The Subcommittee on School Committee Policies met on Friday, September 26, 2025, in the Virtual Zoom Meeting. Present were Kathy Bent, Peter Goode, Sara Ahern, Kristen Harmon, and Jen Kruczek.

Ms. Bent called the meeting to order at 8:02AM.

Minutes

- Motion by Mr. Goode, seconded by Dr. Ahern, and the Committee voted, unanimously, to approve the meeting Minutes of August 28, 2025.

Discuss Policy JFA (Admissions Policy for Vocational Technical Education Programs)

- Dr. Ahern took the current Barnstable policy and the template policy and merged them together. This pertains to the Environmental Technology Chapter 74 program, but could be applied to our other specialty programs. Under equal opportunity, the last paragraph was added.
- Mr. Goode asked about MyCap and Dr. Ahern explained the platform as a way for students to plan their future.
- Dr. Ahern stated the other changes are under the Retention section. The Subcommittee reviewed.
- Ms. Bent stated continued participation in the program should include having a minimum threshold of grades to stay in the program whether they have a disability or not.
- Dr. Ahern stated the state is looking for language around students with disabilities and second languages. That sentence can be removed.
- Ms. Bent made a change to say ADA accommodations will be provided to facilitate participation in the program.
- Ms. Harmon stated under Homeschool Students, her extension is not correct.
- The Committee agreed on the changes.

Discuss Policy IKF (Graduation Requirements)

- Dr. Ahern stated for this policy, they are taking out the competency determination language and simplifying the graduation requirements.
- Dr. Ahern asked if they should leave the Certificate of Attainment language in the policy. The Committee decided to keep that paragraph.
- The Committee agreed on the changes.

Discuss Policy IKFE (Competency Determination)

- Dr. Ahern met with a team for two meetings that included department heads, curriculum coordinators, and Jason Conetta. They spoke about classes and the process.
- Mr. Goode asked who this is for. Dr. Ahern stated anyone getting a diploma. They need to meet the graduation requirements and they need to show competency with tests or a capstone project.
- Mr. Goode stated this seemed easier than the graduation requirements. Dr. Ahern said the regulations say you need to show competency with something similar to MCAS. Students need both: to complete the graduation requirements and show competency.
- Ms. Bent stated this is to hold schools and students accountable so there is not grade inflation.
- Dr. Ahern stated there are checks and balances and oversight on this process.
- Dr. Ahern spoke to Attorney Marc Terry and schools are listing the classes in the policy. Ms. Bent stated if there are changes to the courses, then we will need to revisit this policy every year.
- Dr. Ahern stated Marc Terry is doing more research on the appeals process and whether the School Committee needs to be a part of it.
- Dr. Ahern stated the first part of the appeals process is the principal making the ultimate determination, so number 1 can be removed.
- The Committee agreed to the changes.

Discuss Policy AC (Non-Discrimination including Harassment and Retaliation)

- Dr. Ahern spoke to Attorney Michael Joyce and this policy does not need to be revised.

Next Steps

- Ms. Bent stated the Subcommittee needed a meeting and address the MASC policy changes.

- Mr. Goode asked if the cell phone policy was on hold. Ms. Bent stated they need to have a family/parent forum on the topic.
- The next policies Subcommittee meeting will be on October 17 at 8:00AM.

Motion by Mr. Goode, seconded by Dr. Ahern, and the Committee voted, unanimously, to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jen Kruczek
Executive Assistant