

REPORT OF THE POLICY COMMITTEE

The Policy Committee met on Tuesday, November 28, 2017 at 11:00 AM at the Mayerson Academy, 2650 Highland Ave, Cincinnati, OH, 45219, Banquet Room.

Student Voice

Committee members continued working with about 40 CPS high school students to build out a program to authentically incorporate students' perspectives into the practice, decisions and policy making of the board.

The agenda was as follows:

- Discussed the Difference between Governance and Management
 - The Role of the Board and the Administration
- Provided feedback on a draft of the new Student Voice policy:

New Policy 5820.01 Student Involvement in Decision Making

The Board of Education values student involvement in the decision-making process and shall establish a program for students to have a voice in Board decisions. The program shall include representation of students in grades 7-12 from all the District's high schools. The program shall provide an opportunity for students to report their interests directly to the Board of Education and for the Board to seek input directly from students.

The Board encourages and welcomes student participation in Board meetings and committee hearings. Students are always welcome to participate in the Hearing of the Public portion of meetings.

The Board also supports existing programs and opportunities for students to provide input to the District's administration. Existing programs that give students an opportunity to communicate with administrators include but are not limited to the Student Advisory Council, M.O.R.E. program, Peer Leadership Collaborative, and the Student Athletic Leadership Conference.

ACTION: After the students provided two pieces of feedback on the draft policy, the Committee and students agreed with the updated draft policy and will recommend approval of the policy at the December 4, 2017 Board meeting. The Committee also invited students to attend the meeting to present the policy to the board.

- Reviewed Areas of Agreement that were discussed at the October 9, 2017 Policy Committee Meeting
- Conducted Small Group Discussions to work out program details

Small Group Discussion Questions

1. How will students at your school be chosen to participate in the school committee?
2. How will representatives from your school committee be chosen to participate in the monthly district-wide (interschool) discussions?
3. Should representatives be at all Board meetings, including committee meetings? (Remember that is Monday at 6:30, Wednesday at 11:00, and 3 committee meetings- finance, student achievement, policy) If so, how would you decide who attends? What is their role?

4. How often will school committees meet? Is it just their monthly meeting? Do they need to meet after the monthly interschool meeting to hear what happened there?
5. The Board/committee chairs usually finalize agendas 3-7 days before a meeting. How would we communicate topics to school committees? And how do school committees get topics they want to discuss to the Board?

- Name the Program

Students suggested the following names for the program:

CPS Student Involvement Council

CPS Student Voice

CPS Teen Vision

CPS Our Schools, Our Voice

CPS House of Student-sentatives (Like House of Representatives, only for students)

CPS Student Public Affairs

CPS Student Administrators

CPS Student Board Administrators

- Wrap-up and Next Steps

The Policy Committee will conduct an additional meeting to finalize the details and work towards launching the program in the early months of 2018, provided the full Board passes the policy. The Committee will also update the student group after the December 4, 2017 vote on the policy.

The meeting adjourned at 12:47 PM.

Policy Committee

Carolyn Jones, Chair

Elisa Hoffman

Lannis Timmons

Staff Liaisons

Dan Hoying, General Counsel

Yenetta Harper, Director, Teacher and Principal Development

Paul McDole, Director, Human Resources

Sarah Trimble-Oliver, Chief Information Officer