

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

**Policy, Evaluation and Goals (PEG) Committee
Tuesday, December 11, 2012
Board Room**

A Policy, Evaluation and Goals Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, December 11, 2012, in the Board Room. Mr. Phelan opened the meeting at 6:08 p.m. A roll call included the following members: Valerie J. Fisher (arrived at 6:37 p.m.), Dr. Ralph H. Lee; Amy McCormack, Dr. Dietra D. Millard, Sharon Patchak-Layman, and John Phelan. Also present were Dr. Steven T. Isoye, Superintendent; Philip M. Prale, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Nathaniel L. Rouse, Principal; Karin Sullivan, Community Relations and Communications Director; Cheryl L. Witham, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations; and Gail Kalmerton, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board.

Visitors: Laurel DiPrima Consultant of the Illinois Association of School Boards (departed at 6:54 p.m.); James Paul Hunter, FSEC Executive Chair; Jeffrey Weissglass, Julie MacCarthy, Rubin Harris, and Thomas Cofsky, community members.

A separate meeting will be scheduled to continue review the policy manual in January.

The Board of Education began its discussion of the Section 6 of the Policy Book.

Press Policy	District Policy	Recommendation
6:10 – Educational Philosophy and Objectives	None	It was the consensus of the Committee to accept the administration’s recommendation and add the words “the Superintendent shall report to the Board of Education as appropriate...,” after the word “Superintendent:”. And, add “6. Additional topics as indicated by the Board of Education.”
6:15 School Accountability	5200	It was the consensus of the Committee members to replace the wording “Illinois learning Standards” with “New Illinois Learning Standards Incorporating the Common Core” throughout the policy manual. The violent transfer requirement noted in this policy is covered in the safety policy.
6:20 School Calendar	None	It was the consensus of the Committee members to accept this policy as presented.
6:30 Organization of Instruction	None	While it was the consensus of the Committee members to accept the policy as written, they wanted research that would show how effective or ineffective overrides are to the students. The current practice is to allow parent overrides or under-rides after an assessment. The District struggles when programs are implemented to address such things as reading or math, parents do not accept the invitation, and the student then suffers. If research supported the District’s decisions, then the Board of Education could reevaluate adding something to this policy about overrides or under-rides. IASB suggested keeping the last paragraph, but amending it to allow more flexibility in the future.

		Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) could be included in this policy or in a separate policy if that were the desire. More discussion would be necessary before that recommendation would come forward.
6:40 Curriculum Development	102	In Para 2., change the word “experimental” change to “alternate.” Change “Illinois Learning Standards” to “New Illinois Learning Standards Incorporating the Common Core”. In Development Section, delete the phrase “develop a curriculum review program with the superintendent’s monitoring,” because it is procedural and this is designated in the superintendent’s duties as he can delegate anything but it is the superintendent who is responsible.
6:50 Wellness	3700	A public act requiring specific monitoring was the impetus for the October 2012 PRESS Update. Thus, the bullet points that the school wellness policy must include. It was the consensus of the Committee to accept the Policy as presented with the replacement of the first two paragraphs in Policy 6:50 with the first two paragraphs in Policy 3700.
6:60 Curriculum Content		This reflects School Code. ACT will be reviewing this policy. The Committee will receive any additional commentary. It was the consensus of the Committee to accept this policy provisionally with the changes indicated by PRESS 2011. The IASB will update this policy as changes are made to the School Code, usually once per year. It was the consensus of the Committee to delete Policy 12, American Flag, rather than add it as an exhibit to this policy, because the members did not want to define patriotism, etc.

Sabbaticals

The administration reported that sabbaticals cost the District approximately \$52,000. The School Code of Illinois requires a school district to pay the TRS expense based on the teacher’s annual salary. Teachers with 7 years of continual service may request a sabbatical, but there are no restrictions on the numbers of teachers who can apply for sabbaticals. In the last few years, the number of sabbaticals that were approved ranged from 0 to 2. Ms. McCormack preferred that the Board of Education have the option of a range, rather than a specific number. Mr. Hunter supported that as well. Mr. Hunter stated that the sabbatical committee process had worked well in the last five years. He felt sabbaticals were important to a faculty member’s individual development.

It was the consensus of the majority of the Committee members to recommend that the Board of Education approve no more than three sabbatical applications for next year and that consideration be given to those being granted sabbaticals to provide a certain number of workshops to other faculty members as well as assess how it would affect professional development. Dr. Millard strongly supported allowing sabbaticals. Should a faculty member not continue to teach at OPRFHS for two years following the sabbatical, the District could recover the money per the contract.

Adjournment

Mr. Phelan moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m. on Tuesday, December 11, 2012; seconded by Dr. Lee. A voice vote resulted in all ayes. Motion carried.

Amy McCormack
Secretary