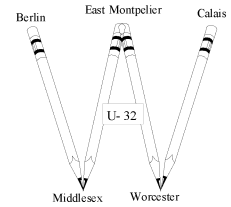


# Washington Central Unified Union School District

*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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Debra Taylor, Ph.D.  
Interim Superintendent



## WCUUSD Policy Committee Meeting Minutes 5.19.20 4:30-6:30 pm Via Video Conference\*

*approved 6-2-20*

**Present:** Chris McVeigh (Chair), Marylynne Strachan, Jody Emerson, Jaiel Pulskamp, Ellen Knoedler, Aaron Boynton, Dorothy Naylor, Debra Taylor

1. **Call to Order:** Chris McVeigh called the meeting to order at 4:32.

2. **Approve Minutes of 5.12.20:** Dorothy Naylor moved to approve the minutes of May 12, 2020. Seconded by Jaiel Pulskamp. A few edits were suggested - Jaiel's name was misspelled, and one discussion item was attributed to Marylynne whereas it had been Scott Thompson. **This motion carried unanimously, with noted edits.**

3. **School Choice Survey Update:** Committee members discussed the survey draft which had been shared. Dorothy Naylor suggested that on a few items, it would be useful to offer the opportunity to provide a more in depth response - for example, why did you answer this way? She stated that she thinks it would be advantageous to offer more options for answers. Marylynne Strachan indicated that she believes it is important to get the feedback from the community. Jody Emerson suggested starting with "Should Washington Central offer school choice?" and "Why or why not?"

Discussion followed around the possibility of starting with a quick survey for parents and to invite (via FPF) community members to offer thoughts or feedback to committee members; then to survey the community at a later time.

Committee feedback around the survey had been sought by email. Some edits to the survey were suggested to Dorothy Naylor; she made notes of edits. She and Debra Taylor will revise the form and will share with the committee next Tuesday. The intention is to

use google forms for this survey. Chris McVeigh suggested including parents of home-schooled children and parents of students enrolled in private schools.

**4. B40 Non-Retaliation/Retribution Policy:** Some suggested additions to the policy had been offered by Scott Cameron. The committee considered the suggested edits. **The committee agreed that this policy is ready to go to the board at the June meeting.**

## **5. Review Existing Policies**

### 5.1 Section C – Students

#### 5.1.1 Current:

C20: Student Conduct and Discipline: Jody Emerson and Ellen Cooke had suggested some edits to this policy. The committee will take another look at this policy on Tuesday, May 26th, and anticipates sending it to the board after that.

C21: Search and Seizure of Students by School Personnel: Chris McVeigh had added some language around “clothing.” Jody Emerson asked whether language should be more specific, for example, around “sweatshirt.” Dorothy Naylor suggested using the phrase “not including the primary layer.” Some of the language was changed in the policy to reflect the definition of clothing.

**This policy will go to the board in June.**

C34: Use of Restraint and Seclusion. Is this policy required? Jody Emerson - this is not required. Debra Taylor stated that she thinks it’s redundant to have policies that are already explicitly covered by law. She recommends that this policy not be included.

Marylynne Strachan asked, would it help to align this policy with our Handle with Care training, if we are going to keep it? Regardless, she thinks that parents should be able to easily access the procedure or the law in the parent/ student handbook. Jody Emerson shared that usually the law is referred to when a restraint is needed.

Discussion followed around the Handle with Care training, that is required every year. The committee and administrators discussed the required reporting when student restraint and seclusion are used.

Debra Taylor suggested that the link to statute be included in the handbook that is shared with all parents. She does not believe a policy is needed, as the law is very thorough around this.

Chris McVeigh asked whether it would be acceptable for the board to be notified when a restraint occurs? Debra Taylor indicated that this data is submitted to the state every year; it might be something the board would like to consider each year, via this report.

Marylynne Strachan suggested that if a policy is warranted, then it would be good to have input from Kelly Bushey.

The committee agreed that making a reference in the handbook to the legal statute

and to the AOE information on restraint and seclusion is sufficient. Debra Taylor and Jody Emerson will work on a draft of language to include in the handbook - for the committee to consider, two weeks from now (not in time for the next meeting.)

C45: Bus Discipline. Again, is this policy required? We already have a student discipline policy. Could this be incorporated into the student discipline policy? Student behavior on the bus is subject to the same behavior expectations as on the school property. Debra Taylor explained that the bus is an extension of the school, and all rules apply.

Marylynn Strachan asked, how often are students removed from bus privileges, versus suspension from school? Jody Emerson shared that this year there were approximately three times when students were removed from bus privileges, for one to three days at a time. She stated that there have been more suspensions this year than that. Discussion followed around various strategies to support student behavior on the bus.

The committee agreed that this could be included in C20 - Student Discipline. Chris McVeigh will make some suggested additions to the language in C20 to include bus discipline. The committee will consider C20 at the next meeting.

C46: Interrogation or Searches of Students by Law Enforcement or Other Non-School Personnel: Debra Taylor suggested that Scott Cameron take a look at this policy. She also noted that this is not a required policy according to VSBA. The committee will consider this in two weeks.

C47 and C48 - Student Exchange Policies: Chris McVeigh - is there a reason these are two separate policies? Debra Taylor will draft this as one policy, for the committee to consider at the next meeting.

C49: Kindergarten Entrance Age: The committee discussed that this is also covered in state statute. Debra Taylor reviewed the law which is not as specific as the policy.

Some discussion followed around preschool. Aaron Boynton stated that it is useful to have an explicit and consistent policy on the issue of kindergarten entrance age, for all of the elementary schools in WCUUSD to follow. The committee will reconsider this policy at the next meeting. There may be verbiage included about preschool age limits.

## **6. Future Agenda Items**

**7. Adjourn:** The committee adjourned by consensus at 6:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Stoudt, Committee Recording Secretary

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, May 26, 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.**