

ORANGE COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

Meeting Date: September 19, 2011

AGENDA ITEM No. 11-09-(2)-10

ACTION ITEM: (Y/N) N

SUBJECT: Extra/Co-Curricular Code of Conduct

INFO. CONTACT: Dr. George McFarley, Jr. PHONE: 919-732-8126

ATTACHMENTS: None.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this agenda item is to hear a report from the Extra/Co-curricular Code of Conduct board subcommittee.

BACKGROUND: On January 3, 2011 the superintendent recommended the Board of Education and establish a subcommittee to examine policies related to extracurricular conduct of students. The subcommittee members are Eddie Eubanks, Tony McKnight and Debbie Piscitelli.

In the spring of 2010, several off-campus incidents occurred which involved underage drinking by high school student athletes. Subsequent administrative action based on old procedural codes resulted in some athletes being removed from sports teams. As a result of these incidents, some parents expressed concerns over this type of policy.

As part of a review of the extracurricular and co-curricular student code of conduct, Dr. McFarley and Dr. Morton conducted four separate focus groups involving students, parents, school principals, and athletic directors, seeking their input for such a code of conduct. Their comments ranged the entire breadth of the issue. However, focus group feedback indicated the penalties are too harsh (for first offenders). Other sentiments indicated the code of conduct goes too far when applying this code of conduct to activities that occur off-campus, off-season, and during school breaks. The focus group questions are attached.

Currently there are no formal board approved procedures specifically related to extra-curricular conduct related to athletes, bands, choruses or other extracurricular groups.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None.

RECOMMENDATION: The Superintendent recommends the Board of Education receive a report and any recommendations from the board subcommittee.