



**REPORT OF THE POLICY AND EQUITY COMMITTEE**

The Policy and Equity Committee met on Thursday, January 28, 2021, at 9:00 AM, via the Blue Jeans Video Conferencing Tool.

**VIRTUAL ATTENDEES**

Student Achievement Committee Members

Chairperson Mike Moroski, Eve Bolton, Ben Lindy

Administration

Margaret Hall, Director, Student Services; Daniel Hoying, General Counsel; Teasha O’Connell, Web Editor, Communications Department; Stephanie Scott, Assistant General Counsel

**Elect Committee Chair**

Committee member Bolton nominated Committee member Moroski to serve as Chair. Mr. Moroski accepted the nomination.

**Set Policy and Equity Committee Meeting Schedule for 2021**

The Committee will meet at 9:00 a.m. on the last Thursday of the month, except for July, November and December, as follows:

January	01/28/2021	9:00 a.m.
February	02/25/2021	9:00 a.m.
March	03/25/2021	9:00 a.m.
April	04/29/2021	9:00 a.m.
May	05/27/2021	9:00 a.m.
June	06/24/2021	9:00 a.m.
July	NO MEETING	
August	08/26/2021	9:00 a.m.
September	09/30/2021*	9:00 a.m.
October	10/28/2021	9:00 a.m.
November	11/18/2021	9:00 a.m.
December	12/16/2021	9:00 a.m.

\* Meeting not on regular meeting date/time

## **Continued Review of Policies**

Dan Hoying, General Counsel, reported the regular review of the 7000 series is nearly finished, and that it has been some time since the Human Resources policies have been reviewed; therefore, that is where he is recommending starting.

Committee member Bolton shared that she would like to discuss which particular policies of the 350+ CPS has actually pertain to and guide the work of the Board and not just set parameters for the Administration and teachers. She would like to create a list that defines what the Board does and what Board members do in order for the Board to stay in the bigger picture to help move the District forward.

**ACTION:** The Committee and Administration will review the policies that control the Board versus the Administration to help with envisioning the future of the District and will discuss at the meeting on February 25, 2021.

In response to Committee member Lindy's question about the scope of the Policy and Equity Committee, Committee Chair Moroski said the Committee is tasked with ensuring the policies of the District are up to date and relevant in order for the students to have the best environment to learn.

Mr. Lindy then questioned if monitoring of the policies is being done. The Committee discussed the importance of monitoring and the helpfulness of the periodic reviews.

Committee member Bolton said one of the Board's primary responsibilities is establishing policies, and the Administration then carries out the policies.

Mr. Hoying reported that due to Superintendent Mitchell's re-emphasis on the application and enforcement of District policies, procedures were written for every CPS policy and all have a solid understanding of them.

**ACTION:** Committee member Lindy will review CPS policies—specifically the 3000's—and list several relevant policies to suggest for possible auditing for compliance. The Committee will discuss at the meeting on February 25, 2021.

## **Series 7000 – Property Policies**

### *Policy 7100 Facilities Planning*

The Committee reviewed the policy and discussed requiring prevailing wage related to facilities projects and the language regarding community involvement in planning and the use of the term campus.

**ACTION:** Administration will make revisions to Policy 7100 for review at the Committee meeting on February 25, 2021.

### *Policy 7230.01 – Donations for Buildings and Grounds*

The Committee reviewed the policy and discussed donations and recommended adding language to ensure that accepted donations are in keeping with the values of the District.

**ACTION:** Administration will make revisions to Policy 7230.01 for review at the Committee meeting on February 25, 2021.

*Policy 7240 – Site Acquisition and Policy 7312 – Disposition of Surplus Buildings and Grounds*

As the same language from both Policy 7240 and Policy 7312 are included in Policy 7300, Administration recommends rescinding both policies.

**ACTION:** The Committee agreed with the Administration’s recommendation to rescind both Policy 7240 and Policy 7312 and will recommend approval at the Regular Board meeting on February 8, 2021.

*7300 – Disposition and Acquisition of Real Property / Personal Property*

**ACTION:** The Committee agreed with the Administration’s recommended revisions to Policy 7300 and will recommend the policy to the Board for approval at the Regular Board meeting on February 8, 2021.

*7310 – Disposition of Surplus Property, Not Including Real Estate*

**ACTION:** The Committee reviewed Policy 7310 and agreed with the Administration’s recommendation of no changes.

*7312 – Disposition of Surplus Buildings and Grounds*

**ACTION:** The Committee reviewed Policy 7312 and agreed with the Administration’s recommendation of no changes.

*7410 – Maintenance*

The Committee reviewed the policy and discussed maintenance requirements and recommended adding language regarding water quality and the use of the term campus.

**ACTION:** Administration will make revisions to Policy 7410 for review at the Committee meeting on February 25, 2021.

**Therapy Dogs**

Committee Chair Moroski shared with the Board that Rhea Bender, a student at Clark Montessori, approached him regarding the use of therapy dogs in the schools, given that CPS students are experiencing trauma on a daily basis. He said he found her proposal interesting. She believes there is a need for therapy dogs.

Mr. Hoying shared with the Committee Policy 8900 – Animals in Schools, and also information regarding Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the use of service dogs.

The Committee discussed the difference between a service dog and a therapy or emotional support dog and thought the proposal worth exploring. They would like to hear from experts and other school districts. Mr. Moroski suggested contacting Circle Tail, Inc., and inviting them to the February committee meeting.

**ACTION:** The Administration will reach out to Circle Tail and other districts and provide information for discussion at the Committee meeting on February 25, 2021.

**Proposed Revisions to Board Policy 9125 – Social Media**

Mr. Hoying presented the revised recommendations to Policy 9125 – Social Media. He stated the Administration is recommending it be broadened to include the community as well as CPS staff members and also to establish community standards.

However, he explained that the law limits what can be done given it is considered a limited public forum and CPS must be content neutral. The intent is not to regulate the content, but to promote standards, such as against profanity.

Mr. Hoying suggested it would be helpful to explain why negative posts cannot be deleted, and that it is a worthwhile reminder of the different rules CPS must follow regarding free speech.

**ACTION:** The Committee will recommend the proposed revisions to Policy 9125 be added as a Board Matters item for discussion by the full Board at the Regular Business meeting on February 8, 2021.

**Hearing the Public**

The following persons addressed the Board regarding the topics indicated:

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 1. Hannah Schaich | Return to Blended Learning, CDA                                       |
| 2. Rhea Bender    | Therapy Dogs  |
| 3. Anna Cooley    | Return to Blended Learning, Enforcement of Health and Safety Policies |
| 4. Julie Sellers  | CFT   |

The meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

**Policy Committee**

Mike Moroski, Chair  
Eve Bolton  
Ben Lindy

**Staff Liaisons**

Dan Hoying, General Counsel  
Paul McDole, Director, Human Resources, *absent*