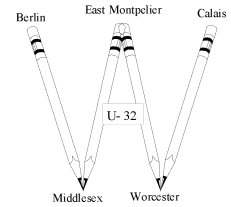


Washington Central Unified Union School District

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 Approved Meeting Minutes 4.1.20 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Via Video Conference

Present: Chris McVeigh, Marylynn Strachan, Jody Emerson, Aaron Boynton, Cat Fair, Steven Dellinger-Pate, Jaiel Pulskamp, Dorothy Naylor, Jonas Eno-Van Fleet, Lindy Johnson, Leighton Delmasse, Stephen Looke

1. Call to Order: Chris McVeigh called the meeting to order at 6:18 p.m. He set a timer for the meeting to end at 7:15
2. Approve Minutes of 3.10.20: **Marylynn Strachan moved to approve the minutes from March 10, 2020. Seconded by Jaiel Pulskamp, this motion carried unanimously.**

3. Requested Review

3.1 Non-Retribution/Retaliation Policy: This policy had been discussed at the previous meeting. Marylynn Strachan suggested that we hold on this policy until the superintendent comes on board in the fall, to have his input. There is a plan for a climate survey in the fall; it might make more sense to wait for the input from these others. She indicated that she does not feel that it is pressing to move this policy forward and it is worth waiting.

Jaiel Pulskamp indicated that she could go either way.

Marylynn Strachan invited input from other committee members or attendees.

Jonas Eno-VanFleet encouraged the committee to send this policy to the board and address it now. Dorothy Naylor indicated that we should go ahead with it and not leave things to the back burner that we can address now.

There was consensus in the group that this is a timely policy and that it should be brought to the full board for consideration.

4. Review Existing Policies
4.1 Section C – Students
4.1.1 Current (First Ten)

C1: Student Education Records: Jody Emerson indicated that this is a policy that has been working as it is. She did note that at this time, with more online activity, she thinks this policy might need to be considered through a different lens. For example, video recording and video conferencing - does this violate student privacy issues?

Cat Fair spoke about, for example, special educators or interventionists working in small groups online (e.g. via zoom) in students' homes, this can be a tricky situation around privacy, as there are others in the home.

The committee will bring this policy to the board for review.

C2: Student Alcohol & Drugs: Chris McVeigh asked administrators whether they feel that the policy as it is written works. He asked whether they feel there should be differentiation between the elementary schools and the middle/ high school in regards to this policy.

Administrators spoke about their experiences in the elementary and the middle/ high school as related to this policy. Cat Fair spoke about the Vermont mandates about health education.

The committee discussed adding verbiage to the policy. Jody Emerson spoke about experiences at U-32 related to this policy, especially around referral to outside agencies (for example, law enforcement).

Chris McVeigh spoke about how Vermont's laws around marijuana apply to this policy, for example, for 18 year old students. He suggested that the policy include language around this issue.

The committee will consider adding language to address the educational component. Chris McVeigh will draft some language around the marijuana issue that he had suggested.

The committee will further consider this policy in its next iteration.

C3: Transportation: Marylynn Strachan brought up the issue that Rumney had grappled with, around preschoolers being required to buckle themselves in. She asked administrators to look at the procedures related to this policy and to consider whether this issue is addressed. She does not think it is developmentally appropriate to expect three year olds to buckle themselves independently into a school bus seat.

Marylynn Strachan brought up the issue of transportation through the lens of special education services. Steven Dellinger-Pate indicated that this is addressed through the student's IEP, not through this policy. Kelly Bushey will be able to provide clarity on this issue.

Dorothy Naylor asked about transportation for students who attend other schools or campuses - does this policy address that? For example, if a student wished to take transportation to one of the Montpelier schools, if the schedule works for them. The committee discussed this, through the lens of reducing the carbon footprint. **The committee will revisit this policy at the next meeting, with language around the issue as discussed, about inviting other passengers to buses.**

C4: Limited English Proficiency Students: The committee has no issues with this policy as it is currently written.

C5: Weapons/ Firearms:

Jody Emerson indicated that board hearings are more difficult to arrange now with the new board configuration and that the board membership is larger and a hearing is very intimidating to students and families. Cat Fair indicated that the weapons policy immediately going to a suspension/ expulsion hearing is very difficult; she thinks there should be an educational opportunity and some steps in the meantime before a hearing: some opportunity for discretion to the building administrator. Jonas Eno-VanFleet spoke about his concerns about weapons of any sort and the importance of knowing and abiding by very strict rules when it comes to weapons. Steven Dellinger-Pate stated that there is language in the policy that allows for some discretion on the part of bringing it to the superintendent. Change "shall be brought" to "may be brought" which allows for some discretion.

Chris McVeigh asked whether the experience of the administrators is that there is a difference between "weapons" and "firearms" in terms of consequences. Some discussion followed. **This policy will be further considered by the committee.**

5. Adjourn: The committee adjourned at 7:15 p.m. by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Stoudt, Committee Recording Secretary