



**South Orange Maplewood School District  
Agenda  
Policy Committee Meeting  
Monday, Sept. 13 · 6:30 – 8:00pm**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Susan Bergin, Chair  
Elissa Malespina  
Qawi Telesford  
Arun Vadlamani

Dr. Ronald Taylor  
Susie Budine  
Dr. Kevin Gilbert  
Adaliana Cuadrado  
Danielle Knapp

**PRESENTATIONS:**

None

**POLICIES FOR SECOND READ:**

|         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                 |
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| 0155.1  | Remote Participation in Board Meetings<br><b>Discussion:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove language that specifies reasons why BOE members are unable to attend</li> <li>• Input regarding language related to reaching quorum virtually was shared; some feel meeting should not be canceled if we can have quorum virtually while others feel we have been given guidance by council to maintain this language</li> <li>• We will let council know that we would like further clarification at the upcoming BOE meeting when the policy is up for second read</li> </ul> | Executive Board |
| 2415.06 | Unsafe School Choice Options<br><b>No comments or discussion</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | C&I             |
| 2426    | Study Skills (Abolished)<br><b>No comments or discussion</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | C&I             |
| 2451    | Adult High School                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | C&I             |

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|      | <b>No comments or discussion</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |     |
| 5517 | School District Identification Cards<br><b>No comments or discussion</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | C&I |
| 5722 | Student Journalism<br><b>Discussion:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Suggestion that the part of the policy highlighted in green should mirror our 9130 policy on Public Complaints and Grievances with some minor adjustments</b></li> <li>• <b>Questions if we need to keep the verbiage for statutory reasons or if it's OK to change it</b></li> <li>• <b>Will ask council for guidance on this component</b></li> </ul> | C&I |
| 8550 | Unpaid Meal Charges/Outstanding Food Services Charges<br><b>Discussion:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Change parent/guardian language throughout</b></li> <li>• <b>Change breakfast and lunch language to school meals</b></li> <li>• <b>Seek input from our food services staff to be sure no audit issues with changes</b></li> </ul>                                                                                    | FFT |

**POLICIES ON FOR POSSIBLE FIRST READING ADOPTION:**

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| 0167 | Public Participation in Board Meetings<br><b>Discussion:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Suggestions to keep first public speaks and eliminate second public speaks</b></li> <li>• <b>Suggestions to limit the total time of first public speaks to 1 hour, maintain second public speaks as is</b></li> <li>• <b>Suggestions to prioritize agenda items during first public speaks</b></li> <li>• <b>Suggestions to maintain a three minute time limit per person with an option to limit the speakers to two minutes if there are a lot of comments so that everyone gets a chance to speak</b></li> <li>• <b>Discussion about other forums that may provide the public an opportunity to share their thoughts with the Board and ways this could be used in addition to public speaks</b></li> </ul> | Executive Board |
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|         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Board member Bergen will work on some revisions to the policy for the group to review</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |     |
| 2260    | <p>Affirmative Action</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion of the purpose of Affirmative Action in comparison to aspects like Title IV</li> <li>Discussion of expanding the represented groups to include AAPI, LGBTQ and individuals with disabilities</li> <li>Discussion about best practice for non-binary students</li> <li>Policy will go to C&amp;I for discussion before the BOE meeting</li> <li>Ok for first read</li> </ul>                           | C&I |
| 2361    | <p>Acceptable Use of Computers, Networks - Computers and Resources</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Much of this policy is outdated and no longer in use</li> <li>Board member Malespina will work on gathering some resources for us to consider and compare before moving to first read</li> <li>Remove from First Read</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                    | C&I |
| 2415    | <p>Every Student Succeeds Act</p> <p><b>No comments or discussion</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | C&I |
| 2415.50 | <p>Title I - School Parent and Family Engagement (pending feedback from Dr. Taylor)</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft policy has been shared with the two principals that are predominantly impacted by Title I to consider content to fill in the blanks</li> <li>Title I funding has gone down this year</li> <li>Expect blanks in the policy to be filled in and shared with C&amp;I this week</li> <li>Pending feedback before going for first read</li> </ul> | C&I |
| 2425    | <p>Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of recent guidance to review and revise this plan and subsequent policy</li> <li>New guidance mandates annual approval by the Board of the Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program plan</li> <li>Some minor changes related to scheduling</li> </ul>                                                                                                               | C&I |

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|      | <p><b>in the plan that mainly impacts the middle schools and high schools</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Policy is ready for first read</b></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |     |
| 5460 | <p>High School Graduation</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>This policy is not currently in the drive</b></li> <li>• <b>The policy was sidetabled due to pending changes to the graduation requirements</b></li> <li>• <b>No specific guidance from Strauss Esmay</b></li> <li>• <b>Will forward to C&amp;I for discussion and wait for the alert to give guidance on appropriate revisions before moving forward.</b></li> <li>• <b>Remove from First Read</b></li> </ul>                                             | C&I |
| 5514 | <p>Student Use of Vehicles on School Property (pending feedback from Dr. Taylor)</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Currently still under discussion; expect feedback on this soon</b></li> <li>• <b>Committee would like to look over the revisions before it goes out to the public</b></li> <li>• <b>First read in October</b></li> <li>• <b>Remove from First Read</b></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                   | FFT |
| 5516 | <p>Use of Electronic Communication and Recording Devices</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Much of this policy is outdated and no longer in use</b></li> <li>• <b>Board member Malespina will work on gathering some resources for us to consider and compare before moving to first read</b></li> <li>• <b>Remove from First Read</b></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                      | C&I |
| 7430 | <p>School Safety- see below</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Policy was abolished by Strauss Esmay some years ago</b></li> <li>• <b>Body of policy was embedded in policies 7432, 7440, 8420.</b></li> <li>• <b>Need to review these policies and be sure that 7430 is embedded in them before moving forward with abolishing the policy</b></li> <li>• <b>Will review and revise these policies next month and then move forward with abolishing Policy 7430</b></li> <li>• <b>Remove from First Read</b></li> </ul> | FFT |

## Items for Discussion:

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|  | <p>HIB updated guidance from NJ DOE</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Recent updated guidance regarding HIB policy was reviewed</b></li><li>• <b>Changes mainly include mandates to use provided forms to report a potential HIB</b></li><li>• <b>Mandate to report knowledge of a potential HIB within two days</b></li><li>• <b>Maintain 10 days to investigate situation once a HIB report is received</b></li><li>• <b>Superintendent has discretion to address potential HIB situations via the code of conduct early in the process</b></li><li>• <b>New requirements for principals to maintain data on instances when issues are addressed via the code of conduct vs. a HIB investigation</b></li><li>• <b>Will review and revise this policy when the Strauss Esmay alert comes out, but will start using mandated forms immediately as instructed</b></li></ul> |  |
|  | <p>Policy updates on website - timeline</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>District is working on getting back policies and regulations posted up on Strauss Esmay</b></li><li>• <b>District is also working on tracking policies and regulations, identifying policies for review and revision with special attention being paid to missing regulations</b></li><li>• <b>Board member Bergen requested a presentation by the district of the tracking status at some point this year.</b></li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
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## New Business:

Policies for October:

- a) These three policies need revision and before abolishing 7430  
7432 Eye Protection - FFT

7440 School District Security - Security/FFT

8420 Emergency & Crisis Situations - Security/FFT

**See above regarding discussion and planning for next month**

**Need to make sure the aforementioned policies contain all aspects of 7430 prior to abolishing 7430.**

- b) 5530 Substance Abuse - redline requested comparing current SOMSD policy to SE policy

**Will include this policy next month for review, comparison and revision**