

The Subcommittee on School Committee Policies met on Friday, January 13 2023, in the Virtual Zoom Meeting. Present were Peter Goode, Kathy Bent, Sara Ahern, Kristen Harmon, Jane Moynihan, and Jen Kruczek. Jim Hardy was not present.

Mr. Goode called the meeting to order at 1:02PM.

Approval of Minutes

- Motion by Dr. Ahern, seconded by Mr. Goode, and the Committee voted, unanimously, to approve the meeting Minutes of December 9, 2022. Ms. Moynihan abstained.

Review of Policies in Section J (Negotiations) of the School Committee Policy Manual

- ❖ JH – Dr. Ahern stated she is going to move this policy up as it is time sensitive. She spoke with attorney Michael Joyce about this policy. She looked at MACS and about 10 other districts' policies. Barnstable has a sentence at the end that is a challenge that other districts do not have. Students remain enrolled in school even after extended absence. The Committee agreed to include the language that Attorney Michael Joyce suggested. The last sentence of the first paragraph was removed. "Serious illness of a family" under excused absences was removed. Under Student Absence Notification Program, a paragraph was added that is required by law starting "Each Principal or designee shall make a reasonable effort..." and removed two paragraphs before that as they have the same information. The paragraph that starts with "for the 2020-2021 school year..." was removed. MASC is recommending the Academic Impact of Absenteeism go into handbooks. The Committee agreed to these changes. This policy update will be a first read at the February 1 School Committee meeting.
- ❖ Kathy Bent joined the meeting at 1:37pm.
- ❖ JB – Ms. Bent noted to use the MASC language and the Committee agreed.
- ❖ JBB – Dr. Ahern stated Barnstable does not have this policy and it would be new. She thinks it is a good one to include. The Committee agreed to change number 3 to "Endeavor to graduate all students..." Mr. Goode and Ms. Moynihan did not understand 2 "in order to reach the goal of educational equity..." The Committee discussed. The last paragraph was changed to one sentence. The Committee agreed to the changes.
- ❖ JC – The Committee agreed to remove the second paragraph and change the wording in the second to last paragraph to "seek community input."
- ❖ JCA – The Committee agreed to remove number 4 and paragraphs not needed.
- ❖ JCB – The Committee agreed to remove the policy.
- ❖ JEB – The Committee agreed to remove the second paragraph, as it is procedural and remove the paragraph starting with "The Mass Board of Elementary and Secondary...", except for the last sentence.

Next Steps

- The Committee will continue reviewing the polices in section J.

Motion by Mr. Goode, seconded by Ms. Moynihan, and the Committee voted, unanimously, to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:35PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jen Kruczek
Executive Assistant