

Seymour Board of Education



POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 16, 2024

Central Office

7:00 PM

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Ed Strumello

Kristen Harmeling

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Dr. Susan Compton, Superintendent of Schools

Shannon Levey, Board Clerk

Keith O'Rourke, Seymour Middle School Principal

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Pledge of Allegiance

- Mr. Strumello called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:05 PM.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment provides the opportunity for the public to make a comment. It is not a dialogue between the Board and the public. Based upon what is heard during Public Comment, the Board may choose to add a topic to the agenda. If questions are posed that the Chairman can answer, those questions may be addressed under the Chairman's Comments portion of the agenda. The Board will not discuss personnel matters. Comments should be respectful and no longer than 3 minutes in length so that all who wish to comment may have the opportunity to do so. All public wanting to comment will need to state their name and address for the record prior to addressing the Board.

- Public Comment called three times. No public comment.

III. DISCUSSION and POSSIBLE ACTION

I. Mandated Policies

A. Series 4000

- Dr. Compton stated that we reviewed some of these policies at the last regular board meeting, 4000.1.
- Policy 4113.12** (minimum duty-free lunch periods). Ms. Harmeling asked why we are required to have a policy like this since it is already in the teacher contract. Mr. Strumello asked about Paraeducator lunches - the policy does state other certified staff which includes paraeducators. Ms. Harmeling suggested changing the policy to state "Minimum duty-free lunch periods for teachers and other certified staff".

MOTION: present to the full board to accept and adopt policy 4113.12 with the change to include "Minimum duty-free lunch periods for teachers and other certified staff". (Ms. Harmeling / sec. Mr. Strumello)

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Strumello, Ms. Harmeling

PASSES: 2-0-0

- Policy 4118.11** Take out the verbiage "district's coordinator is..."

MOTION: to accept the policy 4118.11 including appendix A and recommend it to the full board (Mr. Strumello / sec. Ms. Harmeling)

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Strumello, Ms. Harmeling

PASSES: 2-0-0

B. Series 5000

- Policy 5141.8** (Face masks) Ms. Harmeling stated that this policy is very specific and might require a change in policy in the future should another pandemic occur. The committee does not want to adopt the policy. No action is taken until there is clarification from CABA and the attorney.

2. **Policy 5125.11** (Health and medical records) Mandated policy. Dr. Compton reported that the district's head nurse approved this and that we need a HIPAA privacy officer. A logical person for this role could be the district's doctor. Ms. Harmeling suggested designating it annually. "The board of education will designate a privacy officer at the start of the school year"

MOTION: to recommend to the full board policy 5125.11 with Form 1 be accepted and adopted (Ms. Harmeling / sec. Mr. Strumello)

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Strumello, Ms. Harmeling

PASSES: 2-0-0

3. **Policy 5141.8** (Time out) The committee requests input from the administrators and the district's attorney before acting on this policy.

4. **Policy 5144.4** (Physical Exercise and discipline)

MOTION: to move policy 5144.4 to the full board to accept and adopt (Ms. Harmeling / sec. Mr. Strumello)

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Strumello, Ms. Harmeling

PASSES: 2-0-0

5. **Policy 5145.511** - The committee requests that CBE and the district's attorney streamline this policy and make a recommendation on this policy for the committee to consider.

C. Policy Updates 2024, Fourth Issue

B. **Nondiscrimination Policy and Notice** - covered previously in the last board meeting

C. **Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process - Policy 5114F** "any teacher of record", the committee requests clarification on this policy. Inquire if we continue to need Seymour BOE's Policy 5114.1.

D. **Non-Lapsing Education Fund**

MOTION: to recommend to the full board to accept and adopt **policy 3171.1** non-lapsing educational fund for non-regional school districts. (Ms. Harmeling / sec. Mr. Strumello)

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Strumello, Ms. Harmeling

PASSES: 2-0-0

E. **Family and Medical Leave Act** - Ms. Harmeling questioned the Connecticut Paid Leave Act vs FMLA. The committee agreed to come back to review this policy at a subsequent meeting.

F. **Indoor Air Quality/Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning (HVAC)** - the committee agreed to come back to review this policy at a subsequent meeting.

IV. REPORTS

A. Board of Education

1. Chairman Comments

○ No comments

2. Board Member Comments

○ No comments

B. Superintendent's Report

1. No comments

V. ADJOURNMENT

- **MOTION:** to adjourn (Mr. Strumello)
- **AFFIRMATIVE:** Mr. Strumello, Ms. Harmeling
- **PASSES:** 2-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM