

GREATER FALL RIVER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
POLICY SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES  
251 STONEHAVEN ROAD, FALL RIVER, MA  
DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM  
December 12, 2024

In attendance: Donald DiBiasio of Somerset and Jeffrey Begin of Swansea

Absent: Paul Jennings of Westport

Also in attendance: Joan Menard, School Committee Member, Brian Bentley, Superintendent-Director, Leslie Weckesser, Assistant Superintendent-Principal, Maria Torres, Assistant Principal of Technical Affairs, Katie Warren, Assistant Principal of Academic Affairs, Paul Kitchen, Director of Finance and Operations, Gregory Brillhante, Legal Counsel, and Helena Neves, Executive Secretary.

Remote attendance: Decio Matos

The meeting began with a roll call at 4:35 p.m.

It was moved by Mr. Begin, seconded by Mr. DiBiasio and voted unanimously to approve the October 10, 2024 minutes, as submitted.

Mr. DiBiasio stated that policies ADF – Wellness and IHCDA – Dual Enrollment were revised and deferred to Dr. Warren for a summary of the changes. Dr. Warren stated that the Wellness policy was revised to clarify the language regarding the athletic study hall. The athletic study hall, if available, offers eligible students the opportunity to take a non-credit bearing study hall or a credit bearing course in lieu of physical education when actively participating in an MIAA sport or intramural activity.

Mr. DiBiasio stated that students that only participate in a sport during one season should have to take PE for the remainder of the time. Dr. Warren stated the PE is semester based therefore a student participating in a sport for one season would be qualified for the study hall. The athletic study hall will most likely be used by students that are looking to get extra courses.

Dr. Warren stated that policy IHCDA – Dual Enrollment was revised to clear up language and update procedures. A grade scale was added and the class list was removed.

Mr. Begin stated that language should be added to state that in order to qualify for dual enrollment a student must take and pass a placement exam such as the ACCUPLACER. Dr. Warren stated that the placement exam is not required by all colleges. Students need to be in good academic standing to qualify for dual enrollment. The class list was removed because it limited students to a broader number of classes that they can take.

Mr. DiBiasio asked how many students are currently participating in dual enrollment. Dr. Warren stated that she is unsure as dual enrollment falls under the Guidance Department.

Mr. Begin asked how dual enrollment is promoted to students. Dr. Warren stated that dual enrollment is promoted by the guidance counselors. A best practices checklist is being developed and it will be used by guidance counselors to make sure that the different options such as dual enrollment and athletic study are being discussed with students.

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Mr. DiBiasio asked if dual enrollment is free now that community college is being offered for free to qualifying students. Dr. Warren stated that high school students do not qualify. Mrs. Weckesser asked if an afterschool class has been bought by the district. Dr. Warren stated that classes have been purchased in the past that were grant funded.

Mr. DiBiasio asked how dual enrollment attendance is tracked. Dr. Warren stated that attendance is tracked when a transcript is submitted.

It was moved by Mr. Begin, seconded by Mr. DiBiasio and voted unanimously to approve policy ADF – Wellness and policy IHCDA – Dual Enrollment, as submitted.

It was moved by Mr. Begin, seconded by Mr. DiBiasio, and voted unanimously to adjourn the Policy Sub-Committee meeting at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Helena S. Neves*  
Helena S. Neves, Executive Secretary

**Materials Included:**

October 10, 2024 Minutes  
ADF – Wellness Policy  
IHCDA – Dual Enrollment