

The New London Board of Education Policy Committee meeting was held on May 13, 2025 via Zoom teleconferencing.

1. Call to Order

Nathan Caron, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Present for the Committee: Nathan Caron – Committee Chair
Bianca Alexis-Sylvain – Committee Member (*Arrived at 6:20 p.m.*)
Scott Garbini – Committee Member
Betsy Perkins – Community Representative

Absent for the Committee: Elaine Maynard-Adams – Committee Member
Colleen Delaporta-Wells – NLEA Representative

Present for the Administration: Kristea A. Francolino – Manager of Executive Support Services
Cynthia Ritchie – Superintendent of Schools

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Approval of the Minutes

Motion by Mr. Garbini, seconded by Ms. Perkins, to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2025 Policy Committee Meeting.

Motion carried, 3-0

4. Continued Discussion and Possible Approval of Policy 5131.81 – Use of Private Technology Devices by Students

It was requested that on page 2, there be letters used for the bulleted items instead of asterisks.

There was some discussion about the access to technology resources, and the differences between the utilization of the internet services versus the utilization of technology devices.

Dr. Ritchie suggested to make it clear that teachers may allow for discretion as aligned to the curriculum to utilize personal devices. The following language was decided upon to be amended on page 3, “A teacher may grant permission for the use of cell phones/private owned devices on an individual, case-by-case basis, or as aligned to curricular objectives to teaching units.”

It was discussed that there should also be a section listed for Adult Education students. The following language was decided upon to be amended on page 2, “Students may bring cell phones and other privately-owned technological devices to the adult education program to be used in classroom areas during instructional time, as directed by the adult education staff.”

Motion by Mr. Caron, seconded by Mr. Garbini, to approve as amended and recommend to the full Board Policy 5131.81 – Use of Private Technology Devices by Students.

Motion carried, 3-0

5. Committee Member Comments

Ms. Perkins thanked everyone for their work and input on this policy. Mr. Garbini thanked Mr. Caron for an efficient meeting.

6. Adjournment

Motion by Ms. Maynard-Adams, seconded by Mr. Garbini, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried, 4-0

The meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristea A. Francolino
Manager of Executive Support Services