



Winona Area Public Schools
Board Operations Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes: March 27, 2025

Meeting Location:	Winona Area Public Schools WSHS Conference Room 901 Gilmore Ave, Winona, MN 55987
Meeting Start:	3:02 pm
Meeting End:	3:29 pm
Members Present:	Dawn Lueck Brad Berzinski Michael Hanratty (Remote attendance) Kacie Lovas
Other Attendees:	
Members Absent:	Jack Hedin

I. Review Upcoming Policies:

- A. **401 Equal Employment Opportunity:** Mr. Berzinski presented this policy with no proposed changes. The committee recommended that the policy be added to the April 17, 2025 School Board agenda for review by the School Board.
- B. **413 Harassment and Violence:** Mr. Berzinski presented this policy with minor proposed changes. The committee recommended that the policy be added to the April 17, 2025 School Board agenda for first reading by the School Board.
- C. **417 Chemical Use and Abuse:** Mr. Berzinski presented this policy with no proposed changes. The committee recommended that the policy be added to the April 17, 2025 School Board agenda for review by the School Board.
- D. **609 Religion and Religious and Cultural Observances:** Mr. Berzinski presented this policy with no proposed changes. The committee recommended that the policy be added to the April 17, 2025 School Board agenda for review by the School Board.
- E. **623 Summer School Instruction:** Ms. Lueck presented this policy with proposed changes. The committee recommended that the policy be added to the April 17, 2025 School Board agenda for first reading by the School Board.
- F. **721 Uniform Grant Guidance Policy Regarding Federal Revenue Sources:** Ms. Lueck presented this policy with proposed changes. The committee recommended that the policy be added to the April 17, 2025 School Board agenda for first reading by the School Board.

II. Follow Up from the March 20, 2025:

- A. **522 Title IX Sex Nondiscrimination Policy, Grievance Procedure and Process:** The school board requested this policy to be on the March board operations committee agenda. Mr. Hanratty did not recommend any changes to policy 522 which was passed at the March 20th 2025 regular school board meeting. Mr. Hanratty cited the Dear Colleague letter from the acting assistant

secretary of the US Department of Education Office for Civil Rights which stated that the department will enforce Title IX under the provisions of the 2020 Title IX rule, rather than the 2024 Title IX rule, which was vacated by the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky through court case Tennessee, et al. v. Cardona on January 9, 2025. Mr. Hanratty also cited President Trump's Executive Order 14201, titled "Keeping Men Out of Women's Sports," which was signed by President Donald Trump to ban transgender women athletes from competing on girls and women's sports teams, threatening federal funding to institutions that allow transgender girls to play on girls' teams. Mr. Hanratty also cited the Minnesota State High School League's Executive Director's request for an opinion on the Executive Order from the Office of Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison and whether compliance of Executive Order 14201 would violate the Minnesota Human Rights Act. Mr. Hanratty cited the Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison's formal legal opinion on February 20th, 2025, stating that complying with the Executive Order 14201 would violate the Minnesota Human Rights Act, Minn. Stat 363A.01. Mr. Hanratty confirmed that the Minnesota Human Rights Act is cited in the legal references section of policy 522. While the district will follow Title IX under the provisions of the 2020 Title IX rule and not the 2024 rule, the policy does not prevent the district from complying with the Minnesota Human Rights Act. The committee recommended that the policy be added to a future agenda for information by the School Board.