



POLICY/COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

July 30, 2025

Virtual Meeting - 8:30 a.m.

Committee Members: Ellen DePinto, Chair

Pamela Cassidy, Beth Fiore, Linda Rad

Administrative Staff: Dr. Jonathan Hart, Superintendent of Schools

Jason Bohm, SBA/Board Secretary

Tim Charleston, RMS Principal (item #1)

Minutes

1. RMS Discipline Chart: Mr. Charleston joined our meeting to update us on the revisions he and Mrs. Mooney made to the Expectations of Behavior and Discipline Procedures for RMS. A statement was added to the Discipline Procedures that says “One of the tenets of RMS is to value the individuality of our students. Living up to that core belief, each incident will be taken on a case by case basis and the administration reserves the right to make decisions beyond the scope of the following guidelines.” They reorganized and re-categorized the Infractions section to make the document easier to follow. Minor changes were made to language throughout to bring it up to date, for example Lunch Detention is now referred to as Opportunity Period Detention. New items were added such as Cheating/Plagiarism/Copying/Use of AI for cheating purposes, Possession of Provocative Material, Use of Cell Phone/SmartWatch, Use of any form of technology, school or personal, to create and/or distribute any audio, video, or images of students or employees without prior approval. The committee reached consensus that this document can be added to the student handbook at this time and does not require full board approval according to policy.
2. Gifted and Talented Program Regulation: Dr. Hart reviewed the regulation for the Gifted and Talented Pupils to make sure it aligns with policy 2464 ensuring the right students are selected for the right program at the right time.
3. Policy Tracking Document for Review of 2000 Series: The committee began discussing their notes on the 2000 series. The following policies were discussed:
2110: Philosophy of Education/District Mission Statement: This policy will remain as is for now. A revision may be needed once the new strategic plan is created.
2132: School District Goals and Objectives: This policy will remain as is.
2210: Curriculum Development: This policy will be revised to include statements regarding our curriculum meeting the needs of all students, aligning with the state

learning standards, and having a development cycle that includes stages of renewal and evaluation.

2220: Adoption of Courses: This policy will be revised to include that we will adapt and revise existing courses to meet the changing needs of students and community. No course of study shall be eliminated, revised or implemented without the approval of the board. Adoption of courses shall be by a recorded roll call majority vote of the full membership of the board. A copy of our courses will be available to the public online.

2230: Curriculum Guides. This policy was recognized as one that we do not currently have but some surrounding districts do. Dr. Hart will take a closer look at this policy to see if we will add this to our manual.

2240: Controversial Issues: suggestions were made to add similar language and organization to the NJSBA policy, to further define controversial issues and to include a section about inviting speakers. Further research and discussion is needed before making revisions.

4. Advocacy: Teacher Certification Legislation: Dr. Hart informed the committee that he is a part of a working group for the “Teacher Certification Reform Act of 2025”
5. Discussion of Policies that need more immediate attention: Tabled until next meeting due to time constraints.
6. Chain of Command Sample & Discussion: Tabled until next meeting due to time constraints

Agenda items: Revisions of 2000 series

Next Meeting: Friday, September 5, 2025 @ 8:30am