbiage about reporting unsafe behaviors to the principal.

This policy is ready to go to the board, with noted edits and with updated language from Jody Emerson around the "due process" issue.

C46: Interrogation... Chris McVeigh indicated that he is in support of this policy in its edited form; he supports letting students know their right to record the interrogation, however, to let them know that they are responsible for the recording. Debra Taylor asked about the case, for example, if another student was named in the questioning, then a privacy/ confidentiality issue would arise. (For example if a student shared their video recording which includes information about, and naming of, another student.) The committee discussed this issue, including the issue of transcription of the video or audio recording. Discussion followed around the idea of a power discrepancy.

Chris McVeigh suggested bringing this policy to the WCUUSD board for a full board discussion around this issue of a student's right to video or audio record an interrogation. Dorothy Naylor asked, is there another non-technology way to provide this right to students? Chris McVeigh suggested that Debra Taylor run this by board counsel to see if they have any insight. The committee would like to discuss this at the full board level, with input from legal counsel.

### 3.2.1 Additional:

Chris McVeigh suggested that the committee address only “required” policies at this time, and to consider the “recommended” policies after the start of the new school year.

C24: Interscholastic Sports: Aaron Boynton indicated that in light of proficiencies (versus grades), having a grade point average requirement for participation is outdated. Jody Emerson indicated that U32 uses *attendance* versus grades or “good standing” as a requirement to participate in co-curricular activities. The committee agreed to strike #1 in the policy regarding grades.

This policy is ready to go to the board, with this edit.

C22: (recommended): Student Activities, Elementary:

The committee decided to address this policy since time remains in the meeting. Some discussion followed around some of the schools having athletics through the school and others through a recreation league.

Some discussion followed around whether these recommended policies(C22 and C23) are needed.

Jody Emerson suggested, after discussion, to consider C23 but only the first two paragraphs (as the detail in the recommended draft is very specific and more procedural or handbook material). The committee agreed that C22 is not needed, and will not address this policy.

**Marylynne Strachan moved to bring C23 to the board for approval, with only the first two paragraphs. This motion carried.**

C25: Admission on Non-Resident Tuition Students from Non-Operating Districts:

Debra Taylor noted that much of this policy is covered by the law.

The committee agreed to send this policy to the board for approval. No edits were suggested, except those that were already made throughout the entire packet.

#### 4. Future Agenda Items

4.1 School Choice (6.30.20)

4.2 C7 Student Attendance (in the fall after guidance from AOE)

Committee members discussed whether to meet next week. They agreed to meet next week, but not the following (June 30).

The committee will not meet in July.

#### 5. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned by consensus at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Stoudt, Committee Recording Secretary

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 4:30 pm**

**\*Open Meeting Law temporary changes as of 3/30/20:**

**Boards are not required to designate a physical meeting location. Board members and staff are not required to be present at a designated meeting location.**

**Our building will not be open for meetings. All are welcome to attend virtually.**