

**ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Policy Committee Meeting**  
**January 16, 2014**

Attending: Commissioners Cruz, White, Powell and Campos. Parent Representative: Barbara Van Kerkhove absent. District staff: Ed Lopez-Soto, Chief Counsel. Community Member: Bill Benet. Board staff: Debra Flanagan.

Commissioner Powell nominated José Cruz to serve as Chair of the Policy Committee for 2014. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. **Adopted 4-0.**

Commissioner Cruz convened the meeting at 6:28PM.

**I. Review and Approve Minutes of December 5, 2013 Policy Committee Meeting of the Whole and December 12, 2013 Policy Committee Meeting**

**Motion** by Commissioner Powell to approve the minutes of the December 5<sup>th</sup> and December 12th Policy Committee meetings. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. **Adopted 3-0.**

Since several key District staff members were unable to attend this Policy Committee meeting, Commissioner Cruz suggested postponing consideration of revisions to the Parent & Family Engagement policy (1900) and to the School-Based Planning policy (2265) until the next meeting on January 16, 2014.

**II. Review Proposed Revisions of the Values Education Policy (4311.2)**

Bill Benet highlighted the major changes made to the Values Education policy, based on the Committee's suggestions in the November 2013 Policy Committee meeting:

- Incorporated definitions of each of the values into the proposed policy
- Clarified the polarities framework

Commissioner Campos requested clarification regarding whether the policy proposal is intended to be used to instruct students or to be applied to guide the actions of all staff and students throughout the District. Mr. Benet replied that the original advisory committee developed the policy to reflect the values to guide the curriculum and standards for the District regarding governing conduct in general.

Commissioner Powell suggested adding a preamble to the proposed policy to clarify the way in which it is intended to be used.

Commissioner Campos declared that she could not support the current proposed policy if it is to be used to govern the District as a whole because it is too difficult to apply. She expressed appreciation for the thought given in creating the polarities framework, stating that this would be more useful for values education and instruction with students.

Commissioner Cruz reported discussing the proposed policy with the Superintendent, who suggested summarizing the basic concepts in a one-page document to be distributed to schools.

Mr. Benet reiterated his commitment to develop the Values Education policy, simplify the polarities, and define ways to incorporate the framework into the curriculum.

**Action Item:** Proposed revisions to the Values Education policy (4311.2) will continue to be discussed in the February Policy Committee meeting, specifically with regard to simplifying the polarities framework and adding a preamble.

### **III. Review and Discuss Proposed Revision of Parent & Family Engagement Policy (1900)**

Since none of the representatives of the district-wide Parent Advisory Council were in attendance, it was decided to postpone consideration of this policy proposal until the February Policy Committee meeting.

### **IV. Review and Discuss Proposed Revision of School-Based Planning Policy (2265)**

Since none of the staff involved in developing this policy proposal were in attendance, it was decided to postpone consideration until the February meeting.

### **V. Review and Discuss Revision of Major Achievement Program Policy (4350)**

None of the staff involved in providing input into revising this policy were in attendance, so it was decided to postpone consideration until the February Policy Committee meeting.

**Motion** by Commissioner Powell to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Campos. **Adopted 3-0.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:45PM.