



## POLICY STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

05/09/2022 [05:00 PM-06:00 PM] @ Board of Directors Room

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### POLICY STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

#### 1. Call to Order

##### Minutes

Ms. Drew called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m. The meeting was conducted both in-person and virtually. The committee approved Mrs. Memmi to sit in for Mrs. Sicher on a motion by Mrs. Memmi with a second from Dr. Cronin. Ms. Drew sat in as chair for this meeting until a new chair is named.

#### 2. Roll Call

##### Minutes

**Board Members Present:** Robert Bennett, Donna Cronin, Lindsay Drew, and Maria Memmi

**Members Absent:** Kathy Sicher

**Citizen Advisors present:** Chu Ferns, Beth Olmstead, and Cori Reed

**Staff Members/Public Present:** Michele Agee (Board Secretary), Phil Ayala, Jason Reifsnyder, and Stacy Winslow (Administration)

#### 3. Approval of Summary Minutes

##### Minutes

On a motion by Dr. Cronin and a second by Mrs. Memmi, the February 14, 2022 Policy Standing Committee Meeting Minutes were approved.

#### 4. Unfinished Business

##### 4.a. Policy 006.1 Attendance at Meetings via Electronic Communication

##### Minutes

Dr. Cronin made a motion, followed by a second from Mr. Bennett, to approve the proposed policy as amended. The vote was a tie and did not pass and in following Robert's Rules of

Order the motion dies on the floor in a tie.

Ms. Drew, followed by a second from Mrs. Memmi, moved to amend the existing policy to state that exceptions may be granted by the full board through communication with the board president and/or the superintendent to give clarification of how it is communicated. The motion passed as amended.

## **5. Revised/Reviewed Policies**

### **5.a. Policy 218 Student Discipline**

Language regarding off-campus activities was revised to clarify the circumstances under which the Code of Student Conduct and board policy applies to student behavior that occurs both on and off-campus.

Such circumstances include off-campus student conduct that:

- Involves, threatens or makes more likely violence, use of force or other serious harm directed at students, staff or the school environment;
- Materially and substantially disrupts or interferes with the school environment or educational process;
- Interferes with or threatens to interfere with the rights of students or staff or the safe and orderly operation of the school and school programs;
- Involves theft or vandalism of school property; or
- The proximity, timing or motive for the conduct or related factors establish a direct connection to attendance at school, to the school community, or to a school-sponsored activity.

In addition to revisions to the off-campus activities language, Policy 218 was updated to include language on reports to the threat assessment team, as well as the option of including restorative practices to address violations of the Code of Student Conduct.

*Policy 218 Student Discipline is a mandated policy.*

#### **Minutes**

On a motion by Dr. Cronin, with a second by Mrs. Memmi, Policy 218 was unanimously recommended, as presented, to the full Board for 30-day review approval.

### **5.b. Policy 220 Student Expression/Dissemination of Materials**

The title of Policy 220 was changed from Student Expression/Distribution and Posting of Materials to Student Expression/Dissemination of Materials and terminology and section headings throughout the policy were updated and streamlined to address this change. The policy now defines dissemination as a term that includes both distribution and posting.

The policy was also revised to more clearly outline instances of student expression that would be subject to the limitations, prohibitions and requirements of the policy. Such instances would include off-campus student expression which:

1. Incites violence, advocates use of force or otherwise threatens serious harm directed at students, staff or the school environment;
2. Materially and substantially disrupts or interferes with the educational process; or
3. Interferes with, or advocates interference with, the rights of any individual or the safe and orderly operation of the schools and programs.

New language was incorporated into the policy regarding the training of staff involved in reviewing requests for dissemination of nonschool materials to ensure understanding of evaluation processes of such requests as well as the limitations on school officials' authority to regulate off-campus student expression.

*Policy 220 is recommended for legal liability purposes*

#### **Minutes**

On a motion by Dr. Cronin, with a second by Mrs. Memmi, Policy 220 was unanimously recommended, as presented, to the full Board for 30-day review approval.

#### **5.c. Policy 227 Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia**

The off-campus activities section in this policy was revised to refer to Policy 218 Student Discipline which is where school administrators should be directed when considering consequences for a student's conduct that occurred off school property or during nonschool hours.

*Policy 227. Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia is recommended for legal liability purposes.*

#### **Minutes**

On a motion by Mrs. Memmi, with a second by Dr. Cronin, Policy 227 was recommended, as amended with the definition of off campus, to the full Board for 30-day review approval.

#### **5.d. Policy 237 Electronic Devices**

To keep pace with technology used in educational settings, revisions to this policy provide an updated definition and additional options for school entities that allow students to use electronic devices during the school day in approved locations for educational purposes.

The off-campus activities section of this policy was removed and school administrators should be directed to Policy 218 Student Discipline, which is referenced in this policy, when considering consequences for a student's conduct.

Language and references to telephone paging devices were removed from this policy since the section of the PA School Code that prohibited such devices specifically was repealed (24 P.S. Sec. 1317.1), and the policy more broadly addresses all types of electronic devices.

*Policy 237. Electronic Devices is recommended for legal liability purposes.*

#### Minutes

On a motion by Dr. Cronin, with a second by Mrs. Memmi, Policy 237 was recommended, as amended with a reference going to the student handbook, to the full Board for 30-day review approval.

### 5.e. Policy 808 Food Services

Language related to provisions for alternative meals being served to students if the student is not eligible for free/reduced-price school meals and the student's account reaches a negative balance of more than fifty dollars (\$50) in a school year was removed from Policy 808 Food Services, based on recent food service audits conducted by the PA Department of Education (PDE). The audits informed school entities that such language is in violation of the federal USDA regulations. Although alternative meal provisions were added to the PA School Code [24 P.S. Sec. 13-1337](#) under Act 16 of 2019, PDE's Division of Food and Nutrition issued a memo regarding [Revised Meals for Students with Insufficient Funds and Local Meal Charge Policies](#) stating that the provision of Pennsylvania's state law regarding alternative meals **does not apply to any student in any school that participates in the National School Lunch or School Breakfast Programs whether or not the student qualifies for free and reduced-price school meals.**

#### Minutes

On a motion by Dr. Cronin, with a second by Mrs. Memmi, Policy 808 was unanimously recommended, as presented, to the full Board for 30-day review approval.

## 6. Board Operating Guidelines

#### Minutes

Dr. Cronin volunteered to work with Dr. Reifsnyder to review the Board Operating Guidelines making sure that the local board procedures match the guidelines and to bring back any recommended changes to this committee if there are any.

- 6.a. 004-BOG-7 Oath of Office As School Director
- 6.b. 005-BOG-2 Functions of Standing Committees
- 6.c. 005-BOG-0. Duties of Board Officers
- 6.d. 005-BOG-1 Board Standing Committees
- 6.e. 005-BOG-3 Board Relations
- 6.f. 005-BOG-4 Board Governance Standards/Code of Conduct
- 6.g. 006-BOG-1 Official Board Minutes
- 6.h. 006-BOG-2 Local Meeting Parliamentary Procedures and Standing Rules
- 6.i. 007-BOG-1 Board Member Training

## 7. Local Board Procedures

- 7.a. 004 Membership
- 7.b. 005 Organization
- 7.c. 006 Meetings
- 7.d. 007 Distribution

## 8. New Policies

### Minutes

No new policies from PSBA.

## 9. Public Comment

### Minutes

There was no public comment.

## 10. Adjournment

### Minutes

The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.