

Oak Park and River Forest High School
201 North Scoville Avenue
Oak Park, IL 60302

POLICY, EVALUATION, AND GOALS (PEG) COMMITTEE MEETING
March 18, 2010

A Policy Committee meeting was held on Thursday, March 18, 2010, in the Board Room of the Oak Park and River Forest High School. Chair Dr. Millard called the meeting to order at 10:28 a.m. Committee members present were Terry Finnegan, Dr. Ralph H. Lee, Dr. Dietra D. Millard, Amy Leafe McCormack, and Sharon Patchak-Layman. Also present were Nathaniel L. Rouse; CW, CFO; and Gail Kalmerton, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board.

Visitors included Kay Foran, Community Relations and Communications Coordinator; James Paul Hunter, Faculty Senate Executive Committee Chair.

Acceptance of February Committee Minutes

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to accept the minutes of the February 2010 Committee meeting, as presented.

Consideration of the following Policies for Second Reading and Action

Policy 1200. Board Meetings

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education approve Policy 1200, Board Meetings, for First Reading again, at its regular March Board of Education meeting with the following enhancement.

Procedures, Page 1, Item 3: Add the following sentence at the end of this section: "If a response is indicated or requested, any Board of Education member may give a response." This will allow any Board of Education members to address whatever concerns have been brought up at the table.

Policy 1420. Citizens' Council

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education approve Policy 1420, Citizens' Council, for First Reading, at its regular March Board of Education meeting.

Dr. Millard clarified that the fact that the Board of Education approves the membership of Citizens' Council as opposed to having an open membership to the school/community at large, separates it from other school auxiliary organizations. Its bylaws offer this group an opportunity to set agendas and offer viewpoints. The reason for changing the policy is to be in compliance with its bylaws.

Discussion ensued about the wording which states that Citizens' Council must support high school's policies and general direction. Ms. Patchak-Layman disagreed with the language and while Ms. McCormack did not like the term "support," she felt it was a matter of semantics and could offer no

alternative. When asked if the Board of Education would hypothetically disband Citizens' Council if it were to take an opposing opinion from the Board of Education, e.g., opposing a referendum, etc., some members responded affirmatively. Ms. Patchak-Layman suggested that Citizens' Council's purpose is to hear conversations, both pro and con, before a policy is approved or amended. She interpreted Citizens' Council's opposition to a policy as a way of encouraging the Board of Education. Ms. McCormack suggested changing the name to "School Council." Mr. Finnegan reiterated that the members of Citizens' Council are appointed by the Board of Education and its bylaws do not say the Board of Education has to accept its suggestions. If a problem arises, the Board of Education has the ability to remove members and/or disband the organization. No further changes were supported.

Consideration of the following Policies for First Reading and Action

Policy 1105, Corporate Sponsorship

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education approve Policy 1105, Corporate Sponsorship, for First Reading, at its regular March Board of Education meeting.

Ms. Patchak-Layman questioned whether the policy would address having banners on the sides of the football fields, as No. 3 indicates they should be commercial free. Ms. Foran responded that as long as the school is not directly advertising to students, it is not an issue. It is an opportunity to 1) provide additional revenue to the District, which the Board of Education supported, particularly for cocurricular programs, and 2) an opportunity for businesses to show their support of the school. Ms. Patchak-Layman felt this was complicated by the Wellness Policy, e.g., advertising by soft drink vendors, etc. She felt it was a broader question because it supported the educational mission of the District.

Policy 1125, School Auxiliary Organizations

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to discuss Policy 1125, School Auxiliary Organizations, at its April PEG Committee meeting.

Ms. Patchak-Layman did not believe that a school auxiliary organization had to have bylaws or a constitution, but could simply have a philosophy of purpose or a guiding sense of principles, such as the SEA group has. Mr. Rouse stated that any high school group should be composed of parents of the high school and have an organizational structure. SEA's present membership is mostly feeder school parents and he did not know if it represented all schools.

