

Bourne School Committee
Policy Subcommittee Draft Minutes

Date: December 8, 2020

Time: 4:00 pm

Place: Virtual via Zoom

Attendees:

School Committee: Chair Emily Berry, Erin Perry

School Administration: Dr. Kerri Anne Quinlan Zhou, Superintendent; Melissa Ryan, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Ryan Place, Director of Special Education and Student Services

Student Participants: Eric Ierardi, Jeff Ellis, Michael Carrara

The meeting was called to order at 4:03.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Members approved meeting minutes from the October 10, 2020 meeting.

Student Representative for the School Committee

The school committee directed the policy subcommittee to construct a policy to allow for a student body member to:

Become a non-binding member of the school committee under the following conditions:

1. Develop a method for the election/appointment of the student member
2. The member serves one school year, with an alternate elected
3. Member may vote, but the vote is non-binding
4. Member will not attend executive session or negotiations

Dr. Zhou reviewed policies from other school committees in Massachusetts that include student representation, as well as Bourne's policy on student involvement in decision-making.

Emily Berry suggested starting with the existing policy and incorporating aspects of other policies, particularly the ability of student representatives to vote.

Members agreed to amend policy JIB - Student Involvement in Decision-Making, to incorporate ability for students to vote on certain matters before the school committee.

Ms. Berry specified it should be one student representative, and potentially an alternate, but not rotating participants.

Erin Perry asked if there is an existing Student Advisory Committee. Melissa Ryan said that Principal Cetner has a committee that meets at the high school. She coordinates with them in advance of presentations by students to the school committee.

Ms. Berry asked student participants what they would like this to look like. They agreed with the approach of subcommittee, for a non-binding voting member that would not participate in executive sessions or sensitive matters.

They added that the high school student committee is more about what's happening in the school and not about gauging opinion of students in the school. They hope for more opportunity to gauge student opinion on school committee matters to inform their votes.

Dr. Zhou noted that districts often have a school committee liaison to the Student Advisory Committee.

Dr. Zhou will share a draft of the revised policy and supporting documents with subcommittee members for review in advance of the next school committee meeting on December 16, 2020.

Job Descriptions

Ms. Ryan introduced and reviewed the job descriptions for physical therapist, speech and language pathologist, and substitute teacher. She noted that Mr. Nathan, the current physical therapist, is retiring next month.

Ms. Berry asked how training is done for substitute teachers. Ms. Ryan said that there is a training slide deck for substitutes and building principals review training relative to the buildings the substitutes will be working in.

Members agreed to the job descriptions, as presented.

Future Agenda Items

Review feedback on job descriptions

Policy specific to duties of student members (BDFFA)

Next Meeting

Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 4:30

Meeting adjourned at 4:57 pm.