

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION
Policy Committee Meeting
June 11, 2015

Attending: **Commissioners:** Powell (Chair), Campos, Cruz. **District staff:** Elizabeth Hanan, Willie Robinson.

Commissioner Powell convened the meeting at 7:15 PM.

- I. **Review and Approve Minutes - March 19, 2015.** Motion by Commissioner Powell to approve the minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Cruz.

- II. **Policy Report Deliverables/Responses. All detailed presentations material are located on BoardDoc.**
 - *Policy 1900 Parent and Engagement:* Presentation by Mr. Robinson, Coordinator of Parent Engagement included the following:
 - School and District-level staff reach out to families to collaborate in student's learning and development.

 - The district, individual schools, and families share an ongoing commitment to collaborate and adapt to student's changing needs.

 - Emulation of the National Standards for Family-School Partnerships including the following key items:
 - Parent involvement
 - Parent organizations in the District
 - District responsibilities regarding parent involvement
 - Specific areas of cooperation
 - Parent interests in collective bargaining agreements
 - Parent-staff relations
 - Policy implementation and evaluation, including the Superintendent's regulations and accountability.

 - The committee discussed the importance of Parent Liaisons and Home School Assistants and the need to set standards and consistence in their roles. **Action item: to reach out to the Audit Committee to see if these roles and functions have been reviewed and compared to their official job descriptions.**

 - Utilization of several tools to ensure compliance:
 - Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships
 - Contact Log Manager Tool
 - **Power of 2** where every teacher identify two parents who would work with Office of Parent Engagement
 - Parent connect as a means for communication from district to parent:
 - The committee discussed ideas, technical constraints and uses of Parent Connect: mass email from Parent

Connect, using teachers to sign parents up and the importance of having communication tools and resources in Spanish.

- Commissioner Campos suggested an analysis of Parent Connect to understand what it would take to convert modules from English to Spanish and if it would be cost effective to complete.
- *Policy 4320 Arts Education Policy*: Presentation by Ms. Hanan, Director of Arts, included the following items:
 - Review of current art programs and how they align with the policy's statement of value
 - Evidence of compliance with policy: school-based programs, districtwide ensembles, fiscal and human investments and parental and community engagement
 - The effectiveness of implementing the policy
 - Challenges associated with reaching policy's goals
 - Resources needed for success
 - Actions the department has made to reach policy's goals

III. **Policy 5300 Code of Conduct updates.**

The Community Task Force is working to update this policy. Ms. Van Kerkhove (via email) stated that she is part of the task force. She will deliver to the committee when completed.

IV. **Policy 5153 Parent Preference/Managed Choice.**

- Special advisors suggested the committee should revisit this policy to consider language that is clear and easy to understand.
- Parents are currently involved in re-writing this policy
- Commissioner Powell suggested two ad-hoc committees to review this policy and have these key features:
 - 1 group to address elementary school concerns
 - 2nd group to address high school concerns
 - A member from policy committee to chair the meeting
 - Commissioner Cruz suggest to start with 1 group complete charge and move to group 2; start the conversation about neighborhood schools
 - Commissioner Campos suggested that 1 group to tackle both issues.
 - Action item to find members from Parents (Megan Delehanty), Community Agencies (i.e. Bilingual Council suggested Mercedes Vasquez-Simmons), Administration, Transportation and Placement (non-voting advisors from both)
 - Commissioner Cruz suggested that the Chair, commissioner Powell bring this idea to the Board meeting to obtain formal approval and “sanction the purpose” for agreement
 - Committee agreed that first steps after the Board has sanctioned the group then Commissioner Powell will direct the committee to assemble a work agenda, define the purpose and the scope of the ad-

hoc group, impact to transportation and placement, bring in a member of the “Raleigh group” (zone less choice) and school choice experts.

v. The following items were sent by email to Mr. Lopez as reports due for July 2015: Policy Report Deliverables/Responses

- Policy 4090 Pathways to High School Success
- Policy 4314.3 Service Learning : Reported late in March 2015
- Policy 8100 Health & Safety

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

VI. Follow-up/Action item:

- Contact Audit Committee regarding Parent Liaisons and Home School Assistants have their roles and functions been reviewed and compared to their official job descriptions.
- Commissioner Campos suggested an analysis of Parent Connect to understand what it would take to convert modules from English to Spanish and if it would be cost effective to complete
- Policy 5153 Parent Preference/Managed Choice: Next steps – see notes above.