Ms. Patchak-Layman's reasoning for including other organizations is the Board of Education's goal is to have a smooth transition between feeder schools and the high school. To her, an the high school that embodies that is not a negative to organization, because all of those students do come to the high school. Mr. Rouse noted that the high school greatly supports its students. He suggested he and the new special education director meet with members of SEA about its purpose relative to high school students.

There was consensus that the time between this meeting and the next PEG Committee would allow SEA or another organization to draft bylaws and/or have constitutional practices and to

present them for consideration as an auxiliary group at the next PEG Committee. If not, then the policy will go forward for First Reading, as presented.

Policy 1330, Tobacco Prohibition

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education approve Policy 1330, Tobacco Prohibition, for First Reading, at its regular March Board of Education meeting with the following change.

Page 1, 2nd para., line 4: Remove the words "or school participation" after the word "students."

Boosters have been advised of the change in this policy. If students of Jazz Band, etc., are invited to participate in an event where alcohol is served, then alcohol may not be served while the students are present. A question arose as to whether the school should include notices of events where alcohol is involved in its own mailings, post on the website, and make public notifications.

Policy 1410, Rental of Facilities

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education approve Policy 1410, Rental of Facilities, for First Reading, at its regular March Board of Education meeting.

Ms. Witham will create new classes of renters, e.g., For Profit Organizations that help students such as Excel Edge and For Profit Organizations that want to rent the building for their own benefit, etc.

Policy 2120, Superintendent

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education approve Policy 2120, Superintendent, for First Reading, at its regular March Board of Education meeting.

Ms. Patchak-Layman preferred delaying the reading of this for a couple of months, but if it were brought to the table she would bring her suggestions for change to the regular March Board of Education meeting.

Policy 5117, Residency & Tuition

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend to the Board of Education that it approve Policy 5117, Residency and Tuition, for First Reading, at its regular March Board of Education meeting.

Discussion had previously occurred about *The School Code of Illinois* requiring school districts to use the word "duty" versus "power" with regard to charging tuition. It was found that *The School Code of Illinois* does, in fact, require school districts to charge for tuition of out-of-District students and that the use of the word "duty" is appropriate. In fact, schools are allowed to charge an extra ten percent to out-of-district students.

With regard to the appeals process, Ms. Patchak-Layman felt that the time to appeal the residency charge should start when notifications are received rather than when something is hand delivered to the mailbox, as it may reduce the amount of time in the appeals process for the family.

A question was raised about the fact that non District employees were being used to do residency checks and being given confidential information.

Discussion Baldrige

Discussion ensued about going forward with the Baldrige Assessment Process at this time, the additional costs of having an "orientation session," doing a baseline survey, and engaging those administrators retiring at the end of the year. The change would be an additional cost of \$5,000. A concern was the amount of time this process would take given the other items on the District's slate this semester and the fact that this process would become a hybrid of the real process.

Dr. Millard will inform Mr. Bloom that it was the consensus of the majority of the PEG Committee members to postpone this process until the fall of 2010. It was suggested that those retiring at the end year, be surveyed before they leave, however.

Additional Items for Discussion

Dr. Lee asked the Board of Education to decide whether the use of personal electronic devices by Board of Education members should be curtailed during its meetings. Some of the Board of Education members vowed not to use computers or telephones during the regular monthly meetings, but could not commit to that during committee meetings.

Ms. Patchak-Layman distributed material about the Pacific Education Group and reported that the company had agreed to do a webinar with Glen Singleton to talk about the bigger picture of the Courageous Conversations About Race so that the Board of Education had more information. She wanted to have this presentation at a Finance Committee meeting, as it would be part of the budget discussion for next year. It was the consensus of the PEG Committee for Ms. McCormack and Ms. Patchak-Layman to meet with both Mr. Rouse and Mr. Alexander about this. Mr. Rouse stated that he would make a report at the April Instruction Committee Meeting.

Adjournment

At 11:30 a.m., on Thursday, March 18, 2010, the Policy, Evaluation, and Goals Committee adjourned.