

LYME-OLD LYME SCHOOLS

Regional School District #18

A Private School Experience



in a Public School Setting

Policy and Communications Committee Meeting

December 12, 2023

Committee Members Present: Anna James, Policy Committee Chair; Laura Dean-Frazier, Communications Committee Chair; Jason Kemp; Gavin Lodge; Xander Lowry

Administration Present: Ian Neviaser, Superintendent of Schools

Others Present: Bridget Compagno, Director of Communications and Marketing

The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m.

Communications Update

Mrs. Compagno reviewed the various communication vehicles for the benefit of the new committee members. This included the *Focus on Education* newsletter; Board of Ed newsletter; submission to the Town of Old Lyme *Events* magazine; miscellaneous flyers; teacher profiles; updates on the PK-8 Building Project; social media (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts); website; media relations; development of district video; and search engine optimization.

Mrs. Compagno reported that she is currently working on the next edition of the *Focus on Education* newsletter (January edition). Articles include outgoing and incoming Board members, purposeful play curriculum and a facilities update. Mrs. Compagno also reported on the advertising of schools in local papers which initially had the purpose of recruiting new students but now these efforts encompass larger goals to build support for the district schools. Currently, the district has 19 tuition students.

Policy Update

Mr. Neviaser explained the policy update process for the new committee members.

Policy 5141.31 Interscholastic Athletics: Health Assessment/Participation Criteria

Mr. Neviaser recommended the following verbiage be removed from the policy: *Only with specific approval from the school district medical advisor or the school nurse supervisor, a note from a health care provider ("bridge note") may be accepted provided such note indicates that a health assessment appointment is scheduled within four weeks.*

Mr. Neviasher explained that this change to the policy was due to a request from the district's medical advisor who advised against the use of bridge notes.

Mr. Neviasher reviewed the addition of this sentence to the policy: *New students transferring into Connecticut schools must meet Connecticut regulations and the regulations outlined in this policy.* Mr. Neviasher explained that this is common practice and appears in the district's handbooks but did not get transferred over to policy.

There was consensus to approve these changes and move this policy to the Board of Education for approval at their January 3 meeting.

Discussion followed on upcoming policies that will be reviewed in the future per receipt of the CABE policy update.

There being no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m.