

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

**POLICY, EVALUATION, AND GOALS (PEG) COMMITTEE MEETING
November 12, 2009**

A Policy Committee meeting was held on Thursday, November 12, 2009, in the Board Room of the Oak Park and River Forest High School. Chair Dr. Millard called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. Committee members present were John C. Allen, Terry Finnegan Dr. Ralph H. Lee, Dr. Dietra D. Millard, and Amy Leafe McCormack and Sharon Patchak-Layman. Also present were Dr. Attila J. Weninger, Superintendent; Jason Edgecombe, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources; Nathaniel L. Rouse (departed at 9:37 a.m.); 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; and Terry Dean of the *Wednesday Journal* (arrived at 9:35 a.m.)

Acceptance of October Committee Minutes

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to accept the minutes of the October 2009 Committee meeting, as presented.

Consideration of the following Policies for Second Reading and Action

Policy 6130, Objections To Instructional Library Collection

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend to the Board of Education that it amend Policy 6131, Objections to Instructional Materials, at its regular November Board of Education meeting, as presented.

Policy 6131, Objections To Materials In Library Collection

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend to the Board of Education that it amend Policy 6131, Objections to Instructional Materials, at its regular November Board of Education meeting, as presented.

Mr. Allen asked if it were necessary to have these policies as he found them both intrusive. He was informed that The School Code of Illinois provides for an objection to dissection and whereby a student would not have to participate. Thus, these policies are the framework for that stipulation.

Policy 5119, Home-Schooled and Non-public School Students

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education amend Policy 5119, Home-Schooled and Non-public School Students, at its regular November Board of Education meeting, as presented.

Policy 5127, Alternative Credit

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education amend Policy 5127, Alternative Credit, at its regular November Board of Education meeting, as presented.

Discussion ensued about allowing a pass/fail grade for those students from District 90 and 97 receiving a grade of C or lower. Ms. Patchak-Layman suggested making all of the grades, be they an A or B or lower, a pass/fail grade, because this instruction is not provided at the junior highs. It was noted that colleges would look at a “P” grade as a negative grade. Ms. Patchak-Layman felt that colleges would also see that these students would have four years of no other pass/fail grades. The District’s position is that these classes are being taken at the prerogative of the family and the students. The policy reflects current practice. Perhaps parents and students may need counseling before making this choice.

Policy 6135, Bookstore

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education amend Policy 6135, Bookstore, at its regular November Board of Education meeting, as presented.

Policy 6150, Adjunct Programs

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education amend Policy 6150, Adjunct Programs, at its regular November Board of Education meeting, as presented.

Policy 6220, Tutoring and Therapy

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education amend Policy 6220, Tutoring and Therapy, at its regular November Board of Education meeting, as presented.

Policy 6400, Instructional and Recreational Materials

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education amend Policy 6400, Instructional and Recreational Materials, at its regular November Board of Education meeting, as presented.

Policy 6500, Education of Children with Disabilities

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education amend Policy 6500, Education of Children with Disabilities, at its regular November Board of Education meeting with the following amendments.

- Page 1, Para 3, Line 7: Add the letter “f” before the word “or”
- Page 1, Para 5, Line 1: Add the words “or non-special” after the word “special”
- Page 1, Para 5, Line 2: Add the words “as designated in their Individual Educational Plans (IEPs)” after the word “facilities”

Policy 10, Introduction

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education amend Policy 10, Introduction, at its regular November Board of Education meeting, as presented.

Policy 12, American Flag

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education amend Policy 12, American Flag, at its regular November Board of Education meeting, as presented.

Policy 30, Policy Changes

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education amend Policy 30, Policy Changes, at its regular November Board of Education meeting, as presented.

Policy 100, Statement of Philosophy

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education amend Policy 100, Statement of Philosophy, at its regular November Board of Education meeting with the following addition.

Page 2, line 2: After the word “economic,” add “sexual orientation”.

Policy 101, Human Dignity and Diversity

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education amend Policy 101, Human Dignity and Diversity, at its regular November Board of Education meeting with the following enhancements:

Page 1, Para 3, line 4: Remove the words “to the process”

Page 1, Para 5, line 2: Add the words “or gender expression” after the word “bisexuality”

The above enhancement was made to show the strengthen of the District’s commitment “to providing an inclusive education for all students...” Dr. Weninger had noted that legal counsel had advised the District to add the wording “to the process” originally.

Policy 101-A, Gender Equity

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education amend Policy 101-A, Gender Equity, at its regular November Board of Education meeting.

Consideration of the following Policies for First Reading and Action

Policy 5116, Alternative Educational Programs

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education approve Policy 5116, Alternative Educational Programs, for First Reading, at its regular November Board of Education meeting with amendments.

Ms. Patchak-Layman was concerned about listing the “first time” in this policy that it suggested that it would not happen should a student come back, do well and then have another situation.

Ms. Patchak-Layman also felt that Item E of the Addendum should be eliminated because people cannot sign away their ability to question what they have done or have additional services. Dr. Weninger noted that he would ask the attorney to review that language.

Addendum:

Page 1, Item B.4, Line 2: After the word “School” add the words “(OPRFHS) related”

Page 1, Item B.4, Line 2: After the word “co-curricular” add “(activity or athletic)”

Page 1, Item B.4, Line 3: After the word “event” add “whether on school grounds, in school facilities, or at any off-campus event in which OPRFHS is a participant.”

The above changes will give further clarity to this policy.

Policy 5136, Student Travel

Changes are continuing and will be brought forward again in December.

Policy 3800, Hazardous Materials

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education approve Policy 3800, Hazardous Materials, for First Reading, at its regular November Board of Education meeting. This policy was drafted by the attorney.

Discussion ensued about how to best ensure that pesticides and other hazardous materials are not used on the grasses, e.g., weed killer, etc. , and it was suggested that Board of Education approval be obtained, putting on annual schedule, etc. No decision was made on this suggestion.

Policy 3810, Green Cleaning Policy

It was the consensus of the PEG Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education approve Policy 3810, Green Cleaning Policy, for First Reading, at its regular November Board of Education meeting. This policy was drafted by the attorney.

Additional Matters for Discussion

Courageous Conversations About Race (Board Goal 1. Racial Equity)

Discussion ensued about how the Board of Education wanted to proceed with its own Courageous Conversations about Race and whether these conversations would occur in open or closed session and who would facilitate that conversation.

Dr. Millard and Mr. Rouse will continue this discussion. Ms. McCormack asked for different rates charged by facilitators, including that of Dr. Glen Singleton, and options. Mr. Rouse noted that he and Mr. Alexander were prepared to facilitate this conversation. Mr. Nate suggested going to Evanston Township High School to see the presentation that Dr. Singleton will make to the entire faculty. Ms. Patchak-Layman suggested Board of Education members could combine with groups in the building having this conversation.

Several members and Mr. Hunter were cautionary about holding such a conversation in open session; it would an exploration of one’s own nature with a journalist in the room.

Adjournment

At 10:14 a.m., on Thursday, November 12, 2009, the Policy, Evaluation, and Goals Committee adjourned.